

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
Library - Parks and Beautification
2019 Budget
COOK CITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 27, 2018 – CITY HALL – 5:30 PM

PRESENT: Councilors Karen Hollanitsch, Kim Brunner, Elizabeth Storm, and Jody Bixby
ABSENT: Mayor Harold Johnston
OTHERS PRESENT: Librarian Crystal Phillips, Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer Theresa Martinson, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Stephanie Beaudry, and the Timberjay

CALL TO ORDER: Acting Mayor Karen Hollanitsch called the Special Council Meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

The purpose of this meeting is to hold monthly special study sessions to discuss budget planning for 2019. Study sessions will be held at 5:30 PM prior to the monthly regular council meetings for the remainder of the year to discuss the budget and levy for 2019.

The September study session focuses on the budgets for the Library and for Parks and Beautification.

Library

Deputy Clerk Beaudry walked through various budget line items. There is an increase in salaries for the librarian and library assistant due annual pay increases; also the minimum wage is set to increase on January 1, 2019 to \$9.86. Contract services was decreased as the City is going to try to do its own shoveling outside of the library.

Librarian Phillips shared some thoughts regarding the library and its budget. She stated that the moose in the library needs restoration; it is aging and needs help. Ron Maki says that the sawblade sign looks good. Something to think about for the future is making the library entrance ADA compliant. Administrator Martinson attended a CDBG meeting and asked which City project seemed best to use for CDBG funds; the ADA compliance project would be the best match for such funds. Librarian Phillips has also found a Department of Education grant which we maybe can use as well. This ADA compliance project may turn into something bigger than we had anticipated but it needs to get done to allow all residents the use of the public library.

Parks and Beautification

Deputy Clerk Beaudry reviewed Parks and Beautification budget for 2019, noting that not many figures have changed from last year.

The staining of the gazebo was going to happen in 2018 but due to the wet weather it will most likely have to be postponed until the spring of 2019. The flower beds are going to be shifted to all perennials so there is less upkeep in the future; this will also help keep the cost of flowers down. New benches and trash receptacles are going to be purchased to go along with the Library Way Path Project. Some of the committed Parks accounts fund is going to go toward the purchase of these. It is hoped that the idea of a park in the “riverside” area where Lakes Gas was located could be discussed in the future. Revisiting the idea of a dog park should also be done. More research definitely needs to take place in that regard. We will also be updating our CIP at the end of the year.

The October Budget Study Session will review the Airport and Recreation budgets.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Storm, second by Brunner to adjourn the special study session meeting at 5:50 PM. **MOTION CARRIED**


CITY OF COOK – Cook, MN 55723



Mayor Harold Johnston



Recorder: Stephanie Beaudry, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer



Attest: Theresa Martinson, Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer