

**MINUTES
COOK CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING
DECEMBER 20, 2012 – CITY HALL – 6 PM**

PRESENT: Acting Mayor Karen Hollanitsch, Councilors Kim Brunner, Jody Bixby and Elizabeth Storm

ABSENT: Mayor Harold Johnston

OTHERS PRESENT: Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer Theresa Martinson, Deputy-Clerk/Treasurer Cindy Palm, The Timberjay and Cook News Herald

Acting Mayor Karen Hollanitsch called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

TRUTH IN TAXATION:

The purpose of this meeting is to give the taxpayers and the City of Cook the opportunity to discuss the budget and tax levy for the upcoming year 2013. Study sessions were held at 5 PM prior to each regular council meeting from August through October with a final budget review in November to discuss budgets for each department for 2013.

Proposed Revenues for 2013:		\$459,480.00
Proposed Expenses:	General	<u>\$472,472.00</u>
Deficit	\$(12,992.00)	

Proposed Levy Increase 4%: \$13,086

2011 Levy	\$311,560
2012 Levy	\$327,138
2013 Levy	\$340,080

Projects for consideration – with city funding designation needed:

Capital Projects

IRRRB Residential and Commercial Redevelopment Program
Cook Business Park Commercial Development
Vermilion Drive Lighting

Capital Projects – Airport

Obstruction Removal and Layout

Capital Projects – Public Works Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund

Wastewater Treatment Improvements
Maintenance Garage Replacement

Long Term Planning – City CIP Project Listing

The proposed tax levy for the City of Cook is 4%. Airport expenditures have been reduced and fuel sales increased to eliminate a transfer of a loss from the airport to the general fund. Funds will continue to be transferred for the Storm Sewer \$44,000, Equipment Replacement \$7,500, Parks and Beautification \$2,000 and Recreation \$2,000. A cost of living increase of 3% for full time employees was approved by the council at the November Special Study Session.

Liquor store funds are not used to balance the deficit in the budget which eliminates the need to borrow from the liquor store fund. Liquor Store funds will be designated towards capital project funding and other council denoted expenses.

Motion by Brunner, second by Bixby to approve the final tax levy amount for the year 2012 collectible in 2013 in the amount of \$340,080 (4% tax increase) for the City of Cook. **MOTION CARRIED**

Motion by Storm, second by Brunner to adopt the 2013 general fund budget as presented in these minutes. **MOTION CARRIED**

Motion by Bixby, second by Storm to adjourn the Truth in Taxation meeting at 6:04 PM. **MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Palm
Deputy-Clerk/Treasurer