

The Cannon Falls City Council met in a work session on Tuesday, August 16th at 7:13 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Robby Robinson, and Council Members Lynne Berg, Cathy Gallups, Rodney Holst, Merlyce Johnson, Morris Mattson and Jay Sjoblom. Also present were Ron Johnson, City Administrator; Lanell Endres, Assistant City Administrator; Dave Maroney, Community Development Director; Tom Bergeson, Public Works Director; Justin Padgett, Library Director; Jeff McCormick, Police Chief; and Tim Malchow, Ambulance Director.

The purpose of the work session was to review the 2017 proposed budget as presented with staff requests.

City Administrator Johnson reviewed information regarding the 2017 budget. He stated the West Side II and Library Construction bond levies along with other bond payment fluctuations would result in a 5.1% levy increase. He also stated an estimated 8.5% increase in health insurance premiums and 3% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for wages were used. He noted the pay study should be completed soon.

Administrator Johnson also noted that the budget included adding a half-time planning employee and that he was working with Goodhue County on the matter. The position would work on upgrading the zoning ordinance and comprehensive plan and deal with planning commission, zoning and vacation requests and issues. This would allow Community Development Director Maroney to spend his time working on Economic Development issues rather than planning and zoning items.

Administrator Johnson stated staff was hoping to receive preliminary tax capacity information in September which would help in the budgeting process. He recommended holding another work session in September for additional review of the proposed budget and to discuss the adoption of the preliminary budget which needs to be done by September 30th of each year.

Council Member Johnson stated she did not want to see the budget cut so much that double digit increases would be needed in the future. She noted that the Public Works Department already had an increase of less than 1% and she did not want to see any cuts made from that department.

Administrator Johnson stated the budget did not include any funding for trail improvements and suggested that \$25,000 be added. The Council suggested waiting and seeing how the budget numbers worked out before adding this item.

Council Member Berg asked several questions regarding the budget presented and the increases indicated.

Mayor Robinson stated that labor negotiations with the unions should be started. Other questions and comments were made.

The consensus of the Council was to hold a work session on Thursday, September 15th at 6:00 to continue the discussion on the budget.

The meeting was duly adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Cannon Falls on the 6th day of September, 2016.

Lyman M. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ronald S. Johnson, City Administrator