

Finance Committee Meeting 11-20-2018 re Tax Levy and 2019 Budget

A meeting of the Finance Committee re addressing the Cheviot Tax levy to be placed on the ballot in 2019 and the forthcoming 2019 budget. The meeting was held on Tuesday, November 20, 2018 in the Cheviot City Hall, Council Meeting Room, 2nd floor, 3814 Harrison Avenue. The meeting was called to order at 1835 hrs. (6:35 PM).

Present were Finance Committee Council members David W. Voss, Alana Tucker and James Sunderhaus. Others present were President of Council Mark Waters, Council Persons Gail Griffin, Amy Luken-Richter and Kathleen Zech and Safety Service Director Tom Braun and Cheviot resident Debbie Slaughter.

Councilman Voss provided a synopsis of the Current Expense Levy at the 5.610 mill rate expiring tax year 2018. This 2018 expiring levy must be on the ballot during 2019 on any election date. For 2018, the tax levy will bring in \$ 577,912.00.

There was discussion relative placing the levy on the May primary or the November general election. If placed on the May primary date , it would allow another chance in November should it fail in May. However; if there is not a county-wide issue on the May election date, Cheviot would be required to pay for the election. The cost would be between \$10,000.00 and \$16,000.00.

It was agreed that the tax levy will be on the ballot as a renewal to continue taxation at the same rate that is already being paid by the taxpayers.

At this time, it was decided to proceed as the tax levy is going on the May primary. Steps 1 and 2 relative placing the tax levy on the May ballot will be undertaken in late December 2018 or early January 2019. All required paperwork for the May primary should be filed by January 23rd, 2019, two weeks prior to the February 6th, 2019 deadline re the May primary. Note that early voting starts April 9, 2019 and the primary election will be on May 7, 2019.

Discussion ensued relative the three tax levies expiring tax year 2019. One idea was to combine the .75 and 4.25 levies and to have a replacement levy. However, there was concern a new replacement levy could raise taxes. It appears that both levies will be submitted separately for renewal.

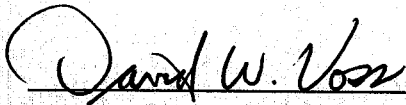
For discussion, Councilman Voss suggested creating line item in the 2019 budget to maintain a minimum rainy-day fund. The fund would have a balance that is sufficient to provide financial

resources for the City in the event of an emergency or the loss of a major revenue source. Proposed was to set the minimum account at an amount equal to two or three months of general fund operating expenses or a certain percentage of available resources. There would also be conditions warranting the use of the fund and replenishing it when it falls below the policy level. This matter will require further study after the amount of carryover becomes available from the 2018 budget.

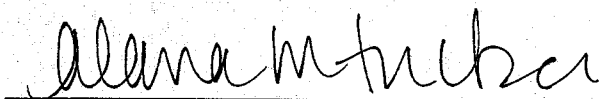
Councilperson Alana Tucker proposed a line item in the 2019 budget relative Capital Projects. These funds would be set aside to cover the local match or local contribution to cover a portion of the costs for a capital project. As one example, mention was made of air conditioning for Harvest Home Park Lodge to increase the use and comfort of the facility. No information was available as to the costs of the project or what portion of funding that the City would be responsible for to be included in a line item. Additional information relative specifics and amount of requested funding will be essential for consideration.

The meeting concluded at about 1925 hrs. (7:25 PM)

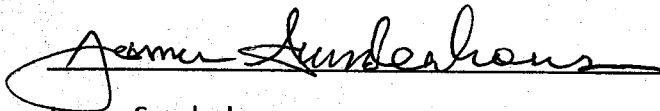
Respectfully submitted,



David W. Voss



Alana Tucker



James Sunderhaus