

**City of Escanaba**  
**Virtual WebEx Special Council Meeting**  
**Tuesday, April 7, 2020**

Pursuant to a meeting notice posted December 18, 2020, the Council of the City of Escanaba convened in special session Virtual WebEx at 9:04 a.m., to begin the review and discussion of the proposed 2020/21 City Budget.

Present: Mayor Marc D. Tall, Council Members, Ralph B. Blasier, Tyler D. DuBord, Karen S. Moore, and Peggy O'Connell

Absent: None

Also Present: City Manager Patrick S. Jordan, City Controller Melissa Becotte, City Clerk Phil DeMay, Deputy City Clerk Tammy Weissert, Department Heads, media, and members of the public

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT – None**

The following Department Heads presented their budgets:

**Public Works/Engineer, Robert Becotte – 9:06 a.m.**

Public Works Director/Engineer Robert Becotte reviewed the 2020/21 proposed Public Works/Engineering budget with Council. The following was reviewed:

- Request for Celebration – Flags;
- Request for Cross Walks;
- Request for Care of Trees and Shrubs;
- General Fund Public Works and Engineering budgets;
- Sanitary Landfill, and Landfill Road Clean-up;
- Delta County Solid Waste Landfill Fees;
- Solid Waste Collection;
- Composting Activities;
- Request for Recycling;
- Snowplowing of Alleys;
- Request for Parks, seasonal workers;
- Work on Bandshell & Water Fountain;
- Alley Paving/Maintenance;
- Resurfacing of Streets;
- Discussed Non-Motorized Pathway System;
- Ludington Street Reconstruction;
- Request for Patching and Crack Filling;
- Request for Storm Sewer and Roadside Drains;
- Grass and Weed Cutting;
- Request for Sweeping and Flushing;
- Request for Traffic Service;
- Request for Snow Plowing and Snow Removal;
- Request Blades for Graders;

- Request for Ice Control;
- Request for Administrative and Engineering;
- Bridge Inspection Program;
- Reviewed Local Street Projects;
- Request for Capital Outlay-Street Preservation;
- Request for Patching and Crack Filling;
- Request for Storm Sewers and Roadside Drains;
- Request for Sweeping and Flushing;
- Request for Grading;
- Request for Dust Control;
- Request for Traffic Service;
- Discussed Wage Increase for Public Works Assistant Superintendent.

**Library Director, Carolyn Stacey – 9:57 a.m.**

Library Director Carolyn Stacey reviewed the 2020/21 proposed Library Budget with Council. The following was reviewed:

- Overview of the Department, Library Strategic Planning process, daily programs, services, and technology's, and strategies the Library provides the community and Delta County;
- Discussed Library Fees;
- Discussed Penal Fines;
- Request for a Task Force;
- Library Revenues and Fund Balance;
- State of Michigan Library Funding;
- Request for increase in education.

The time being 10:21 a.m., the Council recessed.

The Council came back into regular session at 10:31 a.m. and reviewed the following budgets.

**Recreation Director, Kim Peterson – 10:31 a.m.**

Recreation Director Peterson reviewed the following Recreational Department budgets she was responsible for with Council:

- Provided an overview of Departmental activities and Civic Center Improvements;
- Request for Fourth of July/New Year's Eve;
- Request for Summer Sports;
- Request for Lawn Mower Bagger Attachment;
- Request to reconstruct Ludington Park Tennis Courts;
- Request for Wading Pool;
- Request for Winter Sports;
- Request for Beach;
- Request for Civic Center Activities;
- Request for Tourism Promotion;

- Discussed Non-Motorized Pathway System;
- Need to Update 5-Year Recreation Plan;
- Discussed a Wage Increase and Reclassification for Recreation Foreman.

**Human Resources Director/City Treasurer, Kim Gustafson – 10:57 a.m.**

Ms. Gustafson reviewed the following 2020/21 proposed budget items with Council:

- Human Resources and Treasurer's Department Budgets.
- Request for Online Skill Testing;
- BS&A Training;
- Printing and publishing;
- Software costs.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION**

During discussion, it was Council consensus to make the following changes to the Proposed 2020/21 Fiscal Year Budget:

- Electric Vehicle for Electric Department postponed at least for another year;
- 4% Wage Increase, \$97,000, for Electric Superintendent Mike Furmanski;
- 5% Wage Increase, for Public Safety Captains;
- \$2,000 for New Signage for Elections, "Voter Here" Signs;
- Pay City Clerk as IT Professional, \$67,000, and will also get his contractual raise of \$5,000 once CMC is achieved;
- \$35,500 for Planning & Zoning Software & Training;
- 3% Wage Increase for Department Heads and Non-Union Staff;
- Overhaul of Zoning Ordinance at a cost of \$30,000 postponed for at least another year;
- \$30,000 for Ash Borer Treatment for Trees;

Blasier moved, O'Connell seconded, to adopt the Master Fee Schedule as written.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Blasier, O'Connell, DuBord, Moore, Mayor Tall

Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Council consensus to break for lunch at 11:55 a.m.

Council came back into regular session at 1:03 p.m.

After further discussion, Blasier moved, O'Connell seconded, to approve all changes to the Proposed 2020/21 Fiscal Year Budget.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Blasier, O'Connell, Moore, DuBord, Mayor Tall

Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Further discussion with Mr. Lampi on the following 2020/21 proposed Water/Wastewater budget items with Council:

- Wastewater Plant Improvements;
- Discussed Bids the Wastewater Department received;
- Discussed alternative options;
- Wastewater Rate Increases;
- Water Rate Increases;
- Line Replacements.

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT – None**

Hearing no further public comment, O'Connell moved, the Council adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Weissert, CMC  
Deputy City Clerk

Approved:

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Marc D. Tall, Mayor