

CITY OF GILBERT
MINUTES OF BUDGET WORK SESSION MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Mayor Kutsi called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Kutsi, Councilors Skalko, Pontinen, Bol and Liimatta.

Staff Present: City Clerk/Treasurer Sakrison, Police Chief Ty Techar and Library Director Nicole Miller.

The purpose of this budget work session is to work on the 2016 budget.

City Clerk/Treasurer Sakrison recapped the budget worksheets. Department heads have reduced some of their department expenditures.

The budget was reviewed line item by line item.

The 1st Responders had to be moved out of the police department because the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension considered it a security breach to have civilians in the police department. Discussed the differences between what the 1st Responders do on a call and what the Police do when responding to medical calls.

Discussed animal control. Changes needed because the officers can no longer transport animals in the squad vehicles due to health concerns.

Discussed squad vehicles. When the outside air temperature is less than 10 degrees the squads are left idling to prevent the defibrillators and oxygen from getting too cold.

Discussed capital outlay money needed for things like the electrical panel in the garage and the stoop and door at the community center. The city will have expenses when MNDOT resurfaces Highway 37. Funding is needed to develop additional areas at the cemetery.

The city's membership in the Range Recreation Center was discussed.

Library Director Miller said to cut costs she is proposing the library hours be reduced, close Saturdays and she is aware to support even this lower proposed budget the library will have to use the library fund balance. The Library Board has autonomy over the library expenses including staff compensation and benefits. Being a member of the Arrowhead Library System provides the library with many benefits including staff training, inter-library loan costs, internet connectivity, on-line subscriptions to name a few.

Councilor Pontinen asked Clerk/Treasurer Sakrison about the 2014 levy and proceeded to badger Sakrison.

There was additional discussion about capital items and insurance.

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A member of the public complimented Chief Techar and his department for keeping Gilbert a safe community.

Motion by Bol, second by Liimatta to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Debra Sakrison, Clerk/Treasurer

ATTEST:

Rob Kutsi, Mayor