

City of Gilbert  
City Council Work Session  
August 27, 2013  
5:00 p.m.

Mayor Skenzich called the Budget Work Session to order at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Skenzich, Schutte, Kutsi, Skalko and Nemanick

Absent: None

Staff Present: Operations Director Lautigar, Library Director Miller, Clerk Sakrison and Secretary Olsen.

The purpose of the meeting was to conduct a work session for the 2014 budget.

Discussion followed on the expansion of the Sherwood Forest Campground and the capabilities of the lift station and electrical system. Lautigar said he would consult Eric Clement of Minnesota Power regarding the electrical needs. Lautigar stated the restroom building and pavilion are in need of new roofs and he would also advise re-roofing the office building. The sites with water and sewer are full every weekend and there are larger rigs trying to pull 50 amp power. With improvements for sites overlooking the lake, premium rental rates could be charged.

Lautigar said he would like to pave the parking lot at the Ore-Be-Gone beach with an estimated cost of approximately \$20,000. He also informed the council of the need for additional parking at the beach. It was mentioned the County may have funds available for this project.

There was discussion regarding the Clean Water Land & Legacy Amendment and MN DNR Parks & Legacy Grant Program for possible assistance in funding for the campground projects. Mayor Skenzich suggested Sam Johnson of the MN DNR should be contacted regarding such funding as the deadline for grant applications is October 25, 2013.

Clerk Sakrison said she received a request for \$500 from Tom Smith for new dive buoys at Ore-Be-Gone with the request being budgeted through Parks and Recreation.

The campground improvements were projected at \$30,000 to \$35,000, however, it was the consensus of the council to have the parking lot improvements budgeted under the general budget.

The Council discussed the proposals from System One Control regarding the heating system at the community center. Options A & B both utilized the existing system with various upgrades to the controls.

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The councilors requested Lautigar to solicit a quote for two new condensing boilers. When all of the numbers are presented, they can make a more informed decision on what would be the best approach to remedy the heating situation.

Discussion followed on the availability of grants to renovate libraries. Since the community center houses the library, there may be a possibility of acquiring grant monies to assist in the tuck pointing project. Erik Wedge is researching the issue.

Clerk Sakrison conveyed Chief Techar's request for a new police car. Discussion followed on increasing Biwabik's share of costs based on our actual increase in costs.

Clerk Sakrison informed the council health insurance costs are rising by 11.8%. She also reminded them the bargaining unit contracts expire at the end of 2013 and need to be negotiated.

Lautigar said the city is in need of a newer truck for commercial trash collection. The council discussed the possibility of contracting services from the city of Eveleth or a private contractor.

It was the consensus of the council to set up an equipment replacement fund for the purpose of having monies available when major equipment is needed. Equipment mentioned included the 621 loader has 1,000 hours, the skid steer is a 1998 with 3,000 hours and a trailer for approximately \$2,500. There was also discussion about less manpower resulting in some things not being completed in a timely manner.

Library Director Miller stated the library needs two new public access computers costing approximately \$3000. She also informed the council her budget would be increasing by approximately \$10,000 due to the fact insurance and IT contracting were not reflected in the 2012 or 2013 budgets. The Library Board suggested a 3% wage increase.

Motion by Schutte, second by Kutsi to adjourn the meeting at 6:09 p.m. All approved.

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Michael Skenzich, Mayor

Attest:

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Debra Sakrison, Clerk/Treasurer