

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 11, 2019
12:00 PM

PRESENT: Mayor Michael R. Smith
Council Members: John Hill, Michael Lonto,
Sandra Magiera, Janet Koch
City Clerk: Tracy Chamberlain
City Comptroller: Kathleen Sarver

ABSENT: Council Member Timothy Flanigan

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 PM. The purpose of the meeting was to continue the review of proposed 2019-2020 City Budget.

CLD TO ORDER

Mayor Smith noted that he received correspondence from NYS Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) regarding the Clean Energy Communities Program. This is for a grant to improve the energy efficiency of the City Municipal Building.

CLEAN ENERGY
COMMUNITIES
PROGRAM-
CONSENSUS TO
INCLUDE IN
BUDGET & CON-
TINUE

At this time Council Member Koch arrived to the meeting.

The Council discussed if the City should continue with the NYSERDA project. The grant amount would be \$100,000.00, with the City responsible for the remained of the project cost of \$69,010.00. It was a consensus of the Council to add this to the budget and go ahead with this project.

There was some discussion regarding the creation of a City Planner position as a full time position or contractual. The County Civil Service office would need more information to assign a job title and create the position. It was decided more discussion is needed before advertising the position.

CREATION OF
CITY PLANNER
TO HAVE MORE
DISCUSSION

Comptroller Saver reviewed the amounts provided for no tax increase, a 1% increase and a 2% increase. She explained that 2% would increase the total collected by \$31,689.00. The amount for exempt properties would be \$59,508.00, which could be collected through reimbursement for tax loss with the NY State 99H funds (Casino revenue). This would be an increase, at the most, of \$25.00 annually. It was noted that not increasing taxes for many years is counted against the City when pursuing various funds. Although, there is concern for property owners with fixed income, a majority the Council feels there is need for the increase.

TAX INCREASE-
MAJORITY OF
COUNCIL AGREES
WITH A 2% TAX
INCREASE

Comptroller Saver received information from the City's insurance agent noting the liability and fire insurance increase was not as high as expected. Therefore, the original budgeted figures have been reduced. The health insurance cost will also not be as high as originally expected.

CITY INSURANCE
AND HEALTH IN-
SURANCE NOT
AS HIGH AS EX-
PECTED

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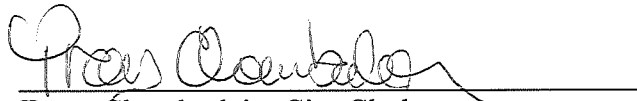
City Clerk Chamberlain provided an estimated cost of \$34,500 for the replacement of City office computers. This would be a payment of approximately \$1,000 for 36 months. It was also discussed to pay the full amount for the equipment at the time of purchase. They also discussed maintaining the staff emails on a "cloud" based storage at an annual cost between \$10,000.00 and \$15,000.00. It was a consensus to budget for both the equipment purchase and email storage.

INCLUDING EMAIL
CLOUD STORAGE
AND NEW COMPU-
TERS IN BUDGET

The 2019-2020 Tentative Budget will be on the Common Council Agenda, for approval, at the next regular meeting on February 13, 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 PM.

NEXT MTG OF
COUNCIL TO HAVE
TENT BUDGET ON
AGENDA



Tracy Chamberlain, City Clerk

DATED: February 13, 2019

ADJOURNED