

MINUTES
WORKING SESSION
CITY COUNCIL
401 WEST WASHINGTON STREET
EAST PEORIA, ILLINOIS

January 23, 2018

Mayor Mingus called the Working Session of the City Council of East Peoria, Illinois to order at 4:00 P.M. with the meeting having been properly noticed.

Upon the roll being called the following answered present: Mayor Mingus, Commissioners Decker, Densberger, Jeffers, and Kahl.
Absent: None.

Mayor Mingus explained that no final action would take place by the City Council at the meeting. He explained that the purpose of the meeting is to have a Working Session regarding discussion on the Budget. He turned the discussion over to Commissioner Densberger who discussed the draft budget being a shortfall by a little over \$500,000. He discussed the items missing from the budget, including a limited street maintenance budget, no vehicles, and other items that were removed to make cuts.

City Administrator, Jeffery A. Eder, discussed trying to put together a budget with cuts but that do not cut staff and with no additional revenue. He discussed additional cuts from the budget.

City Administrator Eder introduced Ron Roberts Harbormaster for EastPort Marina. He presented a draft Marina budget to the City Council. He discussed improvements to the Marina, including channel markers, parking lot fixes, hiring a fulltime custodian, hiring a security company, and other improvements. He explained that the budget is relatively flat, but that it is broken up in the documentation. There was a discussion about the revenues and capacities for the Marina from last year. Harbormaster Roberts discussed dredging over the past year. There was a discussion about planning for the future and forecasts. Mayor Mingus and Commissioners thanked Harbormaster Roberts for his work and operation.

Director of Public Works, Dennis Barron, presented the Proposed Public Works Budget for 2018-2019 to the City Council. He discussed achievements and cost savings from Public Works over the past fiscal year and goals for the coming fiscal year, including a large Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project, Water Treatment Plant Upgrades, Public Works Office/Shop/Vehicle maintenance improvements.

Director Barron discussed the proposed budget, including vehicle maintenance, public property, solid waste, and others. There are no additional vehicle purchases built in to the budget. There was a discussion about increasing vehicle maintenance personnel to save the City monies by having the vehicle maintenance be done in-house and/or using one maintenance shop for all city vehicles. He discussed the need to progress recycling and possible ways of doing so. He expressed concerns with not getting increased expenditures that are needed in the Streets & Bridge fund. Water & Sewer Fund and Motor Fuel Tax Fund budgets were discussed. Finally, Director Barron discussed general fund capital requests that are not being funded. He discussed ideas for increased revenues, including alternatives to the clean-up week, increase service tap costs to get actual costs back, garbage fees, increasing sewer contractor fees, and increasing the price of bulk sewer dumping. Clean-up week costs were not included in the budget. Training costs were discussed.

Fire Chief Alan Servis came up to the podium to discuss the Fire & ESDA Proposed 2018-19 budget. Chief Servis discussed achievements over the past fiscal year, including trainings, incident command courses, and others. Goals for the next year and into the future were presented. Assistant Fire Chief Beck explained costs savings were had by renegotiating or changing contracts, including those with mat/towel savings, ambulance savings on medical oxygen, medical waste disposal, and medical billing. Chief Servis discussed issues with a Fire Engine. He discussed capital needs, including needing an ambulance and fire engine that are not funded. Fire expenses were discussed, including training and meeting expenses and maintenance and repair of vehicles. A specific issue with frame rails on a Fire Truck need repair.

Chief Servis discussed the ESDA budget. This past year there have been siren improvements and fixes. There are also future siren improvements needed.

Chief of Police Dick Ganschow came up to the table. He presented the Proposed Police & Telecommunicator's budget. He discussed the operating expenses. There is an additional line item for consolidated dispatch as there are upfront costs for the consolidated dispatch that are necessary. When the consolidation of the dispatch centers is complete, there will be a need for additional record clerks for the Police Department. Commissioner Kahl and Chief Ganschow gave an update on the dispatch consolidation and the plans in moving forward. Finally, overtime costs in the Police & Telecommunication Departments were presented.

Information Technology Coordinator, Matt Berger, came up to the table to discuss the Information Technology budget. He discussed splitting out line items to better track costs and the budget possibly having a shortfall. There was a discussion about car camera information storage not being built into the budget and the need for this expense.

Director of Planning and Community Development, Ty Livingston, and Director of Buildings and Inspections, Robert Cole, came up to the table to discuss their department budgets. Director Livingston discussed the Planning & Community Development budget. Cost reductions and efficiencies created by the Planning and Community Development department and possible ways to increase revenues were presented, as were department goals for the upcoming year.

Director Cole presented the Buildings Maintenance and Inspections Budget. He discussed the public properties budget, including demolitions. Energy efficiencies have been created and costs saved by updating lighting, including updating gym lighting at EastSide Centre and street light fixture replacements on Bass Pro Drive, Conference Center Drive, and Riverside Drive. The small business and residential electrical aggregation has created savings as has using a paperless organization system for the department. Finally, Director Cole discussed possible ways to increase revenues in the future.

Director of Tourism & Special Events, Doug McCarty, came up to the table and discussed the Tourism and Special Events department. He discussed revenues for EastSide Centre being around \$700,000 and the Fitness Center. He discussed membership and implementing seasonal hours for the Fitness Center. Director McCarty discussed EastSide Centre outside events over the past year and events planned in the future. The Festival of Lights revenues are estimated around \$285,000 for the past year.

City Administrator Eder explained that next week budget discussions continue at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 30, 2018.

Mayor Mingus asked for any comments from the audience.

Don Norbits came up to the podium and inquired about the \$500,000 shortfall in the budget. He discussed the need for revenues to provide needed city services.

Charlie Morgan came up to the podium and congratulated Director McCarty on the success of the Festival of Lights.

Mayor Mingus asked for any other further comments. There was no response.

Page 3

Motion by Commissioner Decker, seconded by Commissioner Kahl; Mr. Mayor, I move you that we adjourn the meeting.

Yeas: Commissioners Decker, Densberger, Jeffers, and Kahl and Mayor Mingus.

Nays: None.

Mayor Mingus declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:28 P.M.

/s/ Morgan R. Cadwalader_____

Morgan R. Cadwalader, City Clerk