

CITY OF PRESCOTT, WISCONSIN
MEETING NOTICE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 22, 2016 AT 6:30 P.M.
PRESCOTT MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 800 BORNER STREET
PRESCOTT, WI 54021
WEBSITE: PRESCOTTWI.ORG

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – THE CITY COUNCIL WILL RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANY ISSUE(S) NOT RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS. LIMITED DISCUSSION BY THE CITY COUNCIL MAY TAKE PLACE, HOWEVER NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN ON ANY ITEMS. THIS INCLUDES RECEIVING WRITTEN REQUESTS OR DOCUMENTATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION AT A FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING

PRESENTATION OF FLAG TO THE FAMILY OF POLICE OFFICER JACKIE RYDEN COMMEMORATING THE 10TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF HIS DEATH IN THE LINE OF DUTY

5. CONSENT AGENDA

1. AUGUST 8, 2016 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
2. AUGUST 15, 2016 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
3. JULY 13, 2016 PRESCOTT HOUSING AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES

6. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

A. PUBLIC WORKS

1. OPEN PUBLIC HEARING FOR VACATION ALL THAT PART OF A CERTAIN ALLEY LOCATED IN BLOCK 1, RODNEY JOHNSON'S ADDITION IN THE CITY OF PRESCOTT, PIERCE COUNTY WISCONSIN - THIS HEARING WILL NEED TO BE CONTINUED TO SEPTEMBER 12, 2016 COUNCIL MEETING

B. FINANCE COMMITTEE

1. FUNDING OPTIONS FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY, DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND SOLAR INSTALLATION PROJECTS
2. BUDGET GUIDELINES FOR 2017
3. ASSESSING SERVICES

C. LICENSE

1. PRESCOTT DAZE REQUEST TO USE PUBLIC PROPERTY AND AMPLIFIER PERMITS
2. TEMPORARY CLASS "B" BEER LICENSE FOR PRESCOTT DAZE COMMITTEE FOR SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2016 AT THE BOAT LAUNCH FOR FISHING CONTEST
3. TEMPORARY CLASS "B" BEER LICENSE FOR PRESCOTT DAZE COMMITTEE FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2016 AT MERCORD MILL PARK FOR PRESCOTT DAZE DANCE
4. TEMPORARY CLASS "B" BEER LICENSE FOR ST. JOSEPH CHURCH FOR SEPTEMBER 17 & 18, 2016 FOR ST JOSEPH FALL FESTIVAL
5. TEMPORARY CLASS "B" BEER LICENSE FOR PTACEK FOUNDATION FOR OCTOBER 8, 2016 FOR 1449 ORRIN ROAD FOR BARRELS AND BACON
6. OPERATOR LICENSES

D. PARKS & PUBLIC PROPERTY

E. PUBLIC SAFETY

F. ORDINANCE

G. PERSONNEL

H. HEALTH & SAFETY

I. PLANNING COMMISSION

J. COMMUNICATIONS & NEW BUSINESS

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS
2. OTHER BUSINESS
3. WISCONSIN TAXPAYER ALLIANCE
4. CLOSED SESSION PER WISCONSIN STATS. 19.85 (1) (E) DELIBERATING OR NEGOTIATING THE PURCHASING OF PUBLIC PROPERTIES, THE INVESTING OF PUBLIC FUNDS, OR CONDUCTING OTHER SPECIFIED PUBLIC BUSINESS, WHENEVER COMPETITIVE OR BARGAINING REASONS REQUIRE A CLOSED SESSION- POSSIBLE INCENTIVES FOR PROPOSED PROJECT IN TIF #5 & 19.85 (B) CONSIDERING DISMISSAL, DEMOTION, LICENSING OR DISCIPLINE OF ANY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE OR PERSON LICENSED BY A BOARD OR COMMISSION OR THE INVESTIGATION OF CHARGES AGAINST SUCH PERSON – SEPERATION AGREEMENT
5. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION
6. TAKE ACTION ON ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION
7. ADJOURNMENT

NOTICE

ACCESS TO THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING FOR THE DISABLED IS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE REAR PARKING LOT ENTRANCE. ALL THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS SHOULD CALL CITY HALL OFFICES (715-262-5544) IF ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED

AUGUST 8, 2016 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Prescott City Council was held on Monday, August 8, 2016 in the Prescott Municipal Building, 800 Borner St., Prescott, WI 54021.

Call to order/Roll Call: Mayor David Hovel called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Members present were Galen Seipel, Jack Hoschette, Rob Daugherty, Bill Dravis and Maureen Otwell. Joshua Gergen was absent. Public Works Director Hank Zwart and City Administrator Jayne Brand represented staff. Also present Greg Adams, City Engineer, Cedar Corporation.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Public Comments: Jim Reichert, 1003 Hilton Street referred to an article in the Prescott Journal about how the city and school district need to work together. Reichert stated Prescott is not growing. He mentioned a number of other surrounding communities are having a number of housing units being built and Prescott is not having housing units being built. Reichert stated he understanding the school district taxes will be going up because of the new school and the county taxes will be going up because of the new jail. The city was able to raise taxes because of the net new construction with UNFI but he feels UNFI did not fulfill the expectations. Reichert stated the school district is setting up for another possible levy override. Reichert also stated the Council needs to make sure all costs are justified. He said real estate taxes need to be stabilized.

Gergen/Otwell motion to approve the consent agenda which included the approve of the July 25, 2016 regular city council meeting minutes, July 25, 2016 public work committee meeting minutes, June 16, 2016 Prescott public library board of trustee meeting minutes, cash balances, budget year to date, accounts payable, payroll, review of receivables and building inspection report for July 2016 passed without a negative voice vote.

City Administrator Jayne Brand presented the request from Riverboat Properties LLC for a Class "B" beer and Class "B" liquor license. It was explained the license can be granted but not issued because there is not a premise for the license. It was also explained it will be easier for the Corporation to get someone interested in the restaurant and banquet room with a license available. **Gergen/Otwell motion to grant Class "B" beer and Class "B" liquor to Riverboat Properties LLC passed without a negative voice vote.**

Gergen/Seipel motion to approve temporary Class "B" beer license for Prescott Area Fire Department for Prescott Daze, September 9 through September 11, 2016 passed without a negative voice vote.

Daugherty/Gergen motion to approve operator license for Barbara J. Gordon passed without a negative voice vote.

Aldersperson Bill Dravis explained to the Council about meeting with the Special Agents for Alcohol and Tobacco and how the discussion had come up about open containers on Broad Street during Prescott Daze. The Agents gave us the suggestion if we wanted to allow open containers how the Council should extend the premises for licensed establishments. They also suggested there be contingencies put on the extension of the premises. It was discussed the extension of the premises should have some restrictions put on it. Some of the restrictions the Council discussed were open container would only be allowed on Saturday because Broad Street is closed, establishments need to have a bouncer/security person, no glass, clean up and hours to allow for open container. Aldersperson Daugherty asked about street vendors being allowed to extend their premises. It was discussed if they follow the contingencies they

should be allowed to extend premises also. Alderperson Otwell stated by the Council approving the extending of the premises it just acknowledges what is already happening and this year can be a trial period to see if it works. **Daugherty/Dravis motion to approve the extension of premises for licensed establishments for Saturday, September 10, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with the following contingencies, each establishment needs to have bouncer/security person during the entire time, cans or plastic cup no glass, Broad Street only, need to clean up their area after 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 10, 2016 passed by a majority vote with Gergen voting nay.**

City Engineer Greg Adams presented the bids for Broad Street sidewalk improvements. Two bids were received. Pember Companies in the amount of \$136,992.35 and Urban Companies in the amount of \$160,800. The estimate was \$175,000. **Otwell/Daugherty motion to accept bid from Pember Companies in the amount of \$136,992.35 for Broad Street sidewalks improvements passed unanimously via roll call vote.**

Gergen/Daugherty motion to approve the 2nd reading and waive the 3rd reading and approval of Ordinance 03-16 "Chronic Nuisance Premises" passed without a negative voice vote.

Daugherty/Otwell motion to go into closed session per Wisconsin Stats. 19.85 (1) (e) deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds or conducting other specified public business whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session – possible land purchase in TIF#4 passed unanimously via roll call vote.

Gergen/Dravis motion to come out of closed session passed unanimously via roll call vote.

Staff and Council to follow up as discussed in closed session.

Gergen/Daugherty motion to adjourn passed without a negative voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jayne M. Brand
City Administrator

CITY OF PRESCOTT, WISCONSIN

AUGUST 15, 2016 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a meeting of the Public Works Committee was held Monday, August 15, 2016, 800 Borner St., Prescott, WI 54021.

Call to order/Roll Call: Chairman Robert Daugherty called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Members present were Robert Daugherty, Bill Dravis and Joshua Gergen. Public Works Director Hank Zwart, Finance Director Vanessa Norby and City Administration Jayne Brand represented staff. Also present Mayor David Hovel

Gergen/Daugherty motion to approve the minutes for July 25, 2016 passed without a negative voice vote.

Representative from Trane, All-Energy Solar and Eutectics presented financial information in regards to the Energy Savings Performance Contract. Information was presented on a 15 and 20 year pay back. The information also looked at doing all of the projects or removal of the fire department roof and HVAC for the city. **Dravis/Gergen motion to recommend to council looking at a 15 year pay back including HVAC and fire department roof passed without a negative voice vote.**

The committee discussed water and sewer taps to mains. The ordinance for sewer states the property owners pays for the entire sewer being hooked to the main. The water is regulated by the Public Service Commission and currently we can only charge \$450 for a water hookup even if the cost is more than the \$450. It was suggested the city use the owner's excavator to dig the water line and the Public Works employees will tap the water line. It was suggested at budget time to discuss doing a full rate case with the Public Service Commission for water.

Other Business: Paving of alleys was discussed. It was determined that alleys can be special assessed. The city should determine where the alley is platted. If there are structures in the platted alley the alley should be paved up to the structure and a document should be filed to put a restriction on if the structure is removed or the property transferred the structure can not be placed back in the same area.

No parking on either side of Dexter Street from the south water tower entrance to Highway 10. It will be hard to have parking on Dexter Street with buses for the school and trucks for the businesses. Staff will be working on getting signs and getting them placed.

Gergen/Dravis motion to adjourn passed without a negative voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jayne M. Brand
City Administrator

Minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Prescott Housing Authority on July 13, 2016. Chairperson David Sterud called the meeting to order at 9:00. Roll call showed those present to be: David Sterud, Gary Dunn, Dorothea Morris, Brenda Haas

Absent: Richard Matzek

Minutes of the June 15, 2016 meeting were approved. Haas/Morris

Financial report of May 2016 was reviewed and approved. Dunn/Haas
Check register and payment of bills for June and July to date. Dunn/Morris

There were no tenants present.

Old Business:

1. Picnic Shelter – McAlpine reported that the Prescott Foundation is expected to review grants at their meeting last night. Dar Hovel of the Prescott Foundation suggested that the Housing Authority submit a grant application to Pierce Pepin Operation Round up. McAlpine has sent Pierce Pepin a grant application. Commissioners requested that the height of the fence around the dumpster be increase to block the view from the picnic area.
2. Key Holders – McAlpine reported that Prescott Housing Authority now has two tenant-employees, one in each building, who will be the key holders. As employees they can be covered by insurance and be held accountable for the key security. McAlpine is still working to get key boxes for the ambulance crew to have key access. The ambulances do not have keys to the black emergency key boxes that are located by the main entry of each building.

New Business

Chair/Commissioner report

1. Hass is a member of the Lions Club. The Lions Club hosts a dinner for tenants twice a year. Attendance at the last dinner was down. Lions club asked if they could put notices on each door. McAlpine asked that lions club contact the office so management can post notices and make arrangements for access to the kitchen.

Management Report

1. Vacancy report – One apartment became vacant open unexpectedly. There are names on the waiting list to fill it.

There being no other business, motion to adjourn at 9:45 Morris/Haas

Respectfully submitted Anne McAlpine, Acting Recorder.



**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
PRESCOTT CITY COUNCIL
VACATING ALL THAT PART OF A CERTAIN ALLEY LOCATED IN BLOCK 1,
RODNEY JOHNSON'S ADDITION IN THE CITY OF PRESCOTT, PIERCE COUNTY,
WISCONSIN**

Public notice is hereby given to all persons in the City of Prescott, Pierce County, Wisconsin that a public hearing will be held on August 22, 2016 at the Municipal Building, 800 Borner Street North.

The hearing is on vacating all that part of a certain alley located in Block 1, Rodney Johnson's Addition in the City of Prescott, Pierce County Wisconsin. Alley is platted but has not been opened.

All persons having an interest are invited to attend the hearing and be heard or submit written comment to City Hall prior to the hearing.

Jayne M. Brand
City Administrator

Published: August 4, 2016
August 11, 2016
August 18, 2016

RESOLUTION 06-16

**INITIAL RESOLUTION VACATING ALL THAT PART OF A CERTAIN ALLEY
LOCATED IN BLOCK 1, RODNEY JOHNSON'S ADDITION IN THE CITY OF
PRESCOTT, PIERCE COUNTY, WISCONSIN**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Prescott, Wisconsin:

1. The Common Council hereby declares its intention to exercise its power under Section 66.1003(4) of the Wisconsin Statutes that the public interest requires it vacate and discontinue use of the following described alley:

All that part of that certain alley located in Block 1, Rodney Johnson's, in the City of Prescott, Pierce County, Wisconsin

2. That any final Resolution adopted pursuant hereto shall reserve to the City an easement to maintain the public utilities and all other public improvements as are now located and installed within said described premises and an easement to place and maintain public utilities within said described premises in the future.

3. That attached to this Initial Resolution and made a part hereof, is a plat showing that certain alley above referred to, said alley being shown in red.

Adopted this 25th day of July, 2016.

By a vote of: _____ in favor, _____ against, and _____ abstain.

David Hovel, Mayor of the City of Prescott

ATTEST:

Jayne M. Brand, City Administrator/Clerk of the City of Prescott

City Hall & Library

ECM	Cost	savings	incentive
HVAC upgrade	\$ 281,353.00	\$ 1,996.00	\$ 3,875.00
BAS & controls retrofit	\$ 51,224.00	\$ 792.00	\$ 200.00
Lighting retrofit	\$ 49,253.00	\$ 5,812.70	\$ 2,792.00
Solar PV	\$ 185,750.29	\$ 4,492.00	
Envelope repairs	\$ 11,455.00	\$ 938.00	
	\$ 579,035.29	\$ 14,030.70	\$ 6,867.00

Police & Ambulance

HVAC upgrade	\$ 37,481.00	\$ 405.40	\$ 1,760.00
BAS & controls retrofit	\$ 13,711.00	\$ 1,134.00	\$ 160.00
Lighting retrofit	\$ 27,735.00	\$ 3,957.00	\$ 1,536.00
Solar PV (REVISE TO 18 kw??)	\$ 62,864.00	\$ 1,868.00	
Envelope repairs	\$ 15,159.00	\$ 595.25	
	\$ 156,950.00	\$ 7,959.65	\$ 3,456.00

Public Works

BAS & controls retrofit	\$ 13,171.00	\$ 679.00	\$ 80.00
Lighting retrofit	\$ 18,348.00	\$ 1,148.00	\$ 128.00
Solar PV	\$ 43,318.00	\$ 2,041.00	
Envelope repairs	\$ 5,860.00	\$ 392.50	
	\$ 80,697.00	\$ 4,260.50	\$ 208.00

Heritage Center

HVAC & BAS upgrade	\$ 26,353.00	\$ 460.00	\$ 630.00
Lighting retrofit	\$ 5,372.00	\$ 364.40	\$ 663.00
Window replacement	\$ 14,050.00	\$ 345.00	
Envelope repairs	\$ 3,168.00	\$ 230.00	
	\$ 48,943.00	\$ 1,399.40	\$ 1,293.00

Waste Water Treatment Plant

HVAC upgrade	\$	\$ -	
Lighting retrofit	\$ 18,335.00	\$ 4,178.00	\$ 903.00
VFDs for process pumps	\$	\$ -	
	\$ 18,335.00	\$ 4,178.00	\$ 903.00

Freedom Park

Recommissioning	\$ 6,273.00	\$ 107.10	
BAS retrofit	\$ 36,106.00	\$ 267.75	\$ 160.00
Lighting retrofit	\$ 19,325.00	\$ 4,178.00	\$ 842.00
Solar PV (site space restriction lim	\$ 54,287.00	\$ 1,661.00	
Envelope repairs	\$ -	\$ 89.25	
	\$ 115,991.00	\$ 6,303.10	\$ 1,002.00

Fire Station

HVAC upgrade	\$ 17,311.00	\$ 442.40	\$ 550.00
BAS & controls retrofit	\$ 11,902.00	\$ 514.60	\$ 80.00
Lighting retrofit	\$ 25,554.00	\$ 3,297.00	\$ 702.00
Solar PV	\$ 42,581.00	\$ 1,275.00	
Envelope repairs	\$ 10,344.00	\$ 429.50	
Roof & insulation	\$ 72,970.00	\$ 676.50	
	\$ 180,662.00	\$ 6,635.00	\$ 1,332.00

Outdoor Lighting

Outdoor lighting - Main Street & F	\$ 22,124.00	\$ 2,430.90	\$ 650.00
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TOTAL

\$ 1,202,737.29	\$ 47,197.25	\$ 15,711.00
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Notes about values in this spreadsheet:

1. All ECMs that have been presented to the client are included (including items with long payback periods).
2. No incentives or rebates are considered.
3. No depreciation or other tax benefits included.
4. No revenue from excess energy generation considered. It is likely this will be available on sites, resulting in lower paybacks.
5. Cost Avoidance not included. HVAC systems in the City Hall and Wastewater Treatment Plant show signs of near term failure – a prever
6. Utility cost escalation not considered.

10 Year	Eutectics	State Trust Fund	GO Bonds
Principal	\$ 1,226,792	\$ 1,202,737	\$ 1,203,000
Interest Rate	2.9%	3%	
Yearly Payment	\$ 142,207	\$ 140,997	
Avg Yearly Saving	\$ (56,000)	\$ (56,000)	\$ (56,000)
Net yearly Cost	\$ 86,207	\$ 84,997	\$ (56,000)
Total Interest	\$ 195,282	\$ 207,238	
Total P&I	\$ 1,422,074	\$ 1,409,975	\$ 1,203,000

15 Year	Eutectics	State Trust Fund	GO Bonds
Principal	\$ 1,226,792	\$ 1,202,737	\$ 1,203,000
Interest Rate	3.19%	3.5%	
Yearly Payment	\$ 103,546	\$ 104,428	
Avg Yearly Saving	\$ (56,000)	\$ (56,000)	\$ (56,000)
Net Yearly Cost	\$ 47,546	\$ 48,428	\$ (56,000)
Total Interest	\$ 326,404	\$ 363,679	
Total P&I	\$ 1,553,196	\$ 1,566,416	\$ 1,203,000

20 Year	Eutectics	State Trust Fund	GO Bonds
Principal	\$ 1,226,792	\$ 1,202,737	\$ 1,203,000
Interest Rate	3.975%	3.5%	
Yearly Payment	\$ 89,496	\$ 84,626	
Avg Yearly Saving	\$ (56,000)	\$ (56,000)	\$ (56,000)
Net Yearly Cost	\$ 33,496	\$ 28,626	\$ (56,000)
Total Interest	\$ 563,130	\$ 489,780	
Total P&I	\$ 1,789,922	\$ 1,692,517	\$ 1,203,000



CITY OF PRESCOTT

800 Borner Street North • Prescott, Wisconsin 54021-2012
(715) 262-5544

Date: August 17, 2016
 To: Common Council and Mayor Hovel
 From: Vanessa Norby, Finance Director/Treasurer
 Subject: 2017 Budget Guidance

City staff will start budget preparation and discussion in August and would like some guidance from the City Council. The table below is a reminder of some of the factors affecting the 2017 budget:

<p>Levy: Under Act 32, a municipality is allowed to increase its levy over the amount it levied in the prior year by the percentage increase in equalized value from net new construction. Our net new construction for 2016 levy payable 2017 is 1.32%. If the City chooses to take less than the net new construction, for 2017, we will not be able to use the rest in future years if needed. See below for levy history and examples of levy increases.</p>	See below
<p>State Aid: State Shared Revenue is expected to be close to the 2016 amount of \$337,282. The only exception to this is the City chose to forego their eligibility of the Expenditure Restraint amount of \$49,155 in order to increase the 2016 General Fund budget enough to add an additional full-time Police Officer. This will reduce the State Aid to about \$288,000 in 2017. General Transportation Aids are expected remain similar as the 2016 amount of \$232,000.</p>	No Change
<p>Retirement: The WRS Retirement Employer contribution for general employees is expected to <i>increase</i> from 6.6% to 6.8% and the employer contribution for protective (Police) is expected to <i>increase</i> from 9.49% to 10.8%. The employee contribution for general and protective employees is 6.8%, up from 6.6% in 2016.</p>	Increase
<p>Health Insurance: Currently, City employees pay 12% of premiums for health insurance. We currently offer \$500 per month for Payment In Lieu of Health Insurance (PILOHI) for an employee that opts out of health insurance for themselves and any eligible spouse or family and \$300 per month for an employee taking insurance for themselves but opting out of eligible spouse or family. In 2017 the Union Police Officer's contribution will increase to 13%. The City's 2017 health insurance rates are increasing by approximately 3.3% and the deductibles increasing from \$3000 single and \$6000 family, to \$3500 single and \$7000 family. Increasing the employee's contribution to 13% will keep the increase down to about 2.1%.</p>	???
<p>Wage Increases The following are the last five years of general wage increases to non-union staff. 2016: 2.5% 2015: 1.75% 2014: 1.66% 2013: 2% 2012: 3%</p>	

The Police Union Officers are set to receive a 2.5% wage increase in 2017.	
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Prescott Levy Limit History:

2016: 4.95% Increase, \$2,175,875 (net new construction; 9.05%)
2015: 0.4% Increase, \$2,073,303 (net new construction; .4%)
2014: 0.465% Increase, \$2,065,045 (net new construction; .47%)
2013: 0.594% increase, \$2,055,487 (net new construction)
2012: 0% increase, \$2,043,350
2011 levy: \$2,043,350

Mill Rate:

2015 Payable 2016 (Prescott Only): \$8.07 per \$1000 assessed value
2016 Payable 2017 with 0% levy increase: \$8.08 per \$1000 assessed value
2016 Payable 2017 with 1.32% net new construction levy increase: \$8.18 per \$1000 assessed value (\$15 on a \$150,000 home)

1.32% Net new construction increase will generate \$28,722

Expenditure Restraint:

Last year during the budget process, the City chose to forego the Expenditure Restraint Aid in order to increase the General Fund budget to add an additional Police Officer. To make up for it, the expense of a new officer for the entire year was built in to the budget but the officer was not hired until mid-way through the year. This allowed us to build the save the amount of holding off hiring and re-coup the loss of the expenditure restraint in 2017.

General Fund's expense budget may not exceed 60% of Net New Construction: $.792 + \text{CPI-U}$ for 9/30/2016, not announced until late October. Last year's CPI was only 0.3%

2016 General Fund expense budget: \$2,565,312

.792% General Fund expense minimum increase: \$20,320

The City staff is looking for budget guidance to begin the 2017 budget process. It is understood that direction from Council may change once we get into the budget hearings and have final numbers on increases or decreases on health insurance, retirement, debt service, State Aid and other things that will affect the budget positively or negatively.

1. What is the Council looking to increase or decrease the levy? Stay the same? Increase by net new construction (1.32%)?
2. Benefit increases/decreases for City employees.
 - a. Wages, health insurance contributions, PILOHI
3. Any other known changes that will affect the 2017 budget the Council is considering?

TO: Mayor & Council

FROM: Jayne Brand, City Administrator

RE: Assessing Services

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jayne", is positioned to the right of the "FROM:" line.

In 2016 the city was in its 4th year of being out of compliance for our municipal assessed values. The city needs to be within 10% of the assessed values once every five years. Accurate Assessor has provided us with options of how to get back into to compliance.

The options are attached to this memo. Of all of the options listed the Assessor recommends Option E. Option E would require use to have a four year contract with Accurate Assessor. Option E is to have all parcel revalued based on the information in the existing property record cards and no inspections are done other than the normal maintenance work.

Another option would be to go with Option A for regular maintenance for 2017 with Accurate Assessor and do a request for proposal early in 2017. The tough part of this we will have to do a revaluation in 2018 and this could drive the pricing up for companies who have not worked with Prescott. As part of the RFP we will also want to have all of the record cards be accessible from the internet and this could also be an added cost for a new company.



Type of Assessing Service and Price

- Option A:** **\$7,100 per year**
1. Regular Maintenance
- Option B:** **\$34,500 per year**
1. No Walkthrough Market Revaluation
- Option C:** **\$91,500 per year**
1. Full Revaluation w/100% physical inspection
- Option D:** **\$28,500 per year**
1. Year 1,2,3 Maintenance with ¼ walkthroughs
2. Year 4 Revaluation with ¼ walkthroughs
- Option E:** **\$14,000 per year**
1. 3 years of Regular Maintenance and 1 year of Market Revaluation. The Client will choose the year of the revaluation.

EQ ADMIN AREA 79 Eau Claire
COUNTY 47 Pierce County
CITY 271 Prescott

Year	Property Class	Municipal Assessed Value	DOR Base Value	% of DOR Base Value	Ratio (%)	Major Class Municipal Compliance Status	Type Of Notice Issued
2015	Residential	236,855,500	249,619,300	74.07	94.89	YES	
	Commercial	72,948,300	83,806,400	24.87	87.04	NO	
	Agricultural	23,400	24,100	0.01	97.10		
	Sum Of 5, 5M, 6, 7	37,100	138,600	0.04	26.77		
	Personal	3,302,200	3,425,500	1.02	96.40		
	Total	313,166,500	337,013,900	100.00	92.92	NO	
2014	Residential	236,145,600	237,485,500	79.95	99.44	YES	
	Commercial	46,213,300	55,620,400	18.73	83.09	NO	
	Agricultural	23,700	23,700	0.01	100.00		
	Sum Of 5, 5M, 6, 7	37,100	141,300	0.05	26.26		
	Personal	3,866,700	3,761,400	1.27	102.80		
	Total	286,286,400	297,032,300	100.00	96.38	NO	
2013	Residential	235,291,200	220,299,900	79.61	106.80	YES	
	Commercial	46,026,000	52,862,500	19.10	87.07	NO	
	Agricultural	24,100	24,100	0.01	100.00		
	Sum Of 5, 5M, 6, 7	37,100	141,200	0.05	26.27		
	Personal	3,590,300	3,412,500	1.23	105.21		
	Total	284,968,700	276,740,200	100.00	102.97	NO	
2012	Residential	235,859,600	219,960,800	81.71	107.23	YES	
	Commercial	43,573,900	45,685,900	16.97	95.38	YES	
	Agricultural	26,800	27,100	0.01	98.89		
	Sum Of 5, 5M, 6, 7	440,800	303,800	0.11	145.10		
	Personal	3,310,700	3,213,000	1.19	103.04		
	Total	283,211,800	269,190,600	100.00	105.21	YES	
2011	Residential	236,705,500	228,448,400	82.66	103.61	YES	
	Commercial	43,566,500	44,309,700	16.03	98.32	YES	
	Agricultural	27,600	27,700	0.01	99.64		
	Sum Of 5, 5M, 6, 7	547,700	306,300	0.11	178.81		
	Personal	3,373,500	3,291,200	1.19	102.50		
	Total	284,220,800	276,383,300	100.00	102.84	YES	
2010	Residential	238,117,300	231,640,800	83.33	102.80	YES	
	Commercial	43,042,100	42,867,600	15.42	100.41	YES	
	Agricultural	28,500	25,400	0.01	112.20		
	Sum Of 5, 5M, 6, 7	128,100	209,100	0.08	61.26		
	Personal	3,228,600	3,228,600	1.16	100.00		
	Total	284,544,600	277,971,500	100.00	102.36	YES	
2009	Residential	231,519,200	249,870,300	83.72	92.66	YES	
	Commercial	39,677,000	44,444,400	14.89	89.27	NO	
	Agricultural	22,700	25,700	0.01	88.33		
	Sum Of 5, 5M, 6, 7	1,116,400	973,400	0.33	114.69		
	Personal	2,459,900	3,153,700	1.06	78.00		
	Total	274,795,200	298,467,500	100.00	92.07	NO	Final Notice of Non-Compliance

Prescott Daze Request to use Public Property and Amp Permits

Public Property

Mercord Mill Park and Parking Lot for Street Dance Friday September 9th, 2016

Boat Launch for Fishing Contest on Saturday September 10th, 2016

Broad Street for Car Show Saturday September 10th, 2016

Public Square for Children's Events Saturday September 10th, 2016

Skate Board Park Saturday September 10th, 2016

Amp Permits

Friday September 9th, 2016 Mercord Mill Park for Street Dance

Saturday September 10th, 2016 Car Show on Broad Street

Saturday September 10th, 2016 Children's Event at Public Square

Saturday September 10th, 2016 Skate Board Park

Sunday September 11th, 2016 Parade

Picnic Table request

Need picnic tables at Mercord mill park for street dance, Children's Even at public square, skate board park and 4 in lot between Most and Prescott Liquor.

Street Closings

Broad Street including the 1st parking spots on all four corners of Orange Street for the Car Show Saturday September 10th, 2016

Elm Street and Court Street on either side of the Public Square for the Children's Events Saturday September 10th, 2015

The following streets for the Parade on Sunday September 11th, 2016

Canton Street, Cherry Street, Elm Street and Washington Street

Application for Temporary Class "B" / "Class B" Retailer's License

See Additional Information on reverse side. Contact the municipal clerk if you have questions.

FEE \$ Waived

Application Date: 8/11/16

Town Village City of Prescott

County of Pierce

The named organization applies for: (check appropriate box(es).)

A Temporary Class "B" license to sell fermented malt beverages at picnics or similar gatherings under s. 125.26(6), Wis. Stats.

A Temporary "Class B" license to sell wine at picnics or similar gatherings under s. 125.51(10), Wis. Stats.

at the premises described below during a special event beginning _____ and ending _____ and agrees to comply with all laws, resolutions, ordinances and regulations (state, federal or local) affecting the sale of fermented malt beverages and/or wine if the license is granted.

1. Organization (check appropriate box) → Bona fide Club Church Lodge/Society
 Chamber of Commerce or similar Civic or Trade Organization
 Veteran's Organization Fair Association

(a) Name Prescott Daze Committee

(b) Address 800 Garner Street Prescott WI 54021
(Street) Town Village City

(c) Date organized _____

(d) If corporation, give date of incorporation _____

(e) If the named organization is not required to hold a Wisconsin seller's permit pursuant to s. 77.54 (7m), Wis. Stats., check this box:

(f) Names and addresses of all officers:

President Chair - Charles Magee

Vice President _____

Secretary _____

Treasurer _____

(g) Name and address of manager or person in charge of affair: Charles Magee
114 Broad St Prescott WI 54021

2. Location of Premises Where Beer and/or Wine Will Be Sold, Served, Consumed, or Stored, and Areas Where Alcohol Beverage Records Will be Stored:

(a) Street number Boat Launch Prescott WI

(b) Lot _____ Block _____

(c) Do premises occupy all or part of building? _____

(d) If part of building, describe fully all premises covered under this application, which floor or floors, or room or rooms, license is to cover: _____

3. Name of Event

(a) List name of the event Prescott Daze Fishing Contest

(b) Dates of event 9/10/2016 10AM - 12:30pm

DECLARATION

The Officer(s) of the organization, individually and together, declare under penalties of law that the information provided in this application is true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief.

Officer Charles J. Magee
(Signature/date)

(Name of Organization)

Officer _____
(Signature/date)

Officer _____
(Signature/date)

Officer _____
(Signature/date)

Date Filed with Clerk _____

Date Reported to Council or Board _____

Date Granted by Council _____

License No. _____

Application for Temporary Class "B" / "Class B" Retailer's License

See Additional Information on reverse side. Contact the municipal clerk if you have questions.

FEE \$ _____
 Town Village City of Prescott

Application Date: 8/18/16
County of Pierce

The named organization applies for: (check appropriate box(es).)

A Temporary Class "B" license to sell fermented malt beverages at picnics or similar gatherings under s. 125.26(6), Wis. Stats.

A Temporary "Class B" license to sell wine at picnics or similar gatherings under s. 125.51(10), Wis. Stats.

at the premises described below during a special event beginning 9/9/16 and ending 9/9/16 and agrees to comply with all laws, resolutions, ordinances and regulations (state, federal or local) affecting the sale of fermented malt beverages and/or wine if the license is granted.

1. Organization (check appropriate box) → Bona fide Club Church Lodge/Society

Chamber of Commerce or similar Civic or Trade Organization

Veteran's Organization Fair Association

(a) Name City of Prescott

(b) Address 800 Bornerst Prescott, WI 54021
(Street) Town Village City

(c) Date organized 8/9/16

(d) If corporation, give date of incorporation _____

(e) If the named organization is not required to hold a Wisconsin seller's permit pursuant to s. 77.54 (7m), Wis. Stats., check this box:

(f) Names and addresses of all officers:

President Beth Johnson

Vice President _____

Secretary _____

Treasurer _____

(g) Name and address of manager or person in charge of affair: 210 Court St N Prescott

2. Location of Premises Where Beer and/or Wine Will Be Sold, Served, Consumed, or Stored, and Areas Where Alcohol Beverage Records Will be Stored:

(a) Street number Mercord Mill Park

(b) Lot _____ Block _____

(c) Do premises occupy all or part of building? _____

(d) If part of building, describe fully all premises covered under this application, which floor or floors, or room or rooms, license is to cover: _____

3. Name of Event

(a) List name of the event Prescott Daze Street Dance

(b) Dates of event _____

DECLARATION

The Officer(s) of the organization, individually and together, declare under penalties of law that the information provided in this application is true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief.

Officer Beth Johnson 8/18/16
(Signature/date)

Officer _____
(Signature/date)

Date Filed with Clerk _____

Date Granted by Council _____

(Name of Organization)

Officer _____
(Signature/date)

Officer _____
(Signature/date)

Date Reported to Council or Board _____

License No. _____

Application for Temporary Class "B" / "Class B" Retailer's License

See Additional Information on reverse side. Contact the municipal clerk if you have questions.

FEE \$ _____ Application Date: 7/8/16
 Town Village City of Prescott County of Pierce

The named organization applies for: (check appropriate box(es).)

A Temporary Class "B" license to sell fermented malt beverages at picnics or similar gatherings under s. 125.26(6), Wis. Stats.

A Temporary "Class B" license to sell wine at picnics or similar gatherings under s. 125.51(10), Wis. Stats.

at the premises described below during a special event beginning 9/17/16 and ending 9/18/16 and agrees to comply with all laws, resolutions, ordinances and regulations (state, federal or local) affecting the sale of fermented malt beverages and/or wine if the license is granted.

1. Organization (check appropriate box) → Bona fide Club Church Lodge/Society
 Chamber of Commerce or similar Civic or Trade Organization
 Veteran's Organization Fair Association

(a) Name St. Joseph Church

(b) Address 269 Dakota St. S. Prescott, WI 54021
(Street) Town Village City

(c) Date organized 1905

(d) If corporation, give date of incorporation _____

(e) If the named organization is not required to hold a Wisconsin seller's permit pursuant to s. 77.54 (7m), Wis. Stats., check this box:

(f) Names and addresses of all officers:

President Father George Szews

Vice President Deacon Jerry Rynda

Secretary Carrie Haas

Treasurer Ann Schwabach

(g) Name and address of manager or person in charge of affair:
Carol Merceord 285 Locust St. Prescott, WI 54021

2. Location of Premises Where Beer and/or Wine Will Be Sold, Served, Consumed, or Stored, and Areas Where Alcohol Beverage Records Will be Stored:

(a) Street number 269 & 281 Dakota St. S

(b) Lot _____ Block _____

(c) Do premises occupy all or part of building? All

(d) If part of building, describe fully all premises covered under this application, which floor or floors, or room or rooms, license is to cover: all of church buildings & parking lots, street ~~and~~ & sidewalks

3. Name of Event St. Joseph's Fall Festival

(a) List name of the event _____

(b) Dates of event September 17, 2016 & September 18, 2016

DECLARATION

The Officer(s) of the organization, individually and together, declare under penalties of law that the information provided in this application is true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief.

Officer [Signature]
(Signature/date)

St. Joseph Church
(Name of Organization)

Officer [Signature]
(Signature/date)

Officer [Signature]
(Signature/date)

Date Filed with Clerk _____
 Date Granted by Council _____

Date Reported to Council or Board _____
 License No. _____

APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY CLASS "B"/"CLASS B" RETAILER'S LICENSE

See Additional Information on reverse side. Contact the municipal clerk if you have questions.

FEE \$ _____

Application Date: 8/16/16

Town Village City of Prescott County of Pierce

The named organization applies for: (check appropriate box(es).)

- A Temporary Class "B" license to sell fermented malt beverages at picnics or similar gatherings under s. 125.26(6), Wis. Stats.
 A Temporary "Class B" license to sell wine at picnics or similar gatherings under s. 125.51(10), Wis. Stats.

at the premises described below during a special event beginning Oct 8, 2016 and ending Oct 8, 2016 and agrees to comply with all laws, resolutions, ordinances and regulations (state, federal or local) affecting the sale of fermented malt beverages and/or wine if the license is granted.

1. ORGANIZATION (check appropriate box) Bona fide Club Church Lodge/Society Veteran's Organization Fair Association

(a) Name Placsek Foundation

(b) Address ~~1449 Orion Rd, Prescott~~ 1005 Eagle Ridge Drive, Prescott, WI 54001
(Street) Town Village City

(c) Date organized 07-2016

(d) If corporation, give date of incorporation ~~6-2016~~

(e) If the named organization is not required to hold a Wisconsin seller's permit pursuant to s. 77.54 (7m), Wis. Stats., check this box:

(f) Names and addresses of all officers:

President Patrick Placsek

Vice President _____

Secretary _____

Treasurer _____

(g) Name and address of manager or person in charge of affair: _____

2. LOCATION OF PREMISES WHERE BEER AND/OR WINE WILL BE SOLD:

(a) Street number 1449 Orion Rd, Prescott, WI 54001

(b) Lot _____ Block _____

(c) Do premises occupy all or part of building? Yes

(d) If part of building, describe fully all premises covered under this application, which floor or floors, or room or rooms, license is to cover: Interior + exterior of address

3. NAME OF EVENT

(a) List name of the event Banquets + Bacon

(b) Dates of event October 8, 2016

DECLARATION

The Officer(s) of the organization, individually and together, declare under penalties of law that the information provided in this application is true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief.

Placsek Foundation
(Name of Organization)

Officer [Signature]
(Signature/date)

Officer _____
(Signature/date)

Officer _____
(Signature/date)

Officer _____
(Signature/date)

Date Filed with Clerk _____

Date Reported to Council or Board _____

Date Granted by Council _____

License No. _____



CITY OF PRESCOTT

800 Borner Street North • Prescott, Wisconsin 54021-2012

(715) 262-5544

OPERATOR'S LICENSE APPLICATION

Instructions:

1. Submit signed and completed application.
2. Pay \$25.00 renewal license for 2 years due in odd number year, \$50.00 new license fee (\$25.00 of this fee is for the background check).
3. All licenses are subject to City Council approval. Allow two weeks for processing.

Full Name (first, middle, last) Emily Michelle Gordon

Address 177 S. Locust St.

City Prescott State WI Zip Code 54021

Telephone # 715-262-4338 Driver's License # & State G635-2139-7712-02 WI

Date of Birth 6/12/1997 Place of Birth Springfield, Massachusetts

New License Renewal

Have you completed responsible beverage server training course? Yes No

Establishment where license will be used Churchills Starting Date 8/12/16

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes No
If yes, date of conviction _____ Court _____
Nature of Offense _____

Have you ever been convicted of violating any laws of the State of Wisconsin or the United States? Yes No
If yes, date of conviction _____ Court _____
Nature of Offense _____

Have you ever been convicted of violating any license law or ordinance regulating the sale of alcohol beverages or intoxicating liquors?
Yes No

The applicant hereby applies for a license to serve fermented malt beverages and intoxicating liquors and agrees to comply with the following:
A. All federal, state, and local laws, resolutions, ordinance statues and regulations affecting the sale of fermented malt beverages and intoxicating liquors.
B. Wisconsin Statutes 125.32(2) and 125.68(2).

Applicant Signature Emily M. Gordon Date 8/8/16

City Use Only:

Date Filed _____ Fee Paid _____ Receipt # _____ Application # _____
Chief of Police Approval G. Knutson Date 8-10-16
City Council Approval _____ Date _____

PAID AUG 08 2016



CITY OF PRESCOTT

800 Dorner Street North • Prescott, Wisconsin 54021-2012
(715) 262-5544

OPERATOR'S LICENSE APPLICATION

Instructions:

1. Submit signed and completed application.
2. Pay \$15.00 renewal license or temporary license fee, ^{50.00} \$40.00 new license fee (\$25.00 of this fee is for the background check).
3. All licenses are subject to City Council approval. Allow two weeks for processing.

Full Name (first, middle, last) Amelia Anne Pitt

Address 2065 Queens Ave S.

City Lakeland State Mn Zip Code 55043

Telephone # 763.313.9553 Driver's License # & State M59313335517 MN

Date of Birth 07/05/1990 Place of Birth River Falls Wi

New License Renewal

Have you completed responsible beverage server training course? Yes No

Establishment where license will be used noname/monkey Starting Date asap

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes No
If yes, date of conviction _____ Court _____
Nature of Offense _____

Have you ever been convicted of violating any laws of the State of Wisconsin or the United States? Yes No
If yes, date of conviction _____ Court _____
Nature of Offense _____

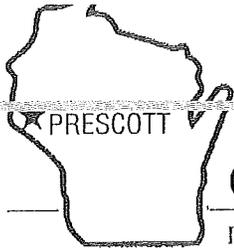
Have you ever been convicted of violating any license law or ordinance regulating the sale of alcohol beverages or intoxicating liquors?
Yes No

The applicant hereby applies for a license to serve fermented malt beverages and intoxicating liquors and agrees to comply with the following:
A. All federal, state, and local laws, resolutions, ordinance statues and regulations affecting the sale of fermented malt beverages and intoxicating liquors.
B. Wisconsin Statutes 125.32(2) and 125.68(2).

Applicant Signature Amelia Pitt Date 08/07/16

City Use Only:

Date Filed _____ Fee Paid _____ Receipt # _____ Application # _____
Chief of Police Approval C. [Signature] Date 8-10-16
City Council Approval _____ Date _____



CITY OF PRESCOTT
POLICE DEPARTMENT

1601 Pine Street • Prescott, Wisconsin 54021

Phone: (715) 262-5512

August 19, 2016

**City of Prescott
800 Borner St
Prescott, WI 54021**

Reference: Background Check on: Mendez, Toni M. DOB: 7/15/1968

Adult Contacts:

****No contacts with our department****

Check with Pierce County Sheriff's Office as they also cover our jurisdiction

Please feel free to contact me with questions in regards to this letter.

Regards,

**Erin Most
Administrative Assistant
Prescott Police Department
(715)262-4178 Fax**



CITY OF PRESCOTT

800 Borner Street North • Prescott, Wisconsin 54021-2012 (715) 262-5544

PAID AUG 18 2016

1250.00

OPERATOR'S LICENSE APPLICATION

Instructions:

- 1. Submit signed and completed application.
2. Pay \$25.00 renewal license for 2 years due in odd number year, \$50.00 new license fee (\$25.00 of this fee is for the background check).
3. All licenses are subject to City Council approval. Allow two weeks for processing.

Full Name (first, middle, last) Toni M. Mendez

Address 4680 Barbara Ave E.

City F.G.H State MN Zip Code 55017

Telephone # 651-706-5178 Driver's License # & State B 74203 2682713

Date of Birth 07-15-68 Place of Birth St. Paul, MN

New License X Renewal

Have you completed responsible beverage server training course? X Yes No

Establishment where license will be used Starting Date

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes No X
If yes, date of conviction Court
Nature of Offense

Have you ever been convicted of violating any laws of the State of Wisconsin or the United States? Yes No X
If yes, date of conviction Court
Nature of Offense

Have you ever been convicted of violating any license law or ordinance regulating the sale of alcohol beverages or intoxicating liquors?
Yes No X

The applicant hereby applies for a license to serve fermented malt beverages and intoxicating liquors and agrees to comply with the following:
A. All federal, state, and local laws, resolutions, ordinance statues and regulations affecting the sale of fermented malt beverages and intoxicating liquors.
B. Wisconsin Statutes 125.32(2) and 125.68(2).

Applicant Signature Toni M. Mendez Date 8-18-16

City Use Only:

Date Filed Fee Paid Receipt # Application #
Chief of Police Approval Date
City Council Approval Date

FOCUS

07.29.2016 • No. 14

State budgets vulnerable to economic slowdown, forecast error

Stable budgets depend on economic growth and accurate revenue forecasts. If a state lacks emergency reserves, an economic or political shock can lead to a deficit. New “Fed” estimates suggest a softening economy. A national survey shows that 21 states with 2015 savings equal to 10% or more of annual expenditures are at least fiscal risk. Wisconsin (2.7%) was one of six states with the smallest reserves.

In recent weeks and months, the news from Washington has included a revised economic forecast for this year and next from the U.S. Federal Reserve Bank (“Fed”), plus a report on state fiscal conditions from a national group of state budget officials (NASBO).

For state budget-watchers looking to 2017 and beyond, the key question is: Could the two be on a collision course? Could the economy slow sufficiently to dampen tax revenues and force state officials to rethink budget plans for the next few years?

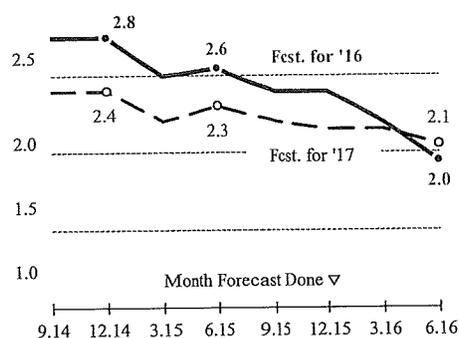
This is an important question, because many governors are now preparing budgets for 2017 and beyond. Gov. Scott Walker (R) kicked off Wisconsin’s preparations for 2017-19 by issuing budget instructions to state agencies in late July.

Whither the U.S. economy?

Where the American economy is headed is up for grabs. The stock market has flirted with highs. The U.S. is technically in the 86th month of recovery, making it the third-longest rebound of the postwar era.

At the same time, the “Fed” has repeatedly lowered its estimates of real (inflation-adjusted) GDP growth for 2016 and 2017. As the graph above shows, in late 2014, the Bank expected national output to expand by 2.8% in 2016 and 2.4% in 2017. Since then, almost every successive forecast has lowered expectations. In June, projected

Fed. Forecasts of US Growth Declining
Q’y Fcsts, Real GDP Chg., for 2016 and 2017



GDP growth was reduced to 2.0% for this year and to 2.1% for next year.

Planning for the unexpected

Accurately forecasting the economy and tax collections is no small task. When state projections miss the mark—as Wisconsin most recently did in 2014—deficits, spending cuts, and tax hikes loom. All three occurred here as the last recession lingered, leaving both ends of the political spectrum dissatisfied.

States protect themselves from unexpected downturns and inaccurate forecasts by maintaining adequate budget reserves, either in short-term savings or in long-term “rainy day” accounts that can only be tapped in emergencies. Both allow states to absorb unexpected shocks, be they terrorist attacks, stock market crashes, or government crises.

State reserves: 2008 vs. now

Which states, if any, are prepared for the unexpected? NASBO’s twice-annual

Fiscal Survey of the States released this spring provides the answer, comparing total reserves to annual expenditures. The higher the percentage, the less fiscally vulnerable a state is.

■ **2008.** Entering the last recession, states averaged savings equal to 8.5% of spending, according to NASBO. That meant a state spending \$10 billion had \$850 million in reserve, or enough to fund 31 days of expenditures. Wisconsin and Arkansas had the smallest reserves—1% or less of spending, amounts that could sustain them for less than four days.

■ **2015.** Recent NASBO figures suggest that many states learned a painful fiscal lesson during the “Great Recession.” In 2015, their savings averaged 10.3% of expenditures.

Of the 50 states, 21 were above the 10% level, while 13 were below 5%. Wisconsin was at 2.7%—a level higher than in 2008, but still low compared to most states. Only five states (AR, CT, KS, NJ, and PA) had smaller reserves.

■ **Looking ahead.** Planned or proposed state budgets for the next two years reveal that the overall financial status of states has deteriorated slightly. From reserves of 10.3% of spending last year, that percentage drops in fiscal 2016 (8.9%) and again in 2017 (8.3%).

And Wisconsin?

If Wisconsin does not increase its “budget stabilization” (rainy day) fund

over current levels, the state's estimated reserve percentage rises from 2.7% last year to 3.6% this year, before falling to 2.4% in 2017. Much of that amount will be in the emergency-only rainy day fund (1.6%). Only 0.8% is accessible surplus or in the "statutory reserve"—about the same percentage as in the lead-up to the last recession.

Seven states are slated to have smaller reserves next year than the Badger State. They include the 2015 list of five (see page one), plus New Hampshire (1.8%) and crisis-ridden Illinois (0.4%).

Are such reserves adequate? The Pew Trusts has examined state fiscal

health by converting these reserve percentages to days of spending. Wisconsin's reserves (2.4% of expenditure) are sufficient to fund nine days of spending in 2017. Illinois' could support less than two.

Observations and remedies

For almost 20 years, these pages have reported on the chronic and bipartisan tendency of Wisconsin governors and legislatures to "spend to the last penny," setting aside little or nothing for emergencies or the inevitable recession. The results have been: repeated budget crises, unplanned spending cuts, and tax increases that were never reversed.

What can be done? Wisconsin has no requirement for a minimum "rainy day" fund balance. It made no deposit in either of the last two years. A law or constitutional amendment requiring a budget stabilization account equal to 5% or 10% of expenditures that could only be used in times of a serious economic downturn would help.

So, too, would a law requiring the governor and legislature to appropriate at the start of a biennium—for the first time—a specified amount to the rainy day fund. The appropriation would occur before the governor proposed a new budget or the legislature passed any fiscal legislation. □



Wisconsin Taxpayers Alliance

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12166 Focus #14-16 7/31/2016

CITY OF PRESCOTT
800 BORNER ST N
PRESCOTT WI 54021-2011



5402182012 0002

Capitol Notes

■ Gov. Scott Walker (R) named Linda Seemeyer as Secretary of the Department of Health Services (DHS).

Seemeyer most recently was director of the Walworth County Department of Health and Human Services, where she served from 2007 to 2015. She has also served as director of the Milwaukee County Department of Administrative Services and as deputy secretary of the state Department of Administration.

■ The governor has also told state agency heads to submit 2017-19 budget requests with no spending increases in either general-fund or segregated-fund financed administrative operations.

Walker encouraged agencies "to take a fresh look at all programs and identify ways to realign resources" without increasing spending. Additional staff must also be funded through existing resources. Walker granted exceptions for

school aids, operations at institutions run by the Departments of Corrections and Health Services, entitlement programs, such as Medicaid, and regular cost-of-living adjustments for items like fuel, utilities, and debt service.

The governor also said that he wants the UW System to maintain its tuition freeze for the seventh and eighth years.

State agencies are to submit budget proposals to the governor by Sept. 15.

Legislative Council committees tackle the tough issues

When state lawmakers encounter complex issues that can't be easily resolved during a regular session, they sometimes turn to Legislative Council study committees to develop recommendations. Consisting of both legislators and the public, these committees meet when the full legislature is out of session. The number of bills coming from the Council has declined in recent sessions.

While most lawmakers spend election-year summers on the campaign trail, a few huddle in Madison working on some of the state's more difficult problems. Important issues not easily addressed during a fast-paced regular session often end up getting an in-depth look from a Legislative Council study committee.

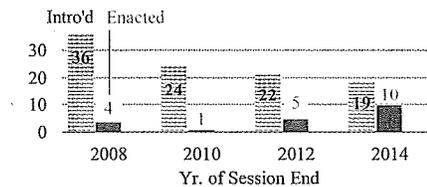
The Legislative Council

The Joint Legislative Council is a 22-member standing committee made up of the leaders of both parties in both houses, plus other legislators chosen by leadership. The joint committee is supported by a nonpartisan staff who, during legislative sessions, analyze legislation and advise lawmakers.

The Council votes every other year to create a limited number of special study committees. Topics are chosen by majority party leaders in each house, with some input from the minority. Committees are chaired by legislators interested in the study topic, but what makes them unique among legislative committees is that they are open to public members with expertise in a particular field.

Typically, study committees meet three to six times over the summer and fall. They begin with presentations on their topics, followed by discussions about the scope of their study, and finish with recommendations for legislation. The committees make their final reports to the full Legislative Council by the start of a new legislative session. The full

Leg. Council Bill Numbers Down
Number of Bills Intro'd (Gray); Enacted (Blue)



Council decides which drafts developed by the committees should be introduced as bills in each house.

In recent years, study committees have addressed thorny issues ranging from personal property and state income taxes to adoption and prevention of child abuse and neglect. Other topics have included revising criminal penalties, funding local 911 dispatch systems, and creating specialized treatment courts.

2016 topics

This year's study committee topics include:

■ *Rural broadband.* With lack of broadband service a major educational and economic development issue in rural areas, this committee will review the Wisconsin Broadband Expansion Grant Program and possible changes.

■ *Volunteer firefighter and emergency medical technician shortages.* Another issue affecting primarily rural communities concerns volunteer fire and emergency medical service personnel. The committee will study the severity of such shortages, regional needs, and possible remedies.

■ *Access by indigent parties to legal representation in civil cases.* There is growing interest in providing court-appointed attorneys to low-income parties in certain civil cases, such as child custody disputes, foreclosures, or evictions. The state Supreme Court in 2012 rejected a rule requiring court-appointed counsel in such cases, arguing it was up to lawmakers to decide. The committee will review the need for such services and how to pay for them. Committee members include retiring Supreme Court Justice David Prosser, who served in the legislature before joining the high court.

■ *Reducing recidivism and removing impediments to ex-offender employment.* Lawmakers in recent years have considered a number of moves to reintegrate offenders, such as barring employers from asking about convictions except when job-related. The committee will also consider expanding "earned-time credits" in which inmates complete treatment programs and other requirements to earn early release from incarceration.

■ *School data.* The committee will examine all student data collected by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI), data security, and whether the information is required by state or federal laws. The panel will consider limiting the types of student data collected by DPI and improving its security.

■ *Preservation of burial sites.* The study committee will see whether current law balances the interests of family members or others with "a cultural, tribal

or religious affiliation” in a burial site as well as those with a commercial interest, and how to protect all interests related to any human burial site encountered during archaeological excavation, mining, construction, or farming, “without causing avoidable or undue delay or hardship.”

■ *Tribal relations.* State law creates this special Legislative Council committee, which is recurring and meets every two years.

The final product

Like other legislation, only a fraction of Legislative Council bills are

enacted. Bills that solve technical issues or resolve problems without much cost tend to fare best. However, as the graph (over) shows, the total number of bills recommended by the Council has declined since 2007-2008.

Political timing of “Leg. Council” recommendations also plays a major role. Bills have their best chance of approval when control of the houses doesn’t change between sessions.

For example, 10 of the 19 bills from study committees in 2013-14 and five of the 22 bills from 2012 were enacted, when Republicans controlled both houses and the governor’s office.

However, when legislative control flipped from Democrat to Republican in 2010, only one of 24 bills made it to the governor’s desk. Two committees made no recommendations.

The fate of bills from 2007-08 committees was almost as bleak, with just four of 36 becoming law. Control of the legislature flipped that session from Republican to Democrat.

With November still months away, it’s hard to predict which party will control the Capitol. Still, the study committees offer insights into what lawmakers consider “hot” or difficult and may get addressed in 2017-18. □



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Capital Notes

■ *Required contributions for participants in the Wisconsin Retirement System will increase slightly next year. Contributions for general public employees, elected officials, career executives, and judges will increase by a total of 0.4%, to 13.6% of gross earnings.*

Contributions for protective status employees with Social Security will rise 1.4%, to 17.4% of earnings. Protective employees without Social Security rates will rise by 1.9%, to 21.7%.

General public employees, elected officials, career executives, and judges are required to pay half of the annual WRS contribution, or 6.8%. Protective employees pay the same rate as general employees, with their employers making up the difference.

■ *Nearly three-quarters of county supervisors are age 55 or over, according to a Wisconsin Counties Association survey of more than 1,100 county supervisors.*

Half were retired, and 45% said they had a bachelor’s degree or higher.

The survey contradicts the image of county boards experiencing little turnover. Seventy-three percent said they’d been in office for 10 years or less.

■ *A U.S. judge ordered that voters without IDs in November’s election may confirm their identity by signing an affidavit. The ruling does not apply to the Aug. 9 primary, when IDs are required.*