

CITY OF PRESCOTT, WISCONSIN

OCTOBER 5, 2022, FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a meeting of the Finance Committee was held Monday, October 5, 2022 800 Borner St., Prescott, WI 54021.

Call to order/Roll Call:

Mayor Daugherty called the meeting to order at 4:39 p.m. Members present were Tom Oss, Dar Hintz, Bailey Ruona, John Peterson, Maureen Otwell and Mayor Daugherty. Councilmember Knox arrived at 5:15pm. Treasurer/Deputy Clerk Beth Lansing and City Administrator Matt Wolf represented staff.

Friends of Freedom Park Executive Director Israel Haas discussed the Freedom Park budget. Councilmember Otwell asked if there was any future needs Freedom Park had for the budget. Mr. Haas responded that the Director position would be helpful for future operating expenses of the City. Councilmember Ruona stated that Parks Committee had received the request from Friends of Freedom Park for operating assistance. No changes were requested to the budget.

Public Works Director Kinneman presented on the Water, Sewer, and Storm Sewer budgets along with the Public Works and Parks budgets. City Administrator Wolf discussed the current state of the water fund and that it is not going to be able to pay all future expenses if we move forward with the Locust/Elm Street projects plus the Well #3 remediation. City Administrator Wolf discussed the simplified rate case study that would increase rates by 4.5% to assist in future expenses. The Committee discussed the idea and informally agreed it should be brought to Council for consideration. Council requested staff to remove \$2,000 from Senior Center contributions.

Fire Chief Tom Lytle and Fire & EMS Association President Steve Most presented the budgets for Fire & EMS. The Fire & EMS Association is requesting a per capita increase of \$56.70 per capita from the current per capita amount of \$51.44. This would be an increase of \$30,787 for the City of Prescott to contribute. City Administrator Wolf stated currently this increase is not in the budget, but options can be discussed with Council regarding the increase at the end of the Department presentations.

Police Chief Eric Michaels presented the Police Budget for 2023. The Committee discussed the K9 unit. No changes were made to the budget items.

Library Director Carissa Langer presented the Library Budget for 2023. The Committee discussed the Act 150 revenue funds. No changes were made to the budget items.

City Administrator Wolf presented on the Debt Service, Court, Administration, General Fund Revenues, Capital Projects, TIF 4 & 5. City Administrator Wolf discussed the unfunded needs that currently exist that include annual wood chipping costs of \$7,000 to \$10,000, \$30,787 for the Fire/EMS Association, \$84,000 in debt service increase that will be needed to cover the Locust & Elm Street Reconstruction borrowings, future wage step increases from the Prescott Employee Compensation Study, and finally a 2024 request for a Public Works Parks employee.

City Treasurer Elizabeth Lansing and City Administrator Wolf presented three options for potential the tax levy. With option 1 being no increase from what was proposed through the items presented throughout the budget, option 2 being a \$70,000 increase to help cover future debt service and annual wood chipping needs at the compost site, and option 3 being taking on the full expenditure restraint

amount allowed which would included covering future wage steps from the compensation study and Fire/EMS requested funding.

The Committee discussed the three options and did not agree with including the Fire/EMS funding as future capital expenses for Fire were or would be covered in the proposed Capital Improvement Plan through borrowing. Further discussion through the Committee was that they liked option 3 to cover future expenses but still stay within the Expenditure Restraint Program amount, except for Councilmember Ruona who did not agree with the other Committee members.

Based on the discussion staff acknowledged that they would bring the third option to Council for approval at the November 28th Council meeting.

Knox/Hintz motioned to adjourn passed without a negative voice vote at 7:40.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew J. Wolf", is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Matthew J. Wolf
City Administrator