

WOODLAND
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2011
7:00PM

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Jim Doak; Council Members Sliv Carlson, Mike Jilek, Chris Rich and John Massie

Staff: City Clerk Shelley Souers.

Guests: Tom Newberry and County Commissioner Jan Callison

CONSENT AGENDA

A) Minutes November 14, 2011; Regular Council Meeting

Council Member Carlson moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Council Member Jilek seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

PUBLIC HEARING

A. Budget hearing to adopt the 2012 General Fund Budget and Tax Levy

- Resolution No. 24-2011; Adopting the final 2012 Budget
- Resolution No. 25-2011; Adopting the final Tax Levy collectible in 2012

Mayor Doak opened the public hearing to consider the budget and tax levy for 2012. Mayor Doak reported that the 2012 budget reflects an effort to address increasing operating needs during a period when revenue sources have been stagnant. The expenditures increased by 5.2%. Major factors that impacted the general fund are: increased contract costs, the 2012 election costs and a street restoration project planned for 2012.

There being no public comments, Mayor Doak closed the public hearing.

Council Member Carlson moved and Council Member Rich seconded the motion to adopt Resolution No. 24-2011; approving the 2012 balanced budget. Motion carried 5-0. Council Member Jilek moved and Council Member Massie seconded the motion to adopt Resolution No. 25-2011; approving the 2012 tax levy. Motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

A. County Commissioner Jan Callison – Annual Updates

Mayor Doak welcomed and introduced Hennepin County Commissioner Jan Callison. Commissioner Callison distributed several handouts regarding county statistics and highlights and a summary of change in Hennepin County's population and income for cities under 20,000.

Commissioner Callison reported on several highlights including the declining County's population since 2000. The property market values have dropped to the 2005 valuations. The Eden Prairie Service Center will close in 2012. County engineers expect to seek Woodland's approval for County Road 101 improvements in early 2012. The State Historical Society is currently reviewing the possibility of Indian burial mounds located on the south east corner of 101 and Breezy Point Road.

Mayor Doak recognized Commissioner Callison's work with HCMC independent board and the costs savings under the new governance.

2012 the south side of the City round-about will start once Woodland and Mtka consent. The process of the archaeological works will be done once both cities consent to the plan. Rich asked the extent of the buildout? Callison felt that it will be one construction season.

Council thanked Commissioner Callison for her attendance and information.

B. Resolution No. 26-2011; Providing for a Change in Municipal Water and Sewer Charges for 2012

Council Member Carlson reported that several unfunded repairs were made to the water system, causing the expenses to exceed the revenues by over \$7,000. Council considered the 2012 budget and agreed to spread the water fund's excess expenses over three budget cycles to reduce the increase in maintenance charges to residents. The rate analysis had projected an increase in the maintenance charges. Due to the overage amount, a greater rate increase will be necessary.

Council Member Jilek moved and Council Member Carlson seconded the motion to adopt Resolution No. 26-2011; establishing water and sewer maintenance and user fees for 2012. Motion carried 5-0.

C. Discussion of Funding Alternatives for Septic System Inspections and Enterprise Administrative Expenses

Council Member Carlson reported that she spoke with the Groveland Homeowners' Association at their annual meeting in November regarding the anticipated increase in water and sewer maintenance and user fees.

Council Member Carlson stated that a question arose with regard to the equity of the annual septic system review costs paid out of the general fund versus by individual septic system owners.

Mayor Doak stated that the septic system inspections represent a benefit to the City as a whole because it is in the best interest of the environment and overall health of the City to monitor septic systems. Mayor Doak noted that the actual repair and maintenance of all private systems is the responsibility of the individual homeowners. The general funds are used to pay for costs that are in the general best interest of the City as a whole, i.e. recycling.

Mayor Doak also noted that it is important to look at how the city apportions the costs of the water and sewer system. The City is ultimately responsible for the debt and it is in the best interest of the City to ensure the use fees are adequate, collected on a timely basis and the overall

enterprises are in good shape. The City paid for the rate study and staff time for managing the water and sewer system and billing. The General Fund also covers the annual audit costs of the water and sewer system.

Council Member Rich stated that he believes that the arrangement is set up is appropriate and agrees that the water and sewer audit does not benefit the overall City but is paid for from the General Fund.

Council Member Carlson stated that she is comfortable with the appropriation of funds. The cost of the rate study was taken from the General Fund. The audit costs, which include the water and sewer funds, are paid for from the General Fund.

Council Member Jilek stated that he would speak with the Association regarding the shared cost of fire hydrant maintenance. The hydrants serve a viable public safety purpose and the maintenance costs could be shared by the whole City. Council Member Jilek stated that he would draft a summary document delineating the history and practical considerations with the current operations to demonstrate the benefit and the general well being to the City as a whole. Council Member Jilek agreed that it is in the general interest of all residents to make sure that private systems are not polluting the lake or water supply.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Vehicle Load Limits and Fees; Ordinance No. 05-04 and Ordinance No. 03-16

Council reviewed the proposed ordinance language clarifying permitted load limits and permit fees to exceed the posted limits.

Council Member Carlson moved and Council Member Jilek seconded the motion to approve Ordinance No. 05-04; regarding load limits.

Council Member Carlson moved and Council Member Massie seconded the motion to amend the main motion to include approval of Ordinance No. 03-16 amending load limit permit fees. Motion carried 5-0.

B. Traffic Speeds Along Breezy Point Road and Digital Feedback Sign

Council discussed street sign options along Breezy Point Road.

Council Member Rich stated that digital feedback signs are too cost prohibitive and there is not adequate funds in the budget for 2012. Council Member Rich reported that he spoke with the Groveland School Transportation Department regarding the possibility of altering the route to eliminate the need for children to cross the street to board the bus. The bus company will review the route and report back to Council Member Rich.

Staff will include information in the newsletter regarding speed limits in Woodland.

Council Member Rich will review several locations for new larger speed limit signs and a school bus stop ahead sign.

MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Doak reported that the League of Minnesota Cities printed an article regarding the need for liability insurance for all volunteers working in the City.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Ordinance, LMCD and Website

Council Member Jilek reported that Herb Suerth will complete his term with the Lake Minnetonka Conservation District at the end of the year. Council Member Jilek reported that two residents may share the role and fill the commitment to serve on the LMCD.

Lake Minnetonka Communications Commission (LMCC) will begin working on the franchise agreement with Mediacom. The LMCC is conducting a technical review of Mediacom systems. Century Link is coming in 2012 with IP TV and will offer another option to subscribers.

Roads, Signs and Trees

Council Member Rich reported that Cornerstone applied salt and sand in late November due to icy conditions.

Finance, Enterprise Funds, Intergovernmental & MCWD

Council Member Carlson reported that she attended two League of Minnesota Cities meetings and a Metro Cities School Board Association meeting. Metro cities are monitoring the Metropolitan Council.

Public Safety

Council Member Massie reported that no more deer were removed since last month. Council Member Massie suggested that a notice be included in the newsletter to remind residents to not feed the coyotes and monitor small pets when they are outside.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Council Member Jilek moved approval of the Accounts Payable as submitted. Council Member Massie seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Council Member Rich moved approval of the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Council Member Carlson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned by consent at 9:07PM

ATTEST:

Shelley J. Souers, City Clerk

James S. Doak, Mayor

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