

BUDGET MEETING

Sandwich City Hall Council Chambers
128 E. Railroad Street – Sandwich, IL 60548

February 29, 2016 @ 7:00 PM

MINUTES

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Olson.

In attendance: Mayor Olson, City Clerk Ii, Aldermen Dell, Fraser, Killey, McMahon, Redden, Robinson & Scheidecker. Also in attendance was Budget Director Tim Barker, Department of Public Works Tom Horak, Chief Bianchi, and EMA Director Tom Ciciora. Alderman Moran arrived at 7:45 PM.

Budget Director Barker had distributed on Thursday, February 25th, the income statement showing current numbers and projected numbers for the 2016 – 2017 budget.

Mayor Olson expressed his desire that the aldermen break into small groups with their respective department heads to discuss individual departmental budgets, and then to meet together toward the end of the meeting to report their findings. Aldermen were assigned accordingly:

Aldermen Dell & Fraser	Chief Bianchi & EMA Director Ciciora
Aldermen Redden & Killey	City Hall / Opera House
Aldermen Moran & Scheidecker	Streets
Alderman Robinson	Sewer
Alderman McMahon	Water

Council chose to meet with their respective department heads during the upcoming week and report at the next budget meeting.

Summarizing the income statement, Budget Director Barker said there is a \$418,475.28 deficit in the operating fund only for the proposed budget. Additionally, the City has or will be receiving its share of tax revenues that had been previously withheld due to the State's budget impasse. He noted that the EAV (equalized assessment value) is anticipated to increase in March.

Alderman Dell addressed the Council with his personal concerns pertaining to a balanced budget versus a deficit budget. He expressed mixed feelings on the video gaming receipts and questioned if the Council should continue to give funds back to the community in the form of

donations. Another source of revenue would be to increase the sales tax and consider restructuring the employee's longevity program so that it is merit based.

Director of Public Works Horak spoke on investigating low interest IEPA loans for proposed water and sewer projects. Presently, operating funds are used on future capital projects and purchases based on the City's future projects and purchases under the capitalization policy on useful life of fix assets. It was also noted that the proposed parking lot at 302 S. Main Street is a low priority project for the upcoming fiscal year.

Budget Director Tim Barker reminded the Council that salaries and salary-related costs account for \$2.813 million of the budget. He requested that the Council review pages 16-20 of the income statement listing proposed projects during the next fiscal year.

The next budget meeting will be held on Monday, March 7th following the finance committee meeting that will meet immediately following the Committee-of-the-Whole council meeting.

Motion was made by Alderman Robinson, and seconded by Alderman Redden, to adjourn at 8:16 PM. Motion passed on unanimous voice vote.

/s/ Denise Li – City Clerk