



MINUTES
Budget Workshop
November 10, 2021
5:15 p.m.
(TELECONFERENCE)

THOSE PRESENT

Mayor Bob Poch
Councilmember Kevin Black
Councilmember Merv Schmidt
Councilmember Larry Hall
Councilmember Keith St. Jeor

Clerk/Treasurer Stefani Bowden
Public Works Superintendent Mike Steffens
Police Chief Paul Bowden

Mayor Bob Poch opened the workshop at 5:18 p.m.

Clerk Stefani Bowden presented the budget requests for the Fire Department for both the Current Expense and Fire Equipment Reserve Funds. The requests came in under the estimated amount that had already been discussed. The Clerk suggested the original amount be left the same. A request for a new fire truck in the amount of \$500,000 was not included in the budget but it was noted as a future need.

The Water Fund was presented with the Clerk commenting that it will be tight for the upcoming year. There were no additional expenses or capital expenditure requests. The budget is being prepared based on normal operating expenses. Councilman St. Jeor asked about the USDA water loan balance. He suggested the Town make an additional \$10,000 principal payment to pay down the loan faster and save on interest. The Clerk will make the changes in the budget to reflect that.

The Sewer Fund was briefly discussed. Elmer City's past due invoices were mentioned. The Clerk will work on providing the council with a detailed accounting record of Elmer City's invoices.

The Clerk stated that all funds have now been presented to the council and asked if the council would like to revisit any areas of the budget. There were no comments but the council would like to keep the next budget workshop on the schedule. It can be cancelled if it isn't needed.

Merv Schmidt would like to work on a tree trimming maintenance plan. Discussion was held on whether the Town should hire a professional tree trimmer or arborist to look at the trees and to what extent the public works could do some of the work. It was suggested to get a quote from whoever the town awards the tree trimming project for electrical line clearance to. Maybe they could offer a better deal since they are already in town. Schmidt will look into it further.

ADJOURNMENT

The Budget Workshop meeting was adjourned at 5:37.m.

Mayor Robert Poch Clerk Stefani Bowden