

Minutes
Fraser City Council – Budget Workshop
Thursday, April 28th, 2016, @6:30pm

A Budget Workshop meeting of the Fraser City Council was conducted on the above date at the City Municipal Building, located at 33000 Garfield Road, Fraser, County of Macomb, Michigan.

Present: Mayor Nichols and Council Members Blanke, Carnagie, Foster, Hemelberg, Lesich and Schornak
Absent: None
Also Present: Richard Haberman, City Manager
Kelly Dolland, City Clerk
Tim Tomlinson, City Attorney

1. **Call Meeting to Order** - Mayor Nichols called the Special meeting to order at **6:30pm**.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Approval of Agenda**

Conversation ensued regarding the opportunity for residents to comment at the end of each presentation, City Manager spoke of the 'normal' number of council budget meetings, and council spoke of the actual value of one mil.

Mayor Pro-tem Carnagie moved, seconded by Acting Mayor Hemelberg, TO APPROVE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

The motion carried unanimously

4. **Presentations –**

a. Presentation of flag and plaque to the Mayor designating Fraser as a Purple Heart City
Representatives of the Fraser VFW Post xxxx presented the City of Fraser with a Flag to be flown 24/7 and a plaque designating Fraser as as Purple Heart City.

The City of Fraser Honor contributed to the ceremony and was recognized by Mayor Nichols.

b. Presentation and Discussion with Council on the following:

I. Building Department

Randy Warunek, Building Official spoke of the department revenues generated by contractor permits and C/O's. He stated he is ahead of budget this year.

Member Blanke spoke of the 2015/2016 year.

Member Schornak spoke of vacant property inspections.

Member Lesich spoke of rental properties inspections and suggested to add staff to the department.

Mr. Warunek requested the purchase of a new plotter and scanner.

Member Carnagie questioned if Code Enforcement generates revenue? ~ Mr. Tomlinson responded yes, revenue is generated thru the District Court via fees and fines. Mr. Tomlinson also stated the City of Fraser Code Enforcement is very effective.

1. Planning Commission and ZBA

Conversation ensued regarding Planning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA).

Member Lesich moved, seconded by Member Blanke, TO ALLOW FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AFTER DEPARTMENT PRESENTATION.

The motion carried unanimously

II. City Clerk

Kelly Dolland, City Clerk spoke of the precinct worker budget line item. Mrs. Dolland stated she was too conservative with her estimate and requested additional funding for the August 2016 Primary Election and the November 2016 General Election.

III. DPW

1. Motor Pool

BJ VanFleteren, DPW Director and Nick Schaefer, Assistant DPW Director spoke of one mechanic that is responsible for all the city vehicles and equipment.

Member Lesich requested a list of large equipment items at the DPW.

Member Foster asked what happens to old equipment ~ goes to auction.

Member Carnagie questioned the cost of leaf pickup.

Member Hemelberg questioned the number of cars and trucks are Enterprise cars and trucks.

2. Refuse

Mr. VanFleteren stated when the street sweeper and leaf pick up is scheduled; seven full time

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employees are left to deal with the balance of the DPW responsibilities.

Mr. VanFleteren stated so far this year 30 trees have been removed.

Mr. Haberman with a refuse millage, equipment purchase would be made; this will carry its own fund balance.

Member Lesich stated without the two mil refuse, the equipment purchases, leases and upgrades will not happen.

Member Lesich questioned the cost of the leaf pick up program, would it be more cost effective to eliminate the leaf pick up program.

3. Local and Major Streets

Mr. VanFleteren stated Utica Rd will be repaired from 13 Mile Rd to 14 Mile Rd, scheduled to begin the end of summer 2016, Garfield Rd from Utica to 15 Mile Rd will be repaired in 2017.

9:00pm ~ 9:13pm Council break

4. Street Lighting

Mr. VanFleteren spoke of the agreement with Detroit Edison, what the city is responsible for and the cities responsibility to oversee the street lighting on Gardenia.

Mr. VanFleteren is asking for two full time employees. The employees maybe be budgeted from one account but they may be paid from various DPW accounts, this is an allocation of labor in each DPW accounts.

Mr. VanFleteren stated in 2011, four employees left the city that was not buyouts.

Member Lesich spoke of water and sewer.

Member Hemelberg spoke of the residential water rates.

Mayor Nichols questioned if Council can adopt a month to month appropriated budget.

Mr. Tomlinson stated Council must pass a budget, then appropriate monies, impose what the tax rate will be to collect July taxes. To do this, there must be a budget to appropriate the full amount. Mr. Tomlinson questioned how this could be done under the Uniformed Budgeting Act. If the budget is not approved then you can not collect the taxes, without the taxes the city loses its cash flow and the city shuts down.

Member Hemelberg questioned where the cuts will be made if the 4 mil is not approved? ~ Mr. Haberman stated that is the Council's decision, Council will tell the City Manager where to make the cuts. Council sets the policy.

Mayor Nichols stated it is a vote of five to pass the budget.

Member Foster spoke of the water sewer fund.

Member Schornak question the number of employee, Mr. VanFleteren stated on employee has been out since January 2016 and have been working with eight employees.

IV. Public Safety

George Rouhib provides a PowerPoint presentation.

The Proposed Public Safety Budget is \$6,803,085, a difference of \$414,496 from last year. The difference is a result in increased wages, special pay and health insurance via union contracts. Currently there are 35 sworn officers and would like 37 officers to run efficiently.

Member Foster spoke of the Towing & Auction.

1. Emergency Management

2. Ambulance

Director Rouhib stated the Ambulance is one of the most popular services in the city, where the citizens pay about 1 mil to fund the service, averaged 1,400 in the past four years and is an Advanced Life Support unit. The Director is asking for at least one mil.

Member Hemelberg spoke of charges and fees for an ambulance run.

Member Blanke suggested bringing the vote to the residents for a mil increase.

Member Carnegie stated the ambulance is one of the most important services in the city.

Member Hemelberg asked if the ambulance could be paid for from the gambling fund.

3. Drug and Gambling Forfeiture

Director Rouhib gave a brief overview of the Drug Forfeiture, since 1996 the city has seized about 8.1 million dollars in illegal assets. The monies used from the forfeitures have gone to purchase vehicles, fire truck, ambulance vest and more. The tax payers have not paid for this. Director Rouhib also spoke of the future of the Drug & Gambling Forfeitures. For the 2016/17 budget, \$175,000 has been allocated for capital purchases, \$60,000 will pay off the fire truck. Next year we will be in need of a new fire utility / rescue truck which range between \$550,000-\$650,000.

Member Blanke thanked all.

Member Foster clarified that what she has is a four mil budget.

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Member Lesich spoke of special pays in the Public Safety budget.
Member Schornak all good.
Member Hemelberg spoke of special pays.

5. Citizen Participation ~ none

Council members to be heard

Member Blanke stated it was a productive meeting.
Member Lesich all set.
Member Schornak all set.
Member Foster spoke of the number of workshops.
Member Hemelberg thanked all.
Member Carnegie stated it was a great meeting, we run the city like we run a business.
Mayor Nichols stated team work takes effort.

6. Adjournment

Mayor Nichols moved, seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Carnegie, to ADJOURN THE BUDGET WORKSHOP COUNCIL MEETING OF APRIL 28TH, 2016 @ 11:05PM.

The motion unanimously,

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Dolland, City Clerk

Joe Nichols, Mayor

/kd