

CITY OF EYOTA
CITY COUNCIL WORK MEETING MINUTES
September 10, 2019

Members Present: Tony Nelson, Ray Schuchard, Jamie Ward and John Chesney

Members Absent: Bryan Cornell was absent at roll call but did arrive later, 6:08 p.m.

Staff Present: Brad Boice, Public Works Supervisor, Fire Chief Jeff Peck and Marlis Knowlton, Clerk/Treasurer

Call to Order: Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: Nelson stated the work meeting is to discuss the 2020 budget and levy amount.

2020 Budget: Knowlton went through the proposed budget amounts explaining changes, specifically if the item was required or was added because it would be nice if affordable. The Council discussed in detail the Eyota Volunteer Ambulance's plan to start paying hourly wages. All agreed that Eyota needs to support the Ambulance Service because we do not want to be without it. Each entity served by the Ambulance Service would be asked to pay the Service a dollar amount based on 911 addressing. The city has the densest population and it is being estimated will be asked to pay almost \$63,000 the first year. The townships have not agreed to this plan because they set their 2020 budget back in March and did not include this expense. The City will need to budget for this in the preliminary budget and will be able to cut it in the final budget if the Ambulance Service does not implemented wages in 2020. Numerous items from the Park Fund were cut because the request was for funds to be put in reserves for future purchases. The priority is to reduce the levy as much as possible to offset the ambulance contribution. The Council also discussed in detail funds needed for future street maintenance. The City has invested a lot of money upgrading and maintaining the streets; continued maintenance is the key to keeping them nice for as long as possible. Some cuts were made to the street maintenance budget.

The Council agreed computer upgrades, specifically the file server, should be done immediately. The roof on city hall is estimated to need \$25,000 of repairs; that can be transferred from reserves and not increase the 2020 budget.

Close to \$90,000 was cut out of the proposed budget. Without the \$63,000 ambulance addition, the budgeted items equal an approximate 3% increase from last year. A 3% increase in normal operating expenses was acceptable to the Council for the preliminary budget approval. Knowlton was instructed to make the changes and include the formal approval on the September 12 meeting agenda.

Adjourn: Mayor Nelson declared the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.



Tony Nelson
Mayor



Marlis Knowlton
Clerk/Treasurer