



**MINUTE RECORD**  
**Special Council Meeting City of Haven**

**Meeting: SPECIAL**

**Date: July 23, 2010**

**THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:05 PM BY CODY R. LITTLESTAR, MAYOR WITH THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**Council member: Paula Scott**

**Council Member: Jeff Stringer**

**Council Member: John Mitchell**

**ABSENT: Don Ford, Amy Hirst.**

**Others: Leslie Warden (at 6:55 PM), Jan Nolde (at 6:45 PM), Allen Blake.**

**2011 Budget**

The meeting opened with general questions about the budget and its preparation. Upon the arrival of Jan Nolde and then the City Clerk, Leslie Warden, Nolde began going over the proposed budget page-by-page. She noted that the assessed valuation of the City has increased since last year. She also went over the City's outstanding debt.

The Capital Outlay sub-category of each fund includes capital outlay plus cash carry-over for 2012. Nolde said this would allow the City access to the extra money in the event of a major accident or disaster.

Currently the City has a levy of 2 mills to support the Library. The additional funding of the Library through the City's Utility fund is equivalent to 6.3161 mills.

Brief discussion took place when the Employee Benefits fund was addressed. Currently 3.199 mills are levied to support this fund. Warden noted that the City's unemployment insurance rate has increased greatly – from .1% to 1.78%. This means in 2010 the City had to budget only \$500 to ensure payment of the unemployment insurance. In 2011, that figure will be closer to \$8,700.

Nolde noted that the cash carry-over in the Sewer fund gets smaller and smaller every year. Council members agreed but noted that after 2011, transfers will no longer have to be made to payoff the GO bonds. The same comments were made about the Disposal Refuse fund.

Nolde was asked if the City should put aside money each year for equipment they will be purchasing in the future. She said that was a good way to do it. The Council agreed to the following transfers into the Equipment Reserve Fund:

- \$5,000 from the General Fund for a new police vehicle.
- \$9,000 from the Ambulance Fund for a new ambulance
- \$7,500 from the General Fund for a tractor
- \$12,000 from the Disposal Refuse Fund for a new trash truck



It was decided that all street repairs for 2011 should come out of the Special Highway Fund. However, mosquito control expenditures will still come out of the General Fund.

At this time, the need to increase the mill levy was discussed. Stringer said he certainly didn't want to have the "big jump" in the mill levy again. He didn't want to increase it by 5 mills but maybe 2. Scott commented that she didn't want the Council to be in the position in 2012 that they didn't do enough in 2011. Increasing the mill levy by 2 would generate an additional \$11,341 for the City, which Mitchell said is pretty insignificant. Instead, he suggested the Council increase the mill levy by 4 in 2011, increase water rates, pursuant to the Water Project, in 2012, and agree to no increase in the mill levy for 2012. Scott said she could agree to that as long as everyone was committed to hold the line next year. Stringer was agreeable as well.

Because many departmental budgets included a wage increase for employees, this too was a topic of discussion. Scott said she felt that whatever the City did with wages they should do the same for all. Stringer said if that were the case, there was no reason to do evaluations, and didn't seem to like the idea of no merit raises. Therefore, the Council decided to move to the Capital Outlay line item under the subcategory of General Government beneath the General Fund the amount of the additions each budget requested for wage increases. This means that the amount approved for each of the budgets, namely Ambulance, Recreation, and Police, does not include the wage increase. However, should the Council choose to implement raises, the money is available elsewhere in the budget for those to happen.

At this time, the Council seemed pleased with their work on the budget. Nolde and Warden discussed the need to publish the proposed budget and Notice of Hearing in the August 4, 2010, edition of The Clarion. The budget hearing is scheduled for August 20, 2010. Scott moved for approval of the 2011 budget and Notice of Hearing for publication with the changes suggested to Nolde and an increase of 4 mills. Mitchell seconded, and the motion passed three to zero.

Stringer then moved for the passage of Ordinance #591, attesting to an increase in tax revenues for budget year 2011. Scott seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Shortly after 8:10 PM, Stringer moved for adjournment. Scott seconded, and all voted in favor of the same.

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Cody R. Littlestar, Mayor

Attest:

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Leslie Warden, City Clerk