

JOHNSTON CITY COUNCIL
Worksession No. 16-20 MINUTES
Johnston City Hall, 6221 Merle Hay Road
October 17, 2016
6:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dierenfeld at 6:01 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

The following answered Roll Call as present: Brown, Clabaugh, Cope, Lindeman, Temple.

3. BUDGET PARAMETERS DISCUSSION

City Administrator Jim Sanders provided background information for this item, which included summarizing the FY 18 Budget Guidelines memorandum authored by himself and Finance Director Teresa Rotschafer. Sanders stated that staff's intent was to utilize the similar process that has been used the past 6 years with success, following input from Council. Sanders also stated that if Council had other ideas or wanted to add steps in the process this would be a good time to discuss to ensure all are on the same page.

Councilmember Temple stated that he was hearing some complaints about large valuation growth affecting taxes. The other council members had not heard but said they would watch for similar complaints.

Sanders went over the highlights of the budget process memorandum including the tax history; Capital Improvement Plan funding; and Fund Balance. Rotschafer added that the City compares favorably to metro communities in terms of tax rate and utilization of the general fund budget in particular.

Mayor Dierenfeld asked what the % increase of the number of dollars spent is. Rotschafer replied that she would get that information out. Rotschafer then stated that the December 13 work session would be important to go over with everybody present and that would be the only item on the agenda.

Councilmember Brown inquired if we could put out information that illustrated the total tax in percentage of all taxing bodies encompassing the tax bill. Councilmember Temple stated that the process has worked well in the past so let's stick with it. Councilmember Cope asked if Council could receive 2-years' worth of history on the decision making packages to determine which projects / items were purchased and which ones were not and that after 8 years of budgeting off the base maybe it's time to try a new approach potentially. Mayor Dierenfeld asked for information focusing on actual dollars in property tax revenue spent.

4. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN (CIP) DISCUSSION

Sanders provided background on this agenda item and began by stating it was time to pick up where we left off at the last Work Session, which is finishing the examination of '16/'17 and moving on to the successive 4 years beginning with '17/'18. It was discussed that some items in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) have been moved out a year or two and many were in relation to a recent philosophical change of conducting large projects over a 3-year period instead of two. For example, the first year would be conceptual and design, followed by a year of utility work relocation, easement acquisition, etc.; and, then the final year is construction. All projects were discussed briefly in terms of a status update and economic impact update. Parks Director John Schmitz and Sanders discussed the NW Beaver Drive project from 66th to the North City Limits including

how it is essentially two projects in one with federal funds available for the bike trail portion, which means the funding sources cannot be comingled.

Sanders stated that the Park Board has reviewed and prioritized the park-related CIP and their review and comments will be included in the next draft.

Planning and Development Director Dave Wilwerding stated that the Storm Drainage Committee has not met yet but will be scheduling a meeting in the near future in order to update the storm drainage projects as necessary.

Schmitz mentioned that the Park and Trail Fund has been at \$125,000 annually for a number of years and in order to fund all the projects counting on that fund, an increase will be proposed to \$160,000 per year.

5. The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.