

City of Clearwater, Kansas
Sedgwick County
City Council SPECIAL Meeting - MINUTES
June 30, 2018
Clearwater City Hall – Council Chambers
129 E. Ross Avenue Clearwater, KS 67026

1. Call to Order

Mayor Ussery called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

2. Roll Call

The City Clerk called the roll to confirm the presence of a quorum. The following members were present:

Mayor Burt Ussery and Councilmembers; Yvonne Coon, Laura Papish, Tex Titterington and Chris Griffin were present.

Shirley Palmer-Witt was absent.

The following staff members were present:

Ron Marsh, City Administrator; Courtney Meyer, City Clerk; Scott Cooper, Director of Emergency Services.

Others present: John VanKlei III, Trent Zimmerman, Michael Cowherd,

3. Budget Workshop

- While researching the Library Tax Levy staff found that other communities in Kansas do not Levy a separate tax for the Library Employee Benefits fund and levy anywhere between 3 to 6 Mills.
 - Library asked for \$91,218 (6 mills at 2018 assessed valuation)
 - If 6mils are approved. We will be giving them \$104,301 due to the increased assessed valuation and the Motor Vehicle Taxes that we get for that fund.
 - By dissolving the Library Employee Benefits Fund the Library will be responsible for the \$16,000 that the City was going to Levy for that.
 - Keep in mind that the benefits are purely driven on wages. If the Library doesn't use all of their wages they said they wanted to use, then the benefits will not be as much. This will also show what the Library truly is spending on wages.
 - This year the Library is receiving \$85,101 from the City (includes the appropriation and the employee benefits). With the proposed changes the Library will receive an increase of \$19,200
- In the front of the binder there is
 - First you will look at current year vs. next year. This year's Mil Levy is 56.06.
 - Right now, as it sits with all the enhancements and the 2 mills increase for the Library, next year's Mil Levy is coming in at 75.06.
 - The 75.06 does have the Library Employee Benefits Fund dissolved.
 - The Tax Lid Limit allows the City to levy 1.4% above previous year.
 - With the 1.4% the city can levy a maximum of 60.43 without going to vote.
 - The next section in front is All Funds Combined. This is a roll up of everything and it shows a breakdown in a pie chart of where the money goes by department and by different accounts.
 - The last section we call "The List" – These are items that are above and beyond daily operating of the departments. The Enhancements are first followed by the Equipment Reserve. The highlighted items are recommendations from staff for cutting
- Changes that were not discussed during budget presentation

- o Adjusting the EMS Run Rate. Adjusted prices are in the General EMS tab that were discussed a few months ago with the EMS volunteers and with City Council.
- o Ambulance \$2 fee on the utility Bill.
 - The ambulance has one more payment in 2019 and it will be paid off. The Fund will carry over enough money to make the last payment.
 - It is not necessary to have the \$2 fee after this year however, if we remove it completely it is unlikely we will be able to get it back on in the future.
 - Staff recommends Taking the fee down to \$1.00 to help save up for a future ambulance truck that will be needed. This way we will have money to make a down payment with and at that time be able to increase the Fee to \$2.00 again to help make the payments.

Council discussed the \$2 fee and decided since there is still a payment left in 2019 to keep the fee and review it in 2019.

Through discussion council decided they wanted to keep the taxes lower so not to go to a vote. Through the process council made cuts to the presented budget in the amount of \$232,000 in order to get the mill levy to 60.43 so not to go to a vote.

Staff also pointed out the changes to the library that was discussed earlier are part of the final number that was reviewed. Council agreed they would like to move forward and dissolve the Library Employee Benefits fund and have the Library use their 6 mills to pay for their employee benefits.

Staff will review the changes and clean up all reports to see if there are additional cuts that can be made through this process. Also, talk with all departments with the changes that were made to the budget.

Staff will report the updates at the next meeting.

4. Adjournment

With no further discussion Mayor Ussery called for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: *Coon* moved, *Griffin* seconded to adjourn the meeting. Voted and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:50 am

CERTIFICATE

State of Kansas }
 County of Sedgwick }
 City of Clearwater }

I, Courtney Meyer, City Clerk of the City of Clearwater, Sedgwick County, Kansas, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the approved minutes of the June 30, 2018 City Council meeting.

Given under my hand and official seal of the City of Clearwater, Kansas, this 10th day of July 2018

Courtney Meyer
 Courtney Meyer, City Clerk

