

**PLATTEVILLE COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
OCTOBER 29, 2014**

The special meeting of the Common Council of the City of Platteville was called to order by President Nickels at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

ROLL CALL

Present: Dick Bonin, Mike Denn, Ken Kilian, President Eileen Nickels, Amy Seeboth-Wilson, and Barbara Stockhausen. Excused: Barbara Daus.

WORK SESSION

2015 Proposed Executive Budget – This was the second work session for the proposed 2015 budget. Finance Director Valerie Martin explained a handout detailing the Council's actions from the 10/6/14 budget work session, which resulted in a budget variance of \$48,030.

City Manager Larry Bierke went through a handout listing thirteen questions that he planned to ask of Council members at this meeting. *Of the thirteen questions, only #2 Lean Government Training (+2,400 tentative, if funds available); #6 New Fee for Property Searches; #9 Building Inspector Overtime (+3,000); #10 City ½ for Financial Software budgeted in 2014, but not spent (+\$25,900); #11 City Clerk Document Management Software budgeted in 2014, but not spent (+10,000); and #13 Police Sergeant Step Increases of \$889 (to be found within the police dept. budget) were agreed upon to include in the budget.*

EMS Budget – No change to wages at this time, determined to wait until after more discussion with Southwest Health Center.

Senior Center – *Consensus was to add an additional part-time assistant if the Senior Center can raise \$10,000 in revenue by fundraising/donations in order to free up Senior Center Director time.*

Director of Administration – Discussion was delayed to 40 hour week discussion later in meeting.

Police Costs – *Consensus was to have Staff include a Police Sergeant 10% differential in future budgets (so as to not have to bring back the issue year after year) and add a shift differential for Police Sergeants (+257).* No change to additional police secretaries hourly wage increase of \$1.41, police lieutenant disparity, and office manager salary increase. Dispatch 40 hour work week discussed later in meeting.

Health Insurance – Bierke stated that Dean Health Insurance premiums are increasing 19.9% due to this past years' claims resulting in increased cost of \$60,888 overall. The Council discussed the current employee deductibles (\$600/\$300) and 10% premium contribution.

Bierke stated that we are at a point where we have to cut departments, borrow more money, or raise fees. Discussion was held about the overall increase of the professional services budgets – some increased to reflect actual costs that are known, others such as the IT budget increased to cover consultant costs, licenses, equipment, etc. *Address increases in the budget document in future years.*

Employee Wages and 37-Hour Work Week – Martin explained the three scenarios that were requested by the Council at the last work session. After much discussion, *it was the consensus to increase the current 37-hour work week back to a 40-hour, 5-day work week and increase 37-hour week employees to 40 hours (+55,992) and give no raises.*

Additional discussion was held about reducing museum hours, shared ride taxi/university shuttle savings, possibly allocating less funds to the CIP (resulting in less street projects), borrow an additional \$150,000, suggestion to go to referendum for street work in future years, reducing IT expenditures, 3.6% expenditure restraint (creating a new Shared Ride Taxi Fund), and decreased Municipal Services Payment from the State (\$204,400 vs. last year's \$241,000).

Approximately \$150,000 is needed at this point to balance the budget. The next budget work session is November 3 at 7:30 PM following the Plan Commission meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Stockhausen, second by Denn to adjourn. Motion carried on a roll call vote. The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Martin, City Clerk