

Urbandale City Council Minutes
Budget Work Session
January 22, 2019

The Urbandale City Council met on Tuesday, January 22, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 3600 86th Street, with Mayor Robert D. Andeweg presiding. Answering roll call were the following Council Members: Mike Carver, Creighton Cox, Tom Gayman, Ron Pogge, David Russell. Absent: none. Also present were City Manager A.J. Johnson, Finance Director Nicci Lamb, Assistant Finance Director Kim Keisler, Accountant I Addison Riebkes, Chief of Police Rob Johansen, Assistant Fire Chief Mike Cardwell, Assistant Fire Chief Scott Lyon, Community Development Director Steve Franklin, Director of Engineering & Public Works Dave McKay, Assistant Director of Engineering John Larson, Assistant Director of Public Works Tim Stovie, Director of Parks & Recreation Jan Herke, Assistant Director of Parks Kevin James, Facilities Maintenance Supervisor Dick Lilly, Parks Supervisor Chad Millang, Recreation Superintendent Mollie Wilhite, Senior Center Coordinator Carissa Williams, Aquatic Facility Supervisor LeAnn Auxier, Library Director Julie Wells, Assistant Library Director Katherine Manion, Library Board President Gregory Ward, Library Board Member Marva McCarty. Human Resources Director Karla Lower, Assistant City Manager/Director of Economic Development Curtis Brown, Director of Risk Management & Administrative Services John Konior, Marketing and Communications Specialist Derek Zarn, Director of Technology James Briear, City Treasurer Donald J. Brush, City Clerk Nicole Lunders.

Mayor Andeweg recited the CHARACTER COUNTS! statement.

Cox moved, seconded by Pogge to approve the agenda as posted. On roll call, Ayes: Cox, Pogge, Carver, Gayman, Russell. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The City Manager presented an overview of the proposed FY2019-20 operating budget. The proposed budget recommends a tax levy of \$10.52, which is \$0.50 higher than the FY2018-19 levy. This includes a General Fund levy reduction from \$7.24 to \$7.04, Debt Service reduction from \$2.20 to \$2.00, Chapter 411 Fire and Police Retirement levy increase from \$0.58 to \$0.59 and implementing an Employee Benefit levy at \$0.89.

Discussion was held regarding increases in administration costs and premium rates for the City's health insurance benefit program and potential state legislature impacts on current and future budgets.

Included in the budget are expenditures for Fire Station #43, as approved in November 2017 referendum. The station is anticipated to be completed in fall 2019, A SAFER grant and 28E agreement with the City of Clive allow for the station to open at full capacity. Dallas County LOSST revenue has been utilized to provide immediate property tax relief for the cost of the new fire station debt and to buy down the 411 levy. The budget includes 5 new staff position: two Police Officers; one Roadway Engineer; one Mapping Technician, contingent on approval of a City right-of-way ordinance; and one quarter year Assistant Human Resources Director for transitional replacement.

Council Members and Department Directors reviewed and discussed proposed expenditures for the Police, Fire/EMS, Emergency Preparedness, Animal Control and Police & Fire Retirement Fund activities in the Public Safety function; the Library, Parks, Grounds Maintenance, Recreation, Cemetery Maintenance, Senior Recreation Center, Swimming Pool & Wading Pools, and Building Maintenance Fund activities in the Culture & Recreation function. Discussion of Cultural and Convention – Hotel/Motel Fund activities was deferred to the next budget work session due to time constraints.

Following discussion, staff was asked to provide additional information regarding appropriate adjustments and alternatives to balance the delivery of service with a responsible use of funds. Further direction from Council will be provided at the end of the budget process.

The budget work session was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Robert D. Andeweg, Mayor

ATTEST:

Nicole Lunders, City Clerk