

March 13, 2019

West Des Moines City Council Proceedings
Wednesday, March 13, 2019

Mayor Steven K. Gaer opened the special meeting of the City Council of West Des Moines, Iowa, in the Council Chambers of the West Des Moines City Hall on Wednesday, March 13, 2019 at 7:30 a.m. Council members present were: R. Hardman, J. Mickelson, and J. Sandager. Council members K. Trevillyan and R. Trimble participated via telephone.

On Item 2. Agenda. It was moved by Sandager, second by Mickelson to approve the agenda as presented.

Vote 19-125: Hardman, Mickelson, Sandager, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes
Motion carried.

On Item 3(a) 2019-20 FY Operating and Capital Budget, initiated by the City of West Des Moines (Continued from February 19, 2019)

Mayor Gaer noted this item was continued to await the outcome of the March 5, 2019 special election regarding a Local Option Sales and Services Tax for Polk County. Since that measure passed, the proposed budget would implement a reduction in the City's property tax levy from \$11.79 per thousand to \$10.99 per thousand.

It was moved by Sandager, second by Hardman to adopt Resolution - Approval of Budget.

Tim Stiles, Finance Director, provided a report on the proposed allocations for the Local Option Sales and Services Tax revenue. He stated the City expects to generate approximately \$10.4 million in total LOSST revenue each year, and at least 50 percent of that must always be allocated to the general fund for property tax relief. In FY 2019-20, the remaining 50 percent is proposed to be allocated towards salaries for five new firefighters and seven new police officers, with a portion of the balance used for projects such as the Raccoon River Park Boathouse and library renovations and the remainder held as ending fund balance. In FY 2020-21, the remaining 50 percent is proposed to be allocated again to the salaries of the same five firefighters and seven police officers with the balance of funds either used for projects and/or retained as ending funding balance.

Mayor Gaer requested that staff include these proposed allocations on the agenda for an upcoming meeting of the Finance and Administration Subcommittee for discussion. He also inquired about the funding for the City Campus Amphitheater project.

Mr. Stiles responded there is a "soft" commitment for donations that will fully fund that project.

City Manager Tom Hadden noted the City should know in the coming weeks whether or not the donations are a firm commitment.

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Council member Mickelson inquired what the implications of the property tax reduction would be for the average West Des Moines homeowner.

Chris Hamlett, Budget Analyst, responded staff estimates it would translate to a \$60 decrease in the city property tax owed for a \$200,000 home.

The Mayor and Council expressed appreciation to the groups and individuals that worked on educating Polk County voters about LOSST and helped get the measure passed. They also expressed support for the proposed budget and excitement that the additional revenue will be able to reduce the property tax levy rate and fund public safety positions and various projects.

Vote 19-126: Hardman, Mickelson, Sandager, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes
Motion carried.

On Item 4(a) Scotty's Pub 1, LLC d/b/a Scotty's Pub & Grill, 3781 EP True Parkway - Class LC Liquor License Extension of Outdoor Service - March 16-17, 2019

It was moved by Sandager, second by Hardman to adopt Motion - Approval of Liquor License Application.

Vote 19-127: Hardman, Mickelson, Sandager, Trevillyan, Trimble...5 yes
Motion carried.

On Item 5. The Special Meeting Notice was Received and Filed.

Mayor Gaer stated he had a meeting yesterday with representatives from Des Moines University, at which they shared they are planning to relocate their campus to West Des Moines. He stated the City is very excited to welcome them, and he introduced Sue Huppert, Chief External and Governmental Affairs Officer, and Mark Peiffer, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, who were both in attendance.

Ms. Huppert stated Des Moines University appreciates the warm welcome they have received from City officials and staff since the news of their relocation was made public. She also stated they are thrilled to be relocating to West Des Moines and look forward to working with the City throughout this process.

The Mayor and Council expressed excitement to have Des Moines University relocating to West Des Moines, specifically to the Grand Technology Gateway, where they believe it will be a great complement to that corridor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 a.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

Ryan T. Jacobson, CMC
City Clerk

ATTEST:

Steven K. Gaer, Mayor