

TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP MINUTES

City Hall, Mayor's Office
Wednesday, August 5, 2020 - 8:00 am

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 8:00 am by Mayor Mike Buchite.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mayor Mike Buchite, Ross Rivard, Larry Julik-Heine, Mary Murphy, John Tangen

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Elizabeth Nealley (Clerk-Treasurer)

NEW BUSINESS

Preliminary Discussion

The Council discussed the Budget Workshop schedule. Mayor Mike Buchite talked about the tax rate continuing to decrease and explained the Federal CARES Act Covid Relief allocation of \$77,148.00 and the rules involved in spending it.

General Discussion on Capital Improvements

The Mayor spoke about fixing the drainage on the MNDoT property and bathrooms at Heritage Park. He mentioned the fence downtown is in the process of being replaced. Discussion followed.

New Revenues

The Mayor spoke about attracting new businesses to the business park, and that the Granite Ledge subdivision is halfway finished. Discussion followed.

New Expenditures

The Council brought up various ideas such as a stair leading to the big yellow chair, the area behind the Fire Hall, sidewalk crosswalks along First Street, the railing along First Street, lighting on the west side of Bench Street, the retaining wall behind the Chisago House Restaurant, the Community Center ceiling, upping the number of flags installed downtown on holidays to fifty.

Attorney Expenses

The Mayor said that attorney expenses would be the same amount as last year - \$20,000. Discussion followed.

Street Improvements

The Council spoke about the need to continue to take care of the city streets, and that compared to other cities, the ones in Taylors Falls are very well maintained.

Review of 2020 Debt Service Payment

The Mayor mentioned that City Hall will be paid off in seven years. Discussion followed. The Mayor thanked the Council and said that he appreciated that they always came up with realistic numbers, and that even though they run lean, they always take care of the City's needs. He mentioned that the auditors said that we have a very functional City Council.

RECESS

Motion by Julik-Heine / Tangen to recess the Budget Workshop of the Taylors Falls City Council held this August 5, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business to discuss, the Budget Workshop recessed at 8:59 am.

Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

Elizabeth Nealley, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED

Monday, August 10, 2020