

**MINUTES OF A BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING
LAPEER CITY COMMISSION
April 23, 2019**

A workshop meeting of the Lapeer City Commission was held April 23, 2019 at Lapeer City Hall, 576 Liberty Park, Lapeer, Michigan. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Sprague.
Commissioners Atwood, Bennett, Bostick-Tullius, Marquardt, Osentoski.
Absent: None.

City Manager: Dale Kerbyson (present).

Also Present: Deputy City Clerk Tracey Russell, Finance Director Kerry Helmick, Director of Housing Denise Soldenski, Director of Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Rodney Church, Police Chief David Frisch, Fire Chief Terry Kluge, Director of Public Works Pamela Reid.

Mayor Sprague called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and turned the meeting over to City Manager Dale Kerbyson. Mr. Kerbyson reviewed the CIP via individual projects based off the CIP map. Chief of Police David Frisch explained a new item called the Total Station Measurement Recording System which is a cooperation between the City of Lapeer and the Sherriff's Department.

Mr. Kerbyson reviewed three projects that were not in the CIP or the 2019/2020 budget as follows:

Removal of Cobra Lights Downtown

The Downtown Development Authority is requesting the removal of Cobra Lights in downtown Lapeer, requesting \$30,000 from the City to be allocated to this project. James Alt and Tony Stroh presented an outline of the beautification and costs savings this project would bring for the City of Lapeer, indicating a \$81,738 savings over a three year period for the City as it costs the City \$27,246 per year to run the Cobra lights. Mr. Kerbyson indicated he would work with DTE to get an additional 10% reduction in the cost of the lights removal and LED installs. It was the consensus of the Commission to add this project to the CIP/2019-2020 Budget.

Pedestrian Tunnel Ramp Land Acquisition

The City is attempting to purchase property from a residential land owner to complete the Pedestrian Tunnel Ramp Project, the funds will be from TIFA 3 funding, however, if TIFA 3 does not have the funding the funding can be taken out of the Land Acquisition Fund. It was the consensus of the Commission to pull the funds from the Land Acquisition account and add this project to the CIP/2019-2020 Budget.

Lapeer Center for the Arts – Basement Renovation

The request from the Lapeer Center for the Arts (LCA) is to have the City co-fund the basement renovation of the Pix Theatre. This would be a \$156,000 improvement to the building which the LCA is requesting the City to fund \$43,000 for this project. There was discussion on where these funds should be pulled from, the General Fund, the Land Acquisition Fund, Grants. It was the consensus of the Commission to add this project to the CIP/2019-2020 Budget with the funds coming from General Fund.

Director of Public Works Pam Reid arrived at 6:24 p.m.

Fee Schedule

The Fee Schedule was discussed. One new item in particular under the Building Department was challenged on whether or not to keep it as a new item which reads as follows: “Minimum Violation Fee – whenever a violation is processed to appear in court @ \$100.00.” It was the consensus of the Commission to further review this particular item and it was also the Commission consensus that the rest of the changes in the Fee Schedule would move forward as presented to next step of the approval process.

The Commission paused at 7:35 p.m. for a break and returned to the Workshop at 7:44 p.m.

Budget Booklet

The City Commission discussed the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 City of Lapeer Budget fund by fund with various questions by the Commission. It was suggested for next years’ budget book that it include a summary of why particular accounts had increases or decreases so that questions would not have to be asked for each account. There was an inquiry as to whether or not there is a check lists when a new business comes to town as to what the expectations and responsibilities are of the new business. There are several lists and the check lists will be included in the next Commission Agenda packet. With the addition of the three new items to be added to the CIP/2019-2020 Budget, it was the consensus of the Commission that the budget would move forward as presented to next step of the approval process.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Osentoski: Great job.

Commissioner Atwood: Good job.

Commission Bostick-Tullius: Knows the department heads do so much and deserve a lot of credit, great job. Next year would like to see the summary details on the increases/decreases so there won’t be so many questions.

Commissioner Marquardt: great job, thanks, would like to see summary details next year as well.

City Manager Kerbyson: Likes the questions from the Commissioners; a lot of expenses are coming down the pike, sees more growth which means more expense, things will happen in our community which will force us to expand and grow our services; the State seems to be taking all our growth funds; possible extra funds could be added by a millage that does not need the vote of the people, could incorporate a Public Safety Mill Increase to help cover future increases in costs of services, something to seriously consider as an additional revenue resource. Thinks workshop went great, thanks to all the department heads for all their work.

Mayor Sprague: Great work everyone. Effective June 1st, will be resigning as Mayor, has already resigned from Ortonville with a final day of May 20th, was happy with tonight's meeting, feels comfortable with the budget. Thanks to all of you, hard decision to leave.

By general consensus the meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

William Sprague, Mayor

Tracey S. Russell, Deputy City Clerk