

The City Council of the City of Princeton, Iowa met in a special budget work session on Thursday, December 3, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Princeton City Hall. Mayor Kevin Kernan presided. Roll Call: Present: Stutting, McDonough, Woomert, Wolfe, Kline.

Mayor Kernan informed Council of the current TIF certification discrepancies and work that Clerk Tweed has been doing to resolve the over certification. Council McDonough volunteered to contact the County Auditor to help resolve the over certification.

Council Stutting started the budget discussion by asking about current and projected police gas expenditures. Chief Carsten stated it is below budget currently because of lower gas prices and he expects an increase for next year. Council Stutting stated she would like more funds in the upcoming budget for Parks and the Community Center.

Mayor Kernan proposed a water and sewer rate increase that he and Clerk Tweed have been working on. Council agreed to put a five year incremented increase into an ordinance.

Clerk Tweed explained the current LMI plan and amount in the account, Council agreed to create a plan to start expending LMI funds.

Council McDonough discussed the pedestrian crossing project identified by Chief Carsten and also through the National Park Service. McDonough and Chief Carsten will meet with the Iowa DOT and Bi-State Regional Commission to discuss pedestrian crossings at Hwy 67 and approach the railroad. Council McDonough explained that pedestrian crossing may align with a potential grant opportunity to restore Whiskey Run Creek through the Iowa Economic Development Authority. Council McDonough and Public Works Foreman will schedule a meeting to learn more about the grant and update Council.

Council Wolfe stated that the upcoming budget will need reflect the \$2,000 committed to Iowa's Living Roadways Community Visioning project. Council agreed to determine line item after a project is identified by Community Visioning volunteers in 2021.

Council Woomert requested adding back up lift station generators to the upcoming budget. Council agreed for Public Works Foremen Genz to proceed with quotes.

Council discussed the employee handbook and requested an update status. Council Stutting stated things such as holiday pay, hourly vs. salary, and the accrual of comp time will be reworded for clarity and better understanding before the next Council meeting.

Mayor Kernan revisited the need for employee accountable with daily clocking in and out. Council agreed that hourly employees are expected to clock in and out for daily duties, emergencies are an exception and can be communicated with Clerk Tweed. Clerk Tweed informed Council she requested staff submit receipts with budget codes on a weekly basis.

Chief Carsten discussed adding an emergency generator to the budget in case City Hall or Police Station were to lose power. Council agreed that with the money already in the budget he can explore that option.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

**Approved:**

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**Kevin Kernan, Mayor**

**Attest:**

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**Kisa Tweed, City Clerk/Treasurer**