

COLFAX CITY COUNCIL
November 20, 2023

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Retzer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

Golden, McRae, Schaefer, Mackleit, Guenther, Kackman and Huntwork: Present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by Schaefer to approve the minutes from the November 6, 2023 Council meeting. Roll Call: All Yes.

GOOD OF THE CITY:

Colfax Volleyball placed 3rd in the state tournament.

Hometown Hero sponsored by the CDA honored Councilman Jim Kackman for his dedication to the community.

BILLS AND CLAIMS:

A motion was entered by Mackleit, seconded by Golden to approve all bills and claims as presented. Roll Call: All Schaefer, Mackleit, Kackman, Huntwork, Golden and McRae: Yes. Guenther: Abstained.

CLAIMS

#9220-9263 & EFT

\$108,830.49

PAYROLL

#9214-9219 & EFT

\$61,421.68

GRAND TOTAL: \$170,252.17

CITIZENS REQUEST:

PUBLIC HEARING:

Resolution 23-12 Levy Certification:

Mayor Retzer opened the public hearing at 7:07 p.m.

City Administrator Chris Mathis stated this needs a vote to take the 1% increase on regular property Tax that is available each year.

Retzer asked for public comment for the levy certification. No comments.

Retzer asked for public comment against the levy certification. No comments.

With no additional comments Retzer closed the public hearing at 7:08 p.m.

A motion was entered by Guenther, seconded by Schaefer to approve Resolution 23-12 Levy Certification. Roll Call: All Yes.

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Ordinance 23-10 2024 Budget and Fee Schedule:

Retzer opened the public hearing at 7:08 p.m.

Mathis stated the budget is the same as we went over in the budget workshops with an addition to streets. Public Works Director Matt Hammer received a grant for \$750,000 that was increased to 1,500,000.

9,547,568 in revenue

9,735,004 in expenditures

237,436 out of reserves (parks for pool reno and streets, water and sewer for street reno)

There will be 102,000 going into the general fund reserves.

Kackman wanted it on the record that we have a balanced budget.

Huntwork commended the mayor and city staff for the past 3 or 4 years they have done great with the budget.

Retzer asked for public comment for the 2024 Budget and Fee Schedule. No comments.

Retzer asked for public comment against the 2024 Budget and Fee Schedule. No comments.

With no additional comments Retzer closed the public hearing at 7: 14 p.m.

A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by McRae to approve Ordinance 23-10 2024 Budget and Fee Schedule. Roll Call: All Yes.

PRESENTATION/WORK STUDY:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Solbrack update:

Retzer and Mathis met with Land Use Attorney Mike Connelly again, he reached out to a couple of colleagues and due to the city not having full ownership of the right of way the only thing to do is vacate. We can't give a license agreement for something we don't fully own. As we are a Code City we can update our code with an ordinance change to reduce the standards for city street, but that could be a can of worms we may not want opened.

The consensus of the council is to have staff advise the Solbrack's that with this new information from our attorney the easement and license agreement option is over and after considerable discussion amongst the council the only option at this point is to make a city street to city standards for Ann Street that the city can then take over and maintain

NEW BUSINESS:

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Public Works:

Hammer stated the TIB upped the grant from 750,000 to 1.5 million for street preservation. They have a certain amount of money they have to spend and due to Colfax streets scoring pretty low, they are granting us a larger portion of the money. This will allow for more streets to be repaired with a variation of a chip seal called a scrub seal.

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Hammer went on to say Morton and Sumner will be under a reconstruction grant, chip seal through county for Mill Street, Southview, Valleyview and Cooper was another grant and this will be a third grant for streets.

Hammer informed the council there will be an unapproved expense in water budget for telemetry. The Thorn Street booster phone line up to the water tank at the top of Southview is failing.

Hammer stated the crews are preparing to put up the Christmas lights downtown.

Police:

Chief Blood stated they are continuing to search for a replacement officer after Officer McCollum left.

Blood stated his plan is to retire April 3rd.

Administration:

Mathis reported it has been business as usual.

COMMITTEE/BOARD/COMISSION REPORTS:

OTHER BUSINESS:

MPD:

Retzer adjourned the council meeting at 7:55 p.m. to enter into the Metropolitan Park District.

Retzer reconvened the council meeting at 8:00 p.m.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

MAYORS REPORT:

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Retzer adjourned the meeting at 8:01 p.m.


Jim Retzer, Mayor


Lynda Kramlich, City Clerk