

Minutes for December 7, 2020, Work Session, gaveled into session at 8:30 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Garry who led in the pledge to the Flag.

Councilman Kulak stated that the City has a windfall from this year and would like to take a portion of that excess to put about half of it towards the 2021 Budget of about \$52,000.00 to balance the budget and give us around \$12,000.00 cushion and put the balance in the PLGIT Fund.

He then thanked Councilman Polonoli for paying the remainder of the \$8,000.00 to the Library this year. He is agreeing to lower the payment for 2021 but asked that the amount be \$15,000.00 instead of \$12,000.00.

Councilman Polonoli stated he spoke to the rest of council and they feel that \$12,000.00 is appropriate.

Councilwoman Williams stated that her concern is moving forward and how the City continues to operate when all of our revenue goes to salaries. If the City could generate more income she wouldn't have an issue with salary raises.

Discussion then turned to the possibility of marketing, selling, and developing properties within the City and the possibility of selling Hillcrest Playground, Westminster Playground and other City properties to individuals to develop the properties and generate more income for the City.

Solicitor Pappasergi stated that nothing prohibits the City from actively marketing property and putting it out for bid and that he would look into the legal requirements.

Council agreed to looking at properties and moving forward with the sale of properties for development in order to generate more income for the City.

Councilman Miller stated that there is an issue with the Handbook and the union for the street department union and he referred the union to Todd.

Solicitor Pappasergi stated he has not heard from Mr. Como or received a grievance from any employee stating that there is an issue or that there is incompatible with the collective bargaining agreement.

Chief Harris stated he sent a copy of the handbook to their union and to his officers and he went through it himself and found a couple issues. First is the application of getting permission for outside work for part-time employees by council before they take that job. Part-time officers are coming in with part-time work at other places. He can understand the full-time officers.

Also there is concern over the wording on use of cell phones being able to be checked. It doesn't clarify a City owned phone compared to their personal phone. They have concerns over the City wanting control over their personal phones.

Solicitor Pappasergi stated that the handbook is not an ordinance so we can make revisions as is necessary as issues come up and he would look into these concerns and possible revisions.

Councilman Polonoli stated that the contractors has put in the base for the light at the Aquatorium and it matches well.

Councilwoman Williams stated that prior to signing off on the project that we need to make sure that all the electric works because they are all tied in together and also check the master panel to ensure everything is working properly.

Councilman Polonoli asked council's opinion on Councilman Kulak's request to increase the Library budget to \$15,000.00.

Mayor Garry stated that for right now the minimal increase would be fine with him but would like to explore why Ringgold doesn't provide funds.

Councilman Polonoli stated that there is no one on the Library board aggressively fundraising as there used to be.

Councilman Kulak stated that he doesn't want to take so much from them that they don't have anything to work with. We can afford it right now and down the line we may need to reduce the funding.

