

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA
Special Meeting/Work Session – September 7, 2010

Pursuant to due call and notice, a special meeting/work session of the City Council of the City of Bemidji, Beltrami County, Minnesota, was held on Tuesday, September 7, 2010, at 6:15 p.m. in the Conference Room of City Hall, Mayor Lehmann presiding.

Upon roll call, the following Councilmembers were declared present: Lehmann, Waldhausen, Johnson, Hellquist, Downs, Negard, Meuers.

Staff Present: City Manager John Chattin, City Attorney Alan Felix, Finance Director Ron Eischens, Fire Chief Dave Hoefer, Public Works Director Craig Gray, City Clerk Kay Murphy

Mayor Lehmann stated that the purpose of the special work session was to discuss the 2011 budget and set a preliminary 2010 tax levy for 2011. At the August 23, 2010 Council Work Session, staff was directed to provide alternatives to reducing the 2011.

Council discussed the following:

- Concerns about reducing the levy due to potential LGA cuts or unallotments.
- Fire Department responding to non-emergency calls especially to assisted living facilities where there is staff available to assist the resident. Councilors commented that they would like to see more accountability and a priority plan from the Fire Department.
- Surplus Liquor Funds – Chattin stated that anytime the Council starts using surplus money to fund the budget that money is now committed.

Motion by Waldhausen, seconded by Negard, to reduce the 13% proposed levy increase by 9.8% which would result in a 3.2% levy:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Levy Impact</u>
1. Reduce the BREC Capital Replacement Funding	\$150,000	4.0%
2. Defer Purchase of Ladder Truck until 2019	\$ 97,000	2.6%
3. Defer Elliot Road Paving	\$ 20,000	0.5%
4. Defer Removal of Old Railroad Trestle Bridge	\$ 20,000	0.5%
5. Utilize Liquor Store (City) Surplus	\$ 36,900	1.0%
6. Defer Fire Substation	\$ 44,800	1.2%

Motion carried with the following vote: Ayes: Waldhausen, Hellquist, Negard, Meuers. Nays: Lehmann, Downs, Johnson.

RESOLUTION NO. 5639: Approving Preliminary 2010 Tax Levy Collectible in 2011 and Setting the Truth In Taxation Hearing Date was offered by Councilmember Hellquist, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Waldhausen was passed with the following vote: Ayes: Meuers, Waldhausen, Negard, Downs, Hellquist. Nays: Lehmann, Johnson.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Hellquist, seconded by Johnson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Kay M. Murphy
City Clerk