Council met in special session at 6:30 p.m. on February 5, 2015 in the Historic Federal Building.

Present: Mayor Buol, Council Members Braig, Connors, Jones, Lynch, Resnick, Sutton; City Manager Michael Van Milligen

Mayor Buol read the call and stated this is a special session of the City Council called for the purpose of discussing various City departmental Fiscal Year 2016 budgets.

FISCAL YEAR 2016 DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET REVIEW

Fiscal Year 2016 City departmental budgets were presented by staff from the following departments:

Carnegie-Stout Public Library: Library Director Susan Henricks City Council discussed budget constraints and issues for retaining the Library’s accreditation, staffing budget solutions, and how best to use a monetary bequest left to the Library. Council Member Braig asked the City Manager if a list of optional budget cuts could be provided to the Council.

Public Input: Dawna Duff, 305 Jones Street, expressed her concerns about the impact of shortening the Libraries hours has on her studies and daycare schedule as well as the impact on children’s access to books. Jo Grabow, 2306 Queen Street, expressed her concerns about shortened Library hours restricting access to programs and resources for all citizens and reducing educational opportunities. Mary Rae Bragg, 350 Kaufmann Avenue, expressed her concerns about the shortened hours also limiting volunteer opportunities. Lisa Johnson, 206 Southgate Drive, stated that the extended hours relate to the Third Grade Level Reading initiative and that students rely upon the Library to improve their skills, and have access to print materials not otherwise available to lower-income kids.

Planning Services: Assistant Planner Kyle Kritz and Associate Planner Dave Johnson

Finance Department: Finance Director Ken TeKippe

Human Rights Department: Human Right Director Kelly Larson

Airport: Airport Manager Bob Grierson. City Council discussed options for the landscaping schedule that may provide savings.

Public Input: Steve Acchinelli, Airport Commission Chairperson, 3007 Huntington Drive, stated his concerns about funding for properly marketing the airport in order that it remains regionally competitive.
Building Services: Building Services Manager Rich Russell

There being no further business, upon motion the City Council adjourned at 9:20 p.m.,

/s/Kevin S. Firnstahl, CMC
City Clerk

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