

**CITY OF DUBUQUE, IOWA
CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
SPECIAL SESSION**

The Dubuque City Council met in special session at 6:00 p.m. February 7, 2019 in the Historic Federal Building, 350 W. 6th Street.

Present: Mayor Buol, Council Members Del Toro, Jones, Larson, Resnick, Rios (Joined at 6:12 p.m.); Shaw; City Manager Michael Van Milligen, City Attorney Brumwell.

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 2020 budgets.

FISCAL YEAR 2020 DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET REVIEW

Prior to the budget hearings, Mayor Buol reviewed a memo from City Attorney Crenna Brumwell regarding options for City Council Members to call out budget items for further discussion, removal from, or inclusion in the final budget recommendation.

Motion by Jones to adopt Option #2 calling for an informal poll of Council to call out such items. Mayor Buol confirmed that an individual Council Member can call for the poll. Seconded by Resnick. Motion carried 6-0.

Fiscal Year 2020 City departmental budgets were presented by staff from the following departments.

1. Information Services: Chris Kohlmann, Information Services Manager.
2. City Attorney's Office (Legal): Crenna Brumwell, City Attorney.
3. City Clerk's Office: Kevin Firnstahl, City Clerk
4. Cable TV Division: Craig Nowak Cable TV Division Coordinator
5. City Manager's Office: Teri Goodmann, Assistant City Manager; Cori Burbach, Assistant City Manager.
 - a) Sustainable Dubuque: Gina Bell, Sustainable Community Coordinator
 - b) Neighborhood Development: Jerelyn O'Connor, Neighborhood Development Specialist.
 - c) Budget Office: Jenny Larson, Finance/Budget Director
 - d) Personnel: Gina Noel, Personnel Assistant.
 - e) Public Information Office: Randy Gehl, Public Information Officer.
 - f) Geographic Information System: Nikki Rosemeyer, GIS Coordinator
6. City Council: City Manager Mike Van Milligen

Presenters responded to questions from the City Council. Following the City Clerk's presentation and discussion of the Sister City improvement package request, City Manager Van Milligen stated that some flexibility is built into the budget allowing for changes that would not impact the recommended and published tax levy amount. A poll of Council requested by Council Member Shaw to include the request for additional Sister City funding failed 3-4 with Shaw, Larson and Rios voting yay.

Mayor Buol called for public input on each department's respective budget presentation.

Public Input

Nino Erba, 1505 Fairview Pl., asked what was being done by the Information Services Department to help reduce carbon emissions related to the 50% reduction by 2050 climate goal. Information Services Manager Chris Kohlmann stated that many of the projects that the department is engaged with and the IT equipment choices are energy efficient and produce measurable outcomes related to the climate goal. Mr. Erba also asked about the possibility of archived cable programs being closed-captioned as part of the Division's improvement package request. Cable TV Coordinator stated that due to the cost of closed-captioning and the turn-around time, they will be selective in which programs are of priority for captioning. Following the City Manager's Office budget presentation, Mr. Erba expressed his concerns for allocating funds for staff t-shirts at this year's Iowa League of Cities conference held in Dubuque while the salaries of Council and staff members was not part of the budget discussion.

There being no further business, upon motion the City Council adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

/s/Kevin S. Firnstahl, CMC
City Clerk

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