

**CITY OF LAKE ELMO  
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MINUTES  
AUGUST 23, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER**

*Called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.*

**PRESENT:** Mayor Cadenhead, Councilmembers Dale Dorschner, Jeff Holtz and Lisa McGinn.

**ABSENT:** Councilmember Katrina Beckstrom

Staff present: City Administrator Handt, Planning Director Just, Fire Chief Kalis, Public Works Director Powers and Building Official Taylor.

**2023 Budgets**

Handt presented the proposed 2023 General Fund, EDA and Utility Budgets. A 5.725% increase in the levy would result in a decrease of city taxes on the median valued home at \$553,500 of about \$25. There was a discussion of revenues and consideration of reducing the new homes from 250 to 200. Discussion then moved to the general fund expenses. A review of fuel costs amongst departments was discussed and further follow up on why not all use bulk fuel at public works. Powers provided more information about the additional work that had been done in parks due to less time spent pot hole patching. Staff proposed the creation of a Local Street Improvement Fund to even out the tax impact of maintaining roads over the years. The EDA requested funding for a consultant in 2023. Council direction was to remove this for 2023 but consider it again in 2024. Handt presented the utility fund budgets for 2023. Revenues were based upon 2020 Utilities Proforma which is proposed to be updated in 2023. There was discussion about staffing and noted that the sheriff's contract increase does not provide another deputy. Council may consider grants to neighborhoods in the future to help with crime prevention efforts. Discussion of need to increase full time firefighters due to unpredictability of POC model. Discussion of vehicle life expectancy.

Point of personal privilege was taken at 8:08pm.

Council resumed at 8:12pm

**2023-2027 Capital Improvement Plan**

Handt presented a high level overview of the draft 2023-2027 Capital Improvement Plan. Discussion about the timing of the new ballfields and Handt noted the CIP is a high level planning document. All items would come back to council for approval before moving forward and could be adjusted then. Discussion about the frontage road on TH36 and whether or not the city had someone watching for federal funding to help. They do not. Further discussion on vehicles for 2023. Is a boat of our own needed or can we rely on other cities and the county?

Will a second ender be needed? It was noted items later in the CIP like the tender will be evaluated again once we get closer and in the new station. Discussion about funding for railroad crossings. Some will come from developer but also require some city funding as railroads are increasing pricing for permitting and inspections. Discussion about need for more pickle ball courts. Those at Lions Park are already showing damage due to dual use as hockey rink. Staff asked to include options in next discussion of CIP regarding vehicle needs and the impact of not getting some.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

**LAKE ELMO CITY COUNCIL**

ATTEST:

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Charles Cadenhead, Mayor

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Julie Johnson, City Clerk