

January 7, 2023

A special meeting of the City Council was held on Saturday, January 7, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers in City Hall. Mayor Donker presided.

Councilmen present: Steve Arnosky, Diane Brown Wilhelm, Maureen Donker, Marty Wazbinski, Tim Soler

Councilmen absent: none

### **CITY COUNCIL PLANNING SESSION**

Department heads provided updates and information on City operations over the course of the day. Discussions were held on the following areas: the new Grants Coordinator position and ongoing grant application activity; Strive, a newly launched employee recognition program; the use of drone technology by the Midland Fire Department; Barstow Airport needs and financial challenges; body cameras, vehicle cameras and taser equipment needs of the Midland Police Department; and updates on the progress and future needs for City Hall upgrades.

Bob Balzer, Community Affairs Manager, presented on the ongoing activities and future plans of Consumers Energy.

Tony Stamas and Nicole Wilson from the Midland Business Alliance provided an update on ongoing MBA activities, including a new Housing Initiative that is about to be launched through funding provided by the Midland Area Community Foundation and the Strosacker Foundation.

Assistant City Manager Dave Keenan outlined the anticipated financial performance of the organization for the remainder of the year and expected financial position of the City for the FY 2023-2024.

Mayor Donker led Council in a conversation in reviewing the FY 2022-2023 goals and further discussing FY 2023-2024 with budget directives and general directives presented to staff.

The directives presented to staff for the FY 2023-2024 budget were:

- Public services will be maintained at the highest level financially feasible under current economic and budget conditions.
- The anticipated maximum millage rate for FY 2023-2024 is 15.14 mills, which represents no increase over the current fiscal year.
- Contribute \$2,500,000 from the General Fund towards the repairs necessary at Plymouth Pool.
- Contribute \$1,500,000 from the General Fund to complete security improvements and upgrades of City Hall.
- Contribute \$500,000 from the General Fund towards necessary improvements at Barstow Airport.
- Increase General Fund fees paid to the landfill budget by an additional \$250,000.
- Contribute an additional \$1,000,000 from the General Fund above the annual required contribution towards MERS unfunded liabilities.
- Increase the current level of the General Fund unreserved fund balance by \$500,000 to \$7,000,000.
- Contribute the balance of uncommitted General Fund resources to the General Fund Budget Stabilization Reserve fund balanced.
- Provided the above measures and directives can be achieved, and provided it can be done without increasing the millage rate, contribute up to an additional \$500,000 towards MERS unfunded liabilities.

Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

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C. Bradley Kaye, Acting Deputy City Clerk