

**ORTONVILLE CITY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF BIG STONE, STATE OF MINNESOTA
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
CITY OFFICE – 315 MADISON AVENUE
Tuesday, September 11, 2007
5:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

Mayor Blair Johnson called the Special Meeting of the Ortonville City Council to order at 5:05 P.M. Roll call was taken with the following present: Mayor Blair Johnson, Nick Anderson, Artie Arndt, John Cunningham, Mike Dorry, Bob Meyer, and Dan Oakes.

City Staff present: David Lang, and Tim Scherer. Media Present: Mike Swenson (*Ortonville Independent*) and Julie French (*KDIO Radio*). Others Present: Mary Lou Meyer, Steve Berkner, Vicki Dorry, Bill Dorry, David Dinnel, Suzy Dinnel, Diane Dorry, Janiece Larsen, Avanel Jacobson, Jason Mork, Kim Mork, Janis Sellin, Joan Jurgens, Mary Gustafson, Arnold Amberg, Mildred Amberg, Joan Hasslen, Craig Randleman, Cal Kolb, Curtis Hormann, Terry Hormann, Jim Hasslen, Elsie Perrine, Nash Perrine, Kimberly Danielson, Scott Simonitch, Mark Berg, Elaine Gable, Gary Dinnel, Diane Dinnel, Patty Karels, Inga Koeckeritz, Allen Ross, Lisa Ross, Vidella Parks and other interested citizens.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS/APPROVAL:

Because this was a Special Meeting, the items for consideration were limited to the Agenda items. Accordingly, the Agenda was approved by a consensus of the City Council.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF 2008 GENERAL FUND BUDGET

Mayor Johnson began the discussion by reviewing a spreadsheet summarizing the changes the Budget Committee made to the department budgets as submitted by each respective department head. Discussion and questions ensued regarding the issue of whether or not the City of Ortonville should consolidate its Police Department with the Big Stone County Sheriff Department. Discussion took place regarding the cuts in Local Government Aid each year beginning in 2003, the potential savings from law enforcement consolidation in future years, the capital outlay cost for an additional squad car in the first year if consolidation occurs, the possible uses of a proposed four percent (4%) surcharge on electrical consumption in 2008. After listening to these concerns, the Council acknowledged the need to gather additional facts and information regarding the law enforcement consolidation issue.

2. Approval of 2008 General Fund Budget

Resolution 07-096, Resolution Approving The Proposed 2008 General Fund Budget Motion by Oakes, second by Arndt to approve Resolution 07-096, Resolution Approving The Proposed 2008 General Fund Budget. Discussion and questions followed. It was noted this is the budget as proposed by the Budget Committee.

Roll Call: Aye: Anderson, Arndt, Cunningham, Dorry, Johnson, Meyer, and Oakes. Nay: None. 7-0. Motion Carried Unanimously (MCU).

ESTABLISH LEVY CERTIFICATION FOR TAXES PAYABLE IN 2008:

After listening to citizen concerns earlier in the Meeting, the Council acknowledged the need to gather additional facts and information regarding the law enforcement consolidation issue. Accordingly, a majority of the Council decided to establish the preliminary property tax levy for taxes payable in 2008 high enough to accommodate either retention of the Ortonville Police Department as a separate entity, or a consolidation with the Big Stone County Sheriff Department.

3. Establish Levy Certification For Taxes Payable In 2008.

Resolution 07-097, Resolution Approving Proposed 2007 TAX LEVY, COLLECTIBLE IN 2008

Motion by Cunningham, second by Oakes to approve Resolution 07-097, Resolution Approving Proposed 2007 Tax Levy, Collectible in 2008.. Discussion and questions followed.

Roll Call: Aye: Anderson, Cunningham, Dorry, Johnson, and Meyer. Nay: Arndt and Oakes 5-2. Motion Carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Cunningham, second by Arndt to adjourn the Meeting at 6:08 P.M.

All in favor. 7-0. MCU

David A. Lang
City Clerk-Administrator

Blair Johnson
Mayor