

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a City Council meeting was duly held at City Hall on the 13th day of January 2009 at 6:00 am.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

John Grutsch Mayor, Hugh Knox, Jim Stang, Kurt Marthaler, Margie Evens – Councilors

Jodi Austing-Traut Clerk/Administrator

Absent: None

Also Present: Fire Chief Eric Linn and Captains: Chris Pflueger, Joel Richter, Colin Lobitz

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Grutsch.

The mayor called this emergency meeting to discuss a fire truck that had been ordered just prior to receiving word about LGA cuts, property tax delinquencies, assessment delinquencies, and the necessity for budget cuts across the board. Ms. Austing-Traut had contacted Maney International to see if there was any way to cancel the chassis. The representative at Maney stated that there is a possibility that the chassis could be cancelled with a fee of approximately \$1,000. The representative also mentioned that if the city were to order the truck at any point in the future, it would cost approximately \$40,000 more to build it due to new NFPA requirements.

Councilor Jim Stang expressed concern for the safety of the current truck (Unit #4) that needs to be replaced. Councilor Stang stated that the tank has shifted and when the tanker is filled with water it is very unstable. Officer Pflueger stated that the chassis is corroding and there are oil leaks which will likely result in over \$3,000 in repairs annually. The total cost for the new fire truck is expected to be \$160,000.

The Mayor asked if there would be any other areas of the FD budget that could be cut. Chief Linn stated that the FD budget is already incredibly tight. The only area that could be cut would be to put off adding 2 volunteers to the department, but the savings would be nominal (around \$3,000 for salary). The Fire Department is expecting to receive a FEMA grant which would cover training expenses as well as 800 MHZ radios.

Consensus is to go ahead with the fire truck, as planned, but to explore other financing techniques vs. issuing a bond.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion Hugh Knox to adjourn at 6:25 am.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Jodi Austing-Traut, City Clerk/Administrator