

**MINUTES  
ELGIN CITY COUNCIL  
WORKSHOP MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2019  
CITY ANNEX COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 310 N MAIN ST.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Pro Tem Bega called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Jessica Bega, Mayor Pro Tem  
Juan Gonzalez, Council Member  
Mary Penson, Council Member  
Susie Arreaga, Council Member  
Brad Jones, Council Member  
Sue Brashar, Council Member  
Forest Dennis, Council Member

Staff: Thomas L. Mattis, City Manager  
Charles Cunningham, Finance Director  
Owen Rock, Economic Development Director  
Pam Sanders, Human Resources Manager  
Amy Miller, Community Development Director  
David Harrell, Planning Director

Mayor Pro Tem Bega stated that Mayor Cannon and Council Member Lopez were not in attendance and certified that there was a quorum.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION**

1. Review and Discussion of the Proposed City of Elgin 2019-2020 Annual Budget and Related Matters, Including but Not Limited to Possible Discussion of All Departments, Operations, Revenues, Expenditures, Functions, Personnel, Infrastructure, Facilities, Taxes, and Tax Rates Related Thereto.

City Manager Thomas Mattis stated that there were topics that Council asked to review tonight and there were three parts to the presentation and stated first were updates to the budget document, clarification and some updated numbers, followed by Council directed items, and lastly an update on employee benefits. He stated none of the items to be presented by Charles Cunningham Finance Director would have an adverse effect on the budget.

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Mr. Cunningham spoke and stated that the cover page was printed before the certified roll was in and before they had gone through the process of calculating the rollback rate the effective tax rate and this was based on what his guess was and that this was what appeared on the cover page and was required by state law that the information be produced. He stated after receiving the certified roll and it was prepared with software that goes through all of the truth and taxation calculations and these were the numbers it came up with to calculate the effective tax rate and the roll back rate and compare last year's with this year going forward. He stated that the main thing was if the city retained the same rate that it had for the last couple of years and that this would be the last year that could be done without triggering a roll back election. He stated recommending keeping the same roll back rate that the city had this year.

Mr. Cunningham stated that he had handed out the revised Appendix C Authorized Positions. He stated that he had the correct file name but the wrong file within that, and that in their copy of the budget the pages were for 2018-19. He stated that everything was moved over and that he had given them the revised pages for 2019-2020, and the pages he gave them would replace ones in back of their book.

Mr. Cunningham stated that the new revised schedule of fees reflected the latest staff recommendations for new or revised fees and charges for Council consideration for FY 2019-2020.

Mr. Cunningham discussed Development Fees, Library fees, Parks and Rec Fees, and provided a summary of sanitation rate increases since 2018 and discussed new fees to recover some of the city's costs.

City Manger Thomas Mattis spoke about the city's debt position and future debt and debt management.

He spoke about Non-Profits, support for events and activities and how the city can continue to support these. He stated that for the last three years the city has funded these organizations at the same level and that when he got here, he was told that the decisions about funding was made by staff and that he did not feel that this was appropriate, with this being more of a policy issue. He stated that the final decision on who to fund should be the Council's decision.

Mr. Mattis discussed funding and plans for annual street maintenance and resurfacing and provided a Development Maintenance Program for FY2019-20.

Pamela Sanders HR Manager provided a presentation on Employee Benefits and stated that she was in the process of looking for more affordable health insurance for employees. She stated that due to large claims in the past year, the current insurance provider was increasing their rates by 63%. She stated that she had received six or seven bids and that Blue Cross Blue Shield came back with the lowest rate with plans most comparable to what we currently have.

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Ms. Sanders stated her recommendation would be to go with Blue Cross Blue Shield and to offer three different plans. She stated the base plan had a higher deductible, the buy up plan which was comparable to what we have and a mid-plan that is in between. She stated the employer can fund the base and the mid and stay within budget and fund 86% of the buy up plan for the employees. She stated that with the buy up plan employees would pay \$101 dollars a month or \$46 dollars a paycheck.

Ms. Sanders recommended continued Life, AD&D coverage with Met Life with a low increase and no lapse in coverage and recommended moving dental and vision over to Met Life to minimize the number of carriers. She stated that the overall increase was 9% for medical.

Ms. Sanders stated that she would also recommend a 30-day waiting period for new employees.

City Manager Thomas Mattis stated that next week would be the first Public Hearing on September 3<sup>rd</sup> and that at this point there was not a plan for another work session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Pro Tem Bega adjourned the City Council Workshop meeting at 8:55 p.m.

**APPROVED**

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CHRIS CANNON, MAYOR

**ATTEST:**

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AMELIA SANCHEZ  
City Secretary