

Minutes of Budget Workshop held August 17, 2015

Budget Workshop with the following present: Mayor Mark Bowen; Aldermen Jerry Stone, Ruble Farmer, Ward Sanders, Sam Cortez; City Secretary Josie Campa; Director of Public Works' James McGrath; Animal Control Director Betty Kroger; Library Director Cassandra Cortez; Police Chief Richard Priest; and Fire Marshal Matt Dear. Alderman Keith was absent.

Visitors: Ernie Kroeger, Derek Evans, Gerry Elias, Luz Moreno-Lozano.

City Secretary Josie Campa explained what the 2015 effective tax rate would generate for the budget and said that she could not get all the things listed for the first year of the city's 5-year plan to work with this tax rate.

She gave different options for making the budget work and Council agreed to use the tax rate of \$ 0.3650 per \$100.00 valuation for the budget.

The City Secretary then told Council that salary increases in the proposed 2015-2016 budget were \$50.00 per pay period for each full-time employee. She then went through the proposed budgets for the following departments: Animal Control, Library, Sewer, Gas and Water. She explained the reasons for the changes and said she had worked in what the department heads had listed for the first year of the five year plan.

Council agreed to review the proposed general fund budget next week.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.