

**CITY OF HAZELWOOD
COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION
FEBRUARY 10, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER

A Council budget work session was called to order by Mayor Matthew G. Robinson at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 10, 2016, in the Council Chambers at Hazelwood City Hall.

On roll call the following members of the Council were present:

Carol A. Stroker
Robert M. Aubuchon
Don W. Ryan
Matthew G. Robinson
Russell Todd
Warren H. Taylor
Rosalie Hendon
Mary G. Singleton

Councilman Robert Parkin II was not present. Mrs. Wolf declared a quorum was present.

Also present were City Clerk Colleen Wolf and City Manager Matt Zimmerman.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

PRELIMINARY BUDGET DISCUSSIONS Mayor Robinson stated the purpose of this preliminary budget work session is to receive information from staff on the City's financial position in order to provide the Council an opportunity to offer input and express concerns prior to staff's preparation of the proposed fiscal year 2017 budget.

Mr. Zimmerman reviewed the budget data from fiscal years 2013 through 2015 and the projections for fiscal years 2016 through 2019 which reflect an undeniable trend toward an escalating increase in the budget deficit. Expenses are increasing at the rate of 3% and revenues are increasing at the rate of 1%. He discussed the need to consider cost saving measures such as attrition and eliminating automatic step increases. New revenue sources may also need to be considered. Mr. Zimmerman reviewed projected cash reserve balances which decrease from 24.7% at the end of fiscal year 2016 to 7.19% at the end of fiscal year 2019. He noted policy requires a minimum 17% reserve. In the event the reserve falls below this level, policy requires the deficiency to be replenished through expense reductions and/or increases in revenue.

Mayor Robinson stated the Council should discuss programs and services.

It was noted mosquito fogging is the only program that was not restored.

Mr. Ryan suggested cuts could be made to travel and training and asked the amount of the budget for this expense.

Mr. Zimmerman responded the budget is approximately \$100,000.

Finance Director Lori Helle noted some of the training is mandatory. In addition, some court funds are specifically for police training.

Mr. Zimmerman stated the proposal could be studied.

Mayor Robinson stated he thought the mosquito fogging program was restored.

Mr. Zimmerman responded during the summer of 2015, the current fiscal year, the remaining stock of chemicals was used. Funds were not allocated to purchase more chemicals.

Mayor Robinson stated he thought the mosquito fogging program was going to be restored. He requested staff provide data to confirm its ineffectiveness so that the Council can address the matter.

Mrs. Stroker asked if any of the departments, at any time, are over staffed.

Mr. Zimmerman replied few personnel reductions could be made without impacting services.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Matthew G. Robinson - Mayor
City of Hazelwood, Missouri

ATTEST:

Colleen Wolf, MMC - City Clerk
City of Hazelwood, Missouri