

## Stevensville Budget Workshop

### Minutes for

TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 2020

7:00 PM

Stevensville Town Council  
**APPROVED**  
Date 9/24/20

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Roll Call: Mayor Dewey, Council members Devlin, Holcomb, Vick and Michalson all present with staff attending.

2. Unfinished Business/ 3. New Business

a. Preliminary Budget

Mayor Dewey spoke to what is expected with the budget. Passed out documents to the Town Council, expenditure report and revenue report to this date.

Councilmember Vick: questions about the fireman's disability fund.

Airport fund questions, when it comes back then it will be allocated back to the fiscal year.

Councilmember Michalson: would you explain the building code enforcement? Why is it 122%? How are we doing on the lighting district?

Mayor Dewey: As we finish off the year, we are looking healthy. Caring just shy of \$1 million dollars into the new year. No outstanding issues when we look at the budget.

The salary and pay matrix, changes that were made to the pay matrix was the public works supervisor up to .20 per hour and made that applicable to that position across the board. Everything else remains static. Spread sheet to show the difference. Public works supervisor was raised to .20 per hour and everything else was left alone. Major changes since our last meeting are the wage correction and moving appropriation authority out of the capital improvement fund into the general fund. Addressed fire department lighting, pool concerns.

Previous meeting council asked us to come back to the next meeting and address some issues one of those being the fire department door/bay, a storage building at the public works facility. Neither of those items are in this budget at this time, need to do additional research. We have focused on the pool at this time and we will look to outside sources to complete these projects. It does not mean that they are not going to get done it is just that the funding has been moved. One thing that was removed was a dump truck for the public works we need to desperately get a sander, we need to replace the sander and I feel that the two dump trucks that we can still get the work done.

Police department relocation into another facility. MHP space is empty and is not been re-rented. Propose that the police department relocate. Renovations would be limited to a clerk window. Allocation of \$12,000 from the general fund budget. \$12,000 plus utilities.

Office space for the parks department.

Councilmember Devlin: instead of spending \$6800 on an office for Bobby can he move into another area.

We have noticed the importance of having an administrative assistant (4 days a week) and having Laura assist finance department.

Councilmember Vick: Is Bobby able to find any funding from the state for the pool? I was just wondering if the registration had closed for that funding.

Councilmember Michalson: I am overwhelmed by all of this; you are making some of the biggest wage. We are adding squad cars, building another part time person. We are dealing with one of the worlds biggest pandemics. As a council we need to think about some cuts here.

Councilmember Devlin: We talked to the department heads at their meeting, it is our job to listen to our department heads and the staff, it is our job to know what they. Robert I am going to ask you point blank, do you need help? Robert stated yes. Is any of this going to cost our tax payers anymore? Mayor Dewey stated no. What we are requiring our staff to do, you are under paid. We can't say that the mayor's position is part time, we know that he works over 40 hours a week. I propose that the mayor position be at \$2000 a month.

Councilmember Holcomb: In all thses meetings I have never said that these employees should never get a raise I just think that the raises should be straight across. I don't know if the governor is going to shut us down. I don't know how we are going to fix the pool. I think that it would be beneficial to do the raises straight across and talk about the matrix next year.

Mayor Dewey: I have no intent to argue with you Ms. Holcomb, but I do want to address some things. Projected fund balance \$3.6 million dollars, revenues just over \$4 million dollars we plan to spend \$4.2 million dollars and both of those numbers include the airport project that is nearly \$2 million dollars in total we are spending \$373,000 dollars down of the general fund if you want to look at it that way. 13% tax growth last year and we are expecting a 6% growth this year.

Councilmember Michalson: I was going to say something but I lost my train of thought, thank you.

Mayor Dewey: Fiscal year 20/21 changes in fund balance, I need to update that, that is last years table I need to update that. The final document will have that corrected tomorrow.

Councilmember Vick: my kind of similar argument to Ms. Devlin, agree with the mayor salary. We should be that stepping stone for other towns to follow for mayors' salaries. We put a load on the mayor's office.

Mayor Dewey: another thing that I would like to speak to about the mayor's salary. East Helena pays their mayor roughly \$46,000 a year and Philipsburg, much smaller, pays roughly \$30,000 a year these are already two communities that have led the charge. The reason that I have been asking for that raise you guys is that it has been a goal of mine to get the position up so that when the day comes when I don't fill it you are compensating that person.

Robert Underwood: I have watched the mayor work 40 plus hours a week. He not only does what the mayor does but he also does other jobs. He is very beneficial to us. He knows the jobs of all of us. He gets work done.

Councilmember Michalson: My concern is the overall wages of everybody. I know that we have gone over the matrix before. Raises, squad car, building. I think we should just do a 3% across the board. We pass this we are going to hear it from our ward.

Councilmember Devlin: I have heard just the opposite. We are hearing different things. We should be listening to both sides.

Mayor Dewey: We are having these discussions on behalf of our citizens.

Councilmember Vick: What I am hearing is that staff is under paid, we are just looking to say why not work where you live.

Mayor Dewey: This budget does create a couple of jobs. Hire people from our town to work here. We have a check coming from CARES and three more to put in for.

Jeff Motley: The office staff we currently have are doing a great job. Mayor is doing a star job. I have a little bit of heartburn on the process of what comes first. Department heads have put things on the table asking for items. I get that everything is valuable. When we come foreyard with a project that needs to be done and it is hard to sit back and look at it.

Councilmember Devlin: We have to trust our department heads.

Jeff Motley: I understand that you are looking to fund the projects but maybe we should be looking on how to fund moving into a building or hiring another position.

Councilmember Vick: I agree with Mr. Motley that the fire department does need that bay done. I understand the pool improvements. Fact is that the bay door needs to get done.


#### 4. Public Comments

Sherry Dietz, 105 Winslett Ave, made a public comment about taking care of what they have.

Mayor Dewey responded with that there is money in the budget to take care of what we have.

#### 5. Adjournment


**APPROVE:**



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Brandon E. Dewey, Mayor

**ATTEST:**



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Jenelle S. Berthoud, Town Clerk