



**MINUTES**  
**COMMITTEE #1**  
**REVENUES, DISBURSEMENTS, WATER AND WASTEWATER**  
**November 13, 2023**

**Committee #1 - Revenues, Disbursements, Water and Wastewater met on Monday, November 13, 2023 at 9:00 am in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 30 West Central Street, Chippewa Falls, WI.**

Committee Members present: Rob Kiefer, John Monarski, and Paul Nadreau

Mayor/Other Council Members present:

Others present: Finance Manager/Treasurer Lynne Bauer; Director of Public Works/Utility Manager Brandon Cesafsky; City Planner/Transit Manager Brad Hentschel; Fire Chief Jason Thom; Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Director John Jimenez; Utility Office Manager Connie Freagon; and City Clerk Bridget Givens.

Call to Order: 9:00 am

**1. Review 2024 department budget requests:**

- a. Mayor/Council/Misc. Budgets** – Finance Manager/Treasurer Bauer presented these budgets without any changes. It was noted that should an increase in pay be considered for Council members, it would need to be approved prior to the time for circulating nomination papers. Discussion ensued relative to an increase for the City Attorney with Bauer indicating she typically tries to match the increase approved for staff.
- b. Finance Department** – The Finance Budget was reviewed and it was noted that the HR/Finance position was included as an omitted budget request.

**2. Review proposed 2024 budget data and issues affecting the budget. Possible recommendations to the Council.**

The Budget Hearing Notice will be sent to the paper today for publication. Currently, the intent is to provide all employees with the same annual increase as Police and Fire of 3%. Health Insurance increased 4%, and we are currently in open enrollment. The City will continue to offer the benefit of the near-site clinic. There were minimal increases to WRS, and we should also consider setting funds aside to help implement any recommendations coming out of the pay study.

Operational increases that have been requested include election postage, election supplies (ballots), an increase in the weights and measures contract, and the addition of cell phones for each ambulance. Personnel requests include an HR/Finance Position, Street Department (2), Parks, Recreation and Forestry (2), and an increase for the Fire Department Administrative Assistant to full-time. Net new construction is 3.9%, or roughly \$150,000. Due to the referendum, we will lose expenditure restraint for 2024. Due to additional shared revenue, the State has frozen the expenditure restraint program. Communities will receive the same amount they did in 2024, which means the City will not receive these monies in 2025 either.

The City's equalized value has increased, but our assessed value has dropped resulting in the need for a maintenance revaluation in 2024.

Discussion ensued regarding ACT 12 and the City's additional shared revenue. It was noted there are specific restrictions on where these monies can be spent which include Police, Fire/EMS, Public Works, and Transportation. The Department of Revenue has not compiled all the rules at this point, so additional discussion will continue on this item.

The Committee will plan to meet again on November 21<sup>st</sup>.

**No action taken.**

### **3. Adjournment.**

**Motion by Monarski/Nadreau to adjourn at 9:24 am. All present voting aye, motion carried.**

**Minutes submitted by,  
Rob Kiefer, Chair**