

ELYSIAN BUDGET & FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 7, 2011

City Hall

The meeting convened at 2:08 pm. Members present: Wayne Unke, John Hoeft,, Katy Anttila, John Stephanie. Absent: Pat Nusbaum. Visitor present: Dee Sasse.

Motion by John Stephanie, second by John Hoeft to approve the minutes of the August 30 meeting.
Motion carried.

Old business: Regarding interest on delinquent taxes and assessments, Katy Anttila reported that the City does not receive any portion of interest collected on delinquent taxes if collected within one year of due date. If the taxes have been delinquent for more than one year, 50% of the **interest** is apportioned to all the school districts in the County and the remaining 50% is apportioned between the City and the County based on their net tax capacity local tax rates for the year in which the interest is collected. All penalties and interest on **special assessments** are apportioned to the City. Cities are not authorized to receive any portion of **penalties** on property taxes.

John Hoeft reported that Chris Smith of the League of MN Cities reviewed the building inspector contract and sent his report to City Hall. Discussion was tabled until his report can be reviewed at the next meeting.

Questions concerning budget vs actual special assessment revenue, restrictions on PFA infrastructure reserves and the 2012 expenditure budget raised at the last meeting will be addressed when Pat Nusbaum can be present.

Line items in the proposed water department budget were discussed with the following questions raised:

Could professional services (49400-300) be reduced \$1,000?

Could engineering fees (49400-303) be paid from unreserved general fund, then added to bonded amounts?

Should postcard utility bills be considered to reduce manpower, postage and supplies?

What is the Read out System in 49400-502? Could the \$8,200 be taken from savings?

The following questions arose regarding the sewer department budget:

Could professional services (49450-300) be reduced \$2,000?

Why is Chesnut Lk Electric (49450-397) up \$1,000?

Could equipment (49450-502) be postponed or funded out of savings?

The following questions arose regarding the revenue budget:

What amount should be levied for the new rescue truck (41400-31016) considering that approximately \$37,000 has been previously saved for this purchase?

Comment was made on cable tv service; when does the contract expire? Would competition improve service?

Mrs. Sasse shared several concerns and suggestions including work sessions for the City Council, the need for a senior citizen center, a welcome service, better utilization of the Tourism building, and whether Region 9 Area Agency on Aging Legacy funds could be available for any City projects.

Motion to adjourn by Katy Anttila; second by John Stephanie; meeting adjourned at 4:05 pm

The next meeting is scheduled for October 28 at 2 pm. as Pat Nusbaum is not available October 21.