

UNAPPROVED MINUTES
WATKINS CITY COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2023

Mayor Rowan called the special meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. at City Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Chris Rowan, Sue Unterberger, Marc Wirz, Brenda Carlson
MEMBERS ABSENT: Tootz Tschumperlin

Others: Public Works Director Steve Geislinger, Deputy Clerk Sarah Jacobsen-Krone, Clerk Deb Kramer

Purpose of the meeting was to work on the 2024 proposed budget and levy.

The estimated property tax revenue was decreased by about \$32,000 due to CenterPoint Energy's tax court case. Their 2018 and 2019 valuations were lowered and the taxes recalculated based on the lower valuations. The city's November tax settlement will be reduced by about \$32,000 in order to refund CenterPoint Energy. The State of MN assesses public utilities such as this, not Meeker County. Kramer will check with the County Auditor to find out more information on this.

The proposed budget included an increase in Village Hall maintenance fees. The current fee is \$75. It was budgeted for an increase to \$125. After discussion, council agreed it should be increased to \$150 per event in 2024. This increase would go in effect when the 2024 fee schedule is set.

The General Fund tax levy for pay 2023 was \$318,204. Council will set the proposed levy at the September 14th meeting.

MOTION BY WIRZ TO ADJOURN THE MEETING, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

Adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Submitted by

Deb Kramer
Clerk

ATTEST:

Chris Rowan
Mayor