

**ARLINGTON CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 25, 2018**

The Special Council meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m., Mayor Nagel presiding.

Members Present: Mayor Rich Nagel, Michelle Battcher, Adam Cowell, Tom Hatlestad, Jim Heiland,
Ben Jaszewski

Members Absent: None

Also Present: City Adm. Pat Melvin, Police Chief John Petterson, Kurt Menk

Motion by Battcher, seconded by Jaszewski, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the agenda as presented.

Mayor Nagel stated the purpose of the special meeting was to discuss and set the 2019 Preliminary Tax Levy.

Adm. Melvin reviewed the changes to the 2018 personnel costs. He reviewed how the personnel wages are broken down against the various line items. The proposed 2019 wages (2% increase) and benefits were reviewed. Adm. Melvin commented that the health insurance was proposed to increase 20%. The Police Department included a School Resource Officer and Police Adm. Pomplun being allocated as 100% police and not a split position.

Adm. Melvin reviewed the proposed 2019 Budget and Capital Improvement Plan in detail. He stated that a few funds would not be changing, but several were increasing for various reasons. He stated that Avant Energy will be doing a study of the electrical rates and some changes will be made (increased rates are proposed). Adm. Melvin stated that he included all requests into the proposed Budget and no cuts had been made yet; this was a 19% increase over last year. It was noted that the street light project, 800 MHz radio system, new squad and additional officer were the most expensive increases. Adm. Melvin stated that the City had a Bond/CD that was due and could be closed out to help cover the cost of the two larger projects (street lights and radio system), which would help reduce the proposed tax levy (down to approximately 5-6%). The City's reserves were still in good condition. It was noted that all departments will still have to cut some things from their budgets before the final levy is approved. It was commented that it would be nice if the School would share in the cost of the proposed Resource Officer.

Motion by Hatlestad, seconded by Heiland, and passed by unanimous vote, to approve the 2019 Tax Levy at a 6% increase with the condition that \$200,000 worth of investments are used (to help pay for projects {one time}), provided that using said investments keeps the reserves above the minimum amount the City is required to have; otherwise the City Council will meet in three days to revisit the 2019 Tax Levy.

Councilmember Cowell introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 60-2018

A RESOLUTION SETTING THE PRELIMINARY 2019 TAX LEVY

WHEREAS, the City of Arlington strives to proactively address the needs of the public we service in an efficient and effective manner to enhance the quality of life for the citizens; and

WHEREAS, the preliminary tax levy is required by statute to be set by September 30th and subsequent final adoption may not exceed this amount; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the City Council to continue to examine the budget over the next few months and to make adjustments according to City Council priorities and resource limitations; and

WHEREAS, the taxpayers of the City of Arlington will be notified of the impact of the preliminary tax levy on their truth in taxation statements sent out in November and will be provided an opportunity to provide input regarding the proposed net tax levy and budget at the public hearing December 3rd at 6:00 p.m. held in the Council Chambers at the Arlington Community Center.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Arlington, County of Sibley, Minnesota, that the following sums of money be levied for the current year, collectible in 2019, upon taxable property in the City of Arlington for the following proposed purposes:

General Fund	\$622,278
Fire Pumper Certificate	\$35,000
2015 G.O. Bond	\$73,162
Pub. Project Lease Rev.	\$50,000
2009 G.O. RF Bonds	\$47,000
2012 G.O. Bonds	\$5,000
2017 G.O. Bonds	\$33,130
Other Levies (Tax Abatement)	\$ 2,500
Total Tax Levy	\$868,070

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Councilmember Jaszewski and upon poll being taken thereon the following voted in favor thereof: Battcher, Cowell, Hatlestad, Heiland, Jaszewski; and the following voted against the same: None; and the following abstained from voting: None; and the following were absent: None.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Arlington this 25th day of September, 2018.

Signed: /s/ Rich Nagel
Mayor

Attest: /s/ Patrick Melvin
City Administrator

Whereupon the resolution was declared duly passed and adopted and was signed by the Mayor whose signature was attested by the City Administrator.

Motion by Battcher, seconded by Cowell, and passed by unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 pm.

/s/ Pat Melvin
City Administrator Patrick Melvin

/s/ Rich Nagel
Mayor Richard Nagel