

# City Council Proceedings

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State of Minnesota  
Counties of Scott & Le Sueur  
City of New Prague

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Special City Council Meeting  
Tuesday, October 6, 2019

Mayor Nickolay called the special meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with the following members present: Nickolay, Ryan, Bass, Seiler and Wolf.

Staff Present: Mike Johnson, Jim Gareis, Ken Ondich, Bruce Reimers, Patty Solheid, and Glen Sticha.

City Administrator Johnson provided the City Council with a brief overview of the City's Revised 10-6-20 Preliminary 2021 General Fund Budget and 2021 recommended revised 10-6-20 Preliminary Property Tax Levy.

Ken Ondich provided an overview of the Planning, Building Inspection, and Park Board budgets.

Public Works Director Sticha provided an overview of the Engineering, Public Works, Street Department Street Lighting, Outdoor Swimming Pool, Parks, Government Buildings, and Library Budgets. Mr. Sticha also reviewed the various Capital Outlay Items for 2021.

Police Chief Gareis provided an overview of the Police, EMS, and Animal Control budgets.

The Council had discussion on:

- Removal of demolition of outdoor swimming pool
- Demolition and removal of asbestos from the former armory building
- Recreational open space adjacent to armory building and water treatment plant - estimated cost to regrade and reseed for soccer, lacrosse, etc. will check with City Engineer.
- O.T. in the Police Department - contract costs/revenues for private work
- Cost of "Dash Cams" for squad cars - estimated at \$10,000/car or about \$40,000 total
- Historic summary on Squad Car Replacement

The Council also heard from City Staff and reviewed the recommended list of projects and capital items that be utilized for funding from the former CARES Act funding. Staff reviewed all the various items on the list and had discussion with the Council.

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Mayor Nickolay asked about including \$18,000 for the Golf Course's lease of golf carts for 6 months at \$3,000/month due to COVID.

After review and discussion, Finance Director Solheid asked about obtaining approval on the proposed new phone system (VOIP) for the City. The proposed pay back is estimated at about 1.5 years from the current monthly equipment charges. Quotes have been solicited from both Bevcomm and CTS. The low quote is currently with CTS at \$28,183 for all City Operations.


After discussion, motion by Ryan, seconded by Bass to authorize staff to move forward with purchasing the telephone system at \$28,183 using the former CARES Act Funds. All voted in favor. Motion carried (5-0).

The Council discussed that the next budget workshop could be scheduled for October 21, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

It was the consensus of the Council to adjourn the Budget Workshop at 8:15 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
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Michael J. Johnson  
City Administrator

  
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Charles L. Nickolay  
Mayor