

City of St. Anthony
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Minutes

July 11, 2023

Present:

Mayor & Council:

Randy Stille, Mayor, Bernard Walker, Jan Jenson, Thomas Randle, Wendy Webster, Councilmembers

Staff:

Charlie Yunker, City Manager, Shelly Rueckert, Finance Director, Jeff Spiess, Police Captain

Call to Order:

Mayor Stille called the Work Session to order at 6:00 p.m.

2024 Initial Property Tax Levy Scenarios:

Finance Director Rueckert reviewed the initial preliminary levy increase as prepared by staff using the best information available on 2024 costs. The scenario includes expected Cost of Living (COLA) increases for staff, and inflationary increases for non-personnel costs.

The Police Department has requested consideration of other items including and allowance for market wage adjustments, establishment of a cadet program for recruitment, and adding additional staff for an investigator (to participate on a Ramsey County team) and an administrative Lieutenant position. Some of the costs for the new positions can be shared with Lauderdale through the police contract, and public safety assistance funds are available to help offset costs as well.

Council asked Captain Spiess questions on the rationalizations for the requests and how they meet the needs identified by the department, and how the requests serve the Police Department's Strategic Plan.

City Manager Yunker added that additional details will be included at the next work session the preliminary levy is discussed, as per the usual process. Staff sought feedback on the overall concepts to determine if some or all are financially doable in the Council's view.

Council discussed and expressed support to proceed with the proposed recommendations and will review again when staff is ready to present an updated version of the preliminary levy, which is scheduled to be on August 8th.

Future Work Sessions:

Next Work Session will be held on July 25th, 2023, at 5:45pm in the Council Chambers.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Charlie Yunker, City Manager.