



**City of Moorhead**  
**Advisory Budget Work Group (ABWG)**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**August 12, 2015 – 4:00 p.m.**  
**Moorhead City Hall – Boardroom (1<sup>st</sup> Floor)**

**Members Present:**

Council Member:	Jim Haney	Staff:	Michael Redlinger, City Manager
Council Member:	Chuck Hendrickson		Wanda Wagner, Finance Director
Guests:	Del Rae Williams, Mayor		Amy Wohlwend, Accountant

**1. Preview of *Proposed* 2016 Operating & Capital Budget Planning Parameters**

- a. Michael Redlinger, City Manager, shared it is a “good news story” in Moorhead. The City is in a good position going into 2016.
- b. Wanda Wagner, Finance Director, provided an overview of the *Proposed* 2016 Operating & Capital Budget planning parameters.
  - i. Estimated tax rate increase of 1.7% is due to Moorhead’s growth. This is a minimal increase in the tax rate. Growth in value is great for everyone; it allows an increase in tax revenues for the City, as residential property is worth more in value.
  - ii. Redlinger spoke to real estate agents in the Moorhead School District, and average time on market is 10-11 days. Growth has permitted staffing level increases in Building Codes, Police, and Information Technology.
  - iii. Estimated market value for payable 2016 is \$2.6 billion; an 11% increase over 2015.
  - iv. Redlinger shared the budget process should be wrapped up this year by early October.

**2. Summary of Advisory Budget Work Group Meetings**

- a. Michael Redlinger, City Manager, provided an overview and handout (see agenda packet) of past ABWG meetings. Topics included the following: overview of budget process, explanation of fund balance and reserves, financial software, 5-year Capital Improvement Plan and tax levy impact, Street Light Utility, budget timeline, etc.

**3. Closing Comments**

- a. Redlinger gave a brief update on the planned expansion plans of Moorhead Area Public Schools.
- b. Tax forfeiture lots remaining are minimal and the City does not anticipate a large amount of additional lots going tax forfeit.
- c. Chuck Hendrickson, Council Member, shared that at Night to Unite citizens expressed that they would like additional growth in residential building. Redlinger anticipates construction continuing in 2016 at a pace at or above what it has been in 2014 and 2015.
- d. Construction continues on the oldest street light in Moorhead, 12 Ave S and SE Main Ave.
- e. The next I-94 interchange is 55<sup>th</sup> Street per a 2006 Metro COG analysis.
- f. Redlinger shared closing comments on future police hires to respond to increasing call volumes.

**4. Next Meeting**

- a. None scheduled