



City of Moorhead
Advisory Budget Work Group (ABWG)
Meeting Summary
July 8, 2015 – 4 pm
Moorhead City Hall – Boardroom (1st Floor)

Members Present:

Council Member: Jim Haney
Council Member: Chuck Hendrickson

Guests: Del Rae Williams, Mayor

Staff: Michael Redlinger, City Manager
Wanda Wagner, Finance Director
Amy Wohlwend, Accountant

1. 3-Year Forecast

- a. Wanda Wagner, Finance Director, provided an overview of revenue and expenditure forecasting.
 - i. Growth: 2015 / Pay 2016 new construction. At present day, over \$72.9M of new construction is underway; residential equal to \$43.9M, apartments equal to \$13.2M, and commercial/industrial = \$15.8M. Growth has been a key component to finances in 2015.
 - ii. Revenue priorities: Growth generates an increase in General Fund revenues and supports enterprise functions. Wanda reviewed how additional permit revenues and franchise fees can be attributed to growth (e.g. cable franchise fees). Council Members asked questions regarding Moorhead Community Access Media (MCAM) broadcast opportunities, such as broadcasting Moorhead High School Spud hockey games. MCAM is a non-profit organization that broadcasts various items beyond City meetings. The organization receives General Fund support from the City through a professional services agreement.
 - iii. Expenditure priorities: Wanda shared that the City's expenditure priorities include maintaining high quality service levels; continued implementation of the classification/compensation study; and issuing new debt to support growth and expansion of City infrastructure.
 - iv. 2015 tails into 2016: Bond issues for 2015 (approved capital projects) are a large component of the estimated tax levy impact of \$587,400. Mid-year staff hiring in 2015 is another piece of future tax levy need. Michael noted that regular growth in the staffing level will continue long-term, and that a holistic view is necessary when contemplating staff hires across the organization. Council Members asked questions regarding growth in Police Department call volumes and work load.
 - v. Looking forward: Current growth is trending positive, and the City aims to keep it that way. Significant investment in new infrastructure will be needed to accommodate continued growth – Bob Zimmerman is currently conducting an infrastructure study. Citywide additions of staff and equipment will be needed to ensure citizens continue to receive a high level and quality of service.
- b. Wanda closed the meeting with an overview of Clay County's projection of tax capacity for the City of Moorhead. A meeting was recently held with the Clay County Auditor and County Assessor to better understand tax base information that Clay County assembles for use by the City for budgeting purposes.

2. Next Meeting

- a. Wednesday, August 12, 2015, 4 pm, Moorhead City Hall – Boardroom (1st Floor)
 - i. Preview of *Proposed 2016 Operating & Capital Budget Planning Parameters*