

**City of Moorhead
Committee of the Whole
Meeting Minutes
December 07, 2009 at 5:30 PM
City Hall Council Chambers**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held in the City Hall Council Chambers, on December 07, 2009, at 5:30 PM.

Roll call of the members was made as follows:

1st Ward Council Member:	Nancy Otto	Present
1st Ward Council Member:	Dan Bohmer	Present
2nd Ward Council Member:	Diane Wray Williams	Present
2nd Ward Council Member:	John Rowell	Present
3rd Ward Council Member:	Dan Hunt	Present
3rd Ward Council Member:	Lauri Winterfeldt	Present
4th Ward Council Member:	Mark Hintermeyer	Present
4th Ward Council Member:	Greg Lemke	Present
Mayor:	Mark Voxland	Present

Committee of the Whole Meeting

1. [2010 Operating and Capital Budget Discussion](#)

Minutes: Michael Redlinger, City Manager, requested that the City Council meet in Executive Session following the discussion on the 2010 Operating and Capital Budget.

Redlinger stated that the current revenue forecast from the State of Minnesota remains bleak. He foresees additional, continued cuts to Local Government Aid which will likely persist in years to come. If the State of Minnesota announces further reductions, Redlinger stated that the Council could come back in special session to address budget concerns.

Redlinger handed out the document "Summary of 2010 Tax Levy Options". He explained that the best estimate to date of the tax impact on a home with a market value of \$137,800 would likely see a (7.08%) total net levy decrease when factoring in all taxing jurisdictions (County, City, School, Watershed, and EDA). This finding was unexpected as of September 2009, but very encouraging. It is attributable to an increase in valuation of property within the City of Moorhead (\$23 million in commercial reappraisal; \$52 million new construction). Clay County will need to certify these numbers by the end of the year.

2. Executive Session

Minutes: Council recessed for executive session.

3. [Truth-in-Taxation Presentation \(6:00 p.m.\)](#)

Minutes: Mayor Voxland opened by stating that the Truth-in-Taxation Hearing is required by State Law and that there will be an opportunity for public questions or comments following the presentation.

Redlinger presented information contained in the "City of Moorhead, 2010 Operating & Capital Budget" slides and handout, which was compiled by Finance staff, Harlyn Alt and Wanda Wagner. Adoption of the 2010 Tax Levy and Budget will take place on December 14, 2010. Pubic comments can be provided to the City in writing or in person at the December 14th meeting.

Council Member Lemke asked whether any of the staffing vacancies will be filled in 2010. Redlinger stated that many of these positions will remain unfilled. Each position will be reviewed critically and thoroughly before replacement. Non-union employee wages were frozen in 2009 and will be frozen again in 2010. The City has been negotiating for wage freezes in all union contracts that are currently open.

No citizens came forward to speak or ask questions.

4. [City Manager Reports](#)

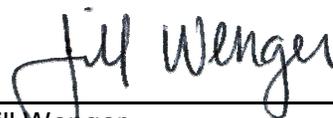
Minutes: Redlinger stated that a meeting with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Metro Flood Committee will take place February 1, 2010 at 11:00 A.M. Public hearings will follow on February 2nd in Fargo and February 3rd in Moorhead - both at 6:00 P.M. It is anticipated that on February 4th there will be a smaller work group meeting to provide further direction to USACE staff as it relates to flood control options.

APPROVED BY:

ATTEST:



Mark Voxland
Mayor



Jill Wenger
City Clerk

The proceedings of this meeting are digitally recorded and are available for public review.

Respectfully submitted by:
Jill Wenger, City Clerk