MINUTES FOR

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION BUDGET

June 17, 2019 6PM Monroe Community Library

Present: Brian Greene, Nicholas Ritch, Frank Thayer, Floyd Billings, Paul Canter, Jeanni Cuthbertson, Dan Sheets, Fred Cuthbertson, Bruce Hayler, Elizabeth Hayler, Tim Eastridge and John Greydenaus.

Staff: Rick Hohnbaum, Budget Officer

6PM: Mayor Canter called the work session to order reminding the council that they agreed to attempt to accomplish this review within one hour. CA Hohnbaum shared that over the evolving time of the budget proposed, approved and adoption there are often changes made based upon new information, public input, budget committee direction and council direction. Floyd Billings inquired if there was a requirement for the council to adopt the budget Monday evening. CA Hohnbaum stated that there is a requirement to conduct the public hearing as the legal notice was given for the public hearing but that the council does not have to adopt the budget Monday evening. CA Hohnbaum stated that it was purely a council "prerogative" as to adopting the budget though if it isn't adopted by July 1, 2019 the City should shut its doors as there would be no authorization to expend funds including staff resources.

Hohnbaum shared the staff report related to recommended changes and the effects of those recommendations. The group reviewed the handouts with the modified resolutions presented by staff.

Mayor Canter requested that public input be given an opportunity to speak. Fred Cuthbertson shared that he hoped that the council respected the decisions made by the budget committee when the budget was approved. Elizabeth Hayler stated that there had been increases in the water rates while the minutes do not reflect that. Bruce Hayler spoke of when the increases occurred and that it was more than just the water bond. Frank Thayer stated that the city had set aside funds to pay the grant payments but that it was spent to balance the budget and should not be needed to raise water rates.

Brian Greene shared that he won't vote for the budget as long as there is a water rate increase.

Mayor Canter asked if there were any more adjustments to the budget. Brian Greene stated to remove the water rate increase. Frank Thayer asked how the city could raise the water rate and hire an administrative assistant. Jeannie Cuthbertson shared that the city is in a "different place" now and that things may have happened and that we can't change the past decisions or past actions and that at this time the council is responsible to the people.

Floyd Billings asked if the administrative assistant can handle the city administrator tasks he was to die. CA Hohnbaum responded that no she could not fulfill all the duties of the city administrator.

Council consensus was that they wanted to see the budget resolution without the water rate increase on the next council agenda for their consideration by lowering the revenue and lowering the amount in the water contingency line item.

Council discussed the permanent tax rate and expected additional revenue from recent construction. Floyd Billings confirmed that there would not be a RARE staff person and the amount of hours and benefits for the administrative assistant.

CA reviewed draft Resolution 2019-12 with the increased fees for water disconnections. Council discussed the reconnection fee and requested that the draft resolution reflect no increase for that fee and no residential wastewater rates based upon water usage (but leave it for commercial).

Mayor Canter adjourned the work session at 7PM.

Minutes approved by Council action June 24, 2019.

Paul Canter 6-27-19

Mayor Paul Canter Date:

ATTEST: Rick A Hohnbaum

Rick A. Hohnbaum, City Recorder