

**MINUTES
EMPORIA CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF EMPORIA MUNICIPAL BUILDING
BUDGET WORK SESSION
May 10, 2011**

Note to Reader: Although the printed agenda document for this City Council meeting is not part of these minutes, the agenda document provides background information on the items discussed by City Council during the meeting. A copy of the agenda document for this meeting may be obtained by contacting the Office of the City Clerk.

The following City Council members were present:

Councilwoman Beverly White
Councilman F. Woodrow Harris
Councilman James C. Saunders
Councilwoman Doris T. White
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey
Councilwoman Deborah D. Dixon
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple

Others present: Samuel W. Adams, III, Mayor
Brian S. Thrower, City Manger
Steven B. Hall, Assistant City Manager
Tessie Wilkins, City Clerk
Don Wyatt, Chief of Police
Royal Jones, Public Works Director

Review Proposed Changes to the FY12 General Fund and Utility Fund Budget

City Council members discussed to implement the following variable tier rate table increase for water and sewer.

Water Rate Structure

Minimum 2,000 gallons	\$13.54 – 7.5% increase
Next 48,000/1,000	\$4.89 – 11.5% increase
Over 50,000/1,000	\$3.87 – 7.5 % increase

Sewer Rate Structure

Minimum 2,000 gallons	\$17.91 – 2% increase
Next 48,000/1,000	\$6.28 – 4% increase
Over 50,000/1,000	\$5.12 – 2% increase

Councilman Harris made a motion to implement this variable tier rate increase for water and sewer for FY12,

Water Rate Structure

Minimum 2,000 gallons	\$13.54 – 7.5% increase
Next 48,000/1,000	\$4.89 – 11.5% increase
Over 50,000/1,000	\$3.87 – 7.5 % increase

Sewer Rate Structure

Minimum 2,000 gallons \$17.91 – 2% increase
Next 48,000/1,000 \$6.28 – 4% increase
Over 50,000/1,000 \$5.12 – 2% increase

Seconded by Councilwoman Temple, which passed as follows:

Councilman F. Woodrow Harris aye
Councilman James C. Saunders aye
Councilwoman Deborah D. Dixon aye
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple aye
Councilwoman Doris T. White aye
Councilwoman Beverly White aye
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey aye

City Council members discussed the propose in purchasing one new automated residential sanitation vehicle and one new automated commercial sanitation vehicle and to eliminate all three positions in order to cover a portion of the expenses, as well as to meet the reduced personnel requirements of operating each truck.

City Council members discussed the proposed sanitation fee increase of \$5.50 for residential service and \$.50 for commercial service. The proposed monthly residential charge beginning in FY12 is \$20.50. The proposed commercial charge beginning in FY12 is \$5.00/cubic yard. To make sanitation services an enterprise fund.

Council stated to implement ½ of proposed sanitation fee increase in FY12 and ½ in FY 13 to make sanitation services an enterprise fund.

FY12 Rates

\$17.75/month – Residential
\$4.75/cubic yard – Commercial

FY13 Rates

\$20.50/month – Residential
\$5.00/cubic yard - Commercial

Councilman Saunders made a motion to implement ½ of proposed sanitation fee increase in FY12 and ½ in FY13 as followings:

FY12 Rates

\$17.75/month – Residential
\$4.75/cubic yard – Commercial

FY13 Rates

\$20.50/month – Residential
\$5.00/cubic yard - Commercial

to make sanitation services an enterprise fund, seconded by Councilwoman Temple, which passed as follows:

Councilman F. Woodrow Harris nay
Councilman James C. Saunders aye
Councilwoman Deborah D. Dixon aye
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple aye
Councilwoman Doris T. White aye
Councilwoman Beverly White aye
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey aye

The new revenue figure for sanitation service is \$725,200.00. This is a \$73,200.00 decrease from the proposed revenue figure. Reducing the debt service payments to four months reduces that expenditure line to \$28,268.00 which is \$56,536.00 less than proposed. Therefore, an additional \$16,664.00 in revenue/reductions is needed to balance the budget. Council has already eliminated expenditures totaling \$17,100.00. Therefore, revenues are currently \$436.00 more than expenditures with the amendments made thus far by Council.

City Council stated to amend the proposed Council laptop replacement expense from \$4,500.00 to \$2,400.00 (3 computers replaced). Maximum replacement cost per laptop will be \$800.00. Total savings of \$2,100.00.

City Council stated to amend the proposed EGRA entrance park sign expense from \$6,000.00 to \$2,000.00. Total savings of \$4,000.00.

City Council stated to eliminate proposed compensation and classification study of \$11,000.00. Last study was done in 1998. Total savings of \$11,000.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to be presented before City Council members, the budget work session was adjourned.

Samuel W. Adams, III, Mayor

Tessie S. Wilkins, City Clerk