

KINDRED CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, August 8, 2023 | 7:00 pm | Kindred City Hall

Present: Mayor Darrell Kersting, CMs Adam Spelhaug, Shad Stoddard, and Ozzie Peraza. Absent: CM Julie Johnson.
Others present: Auditor Tabitha Arnaud.

Mayor Kersting called the meeting to order at 7:12 pm.

Renaissance Zone Development Plan Amendment Discussion: Topic removed. RZ Committee will provide another update when recent state legislation changes are enacted.

Off-site Event Permits for Hawk’s Market and Spring Brook Tavern for Kindred Days: **MOTION**, passed – To approve the off-site event permits for Hawk’s Market and Spring Brook Tavern for Kindred Days. Stoddard moved; Peraza seconded. RCV (Roll Call Vote); MCU (Motion Carried Unanimously).

Preliminary 2024 Budget Review: Review of the preliminary 2024 budget which includes the General Fund, City Share of Specials Fund, Library Fund, and Airport Fund (Library and Airport are passed through the City, but those entities submit their own values to the County for processing). State Aid Revenue will still be shared with Kindred Park District and Kindred Fire Department, 20% each estimated at \$16,000 for 2024. Discussed the citation/fine revenues versus the municipal judge wages; 2023 revenues were greater than 2022 and cover the judge wages. Reviewed Non-Departmental and Office Operations expenses (postage, publishing, subscriptions, supplies, training) and Buildings and Grounds expenses (library snow/ice removal, maintenance/repairs, marketing, mosquito/pest control). Auditor/Deputy Auditor, Retirement and Health Insurance benefits estimated a slight increase. Park Director Co-op expense for 2023 is only \$10K and budget is \$0 for 2024, as the Park District provided confirmation that they will support the Park Director wages on their own moving forward. Policing contract for 2024 will increase to \$51,097.00 for 2024’s half-time deputy. A total of \$44K was added into the reserves (\$10K for engineering and \$34K for audit firm expenses) as they were collected in 2023 but will likely not be used by end of year. This reduces the overall levy request to all properties. Discussed attorney and engineer expenses. Actual 2022 engineering expenses were over \$53K, however, almost \$37K was for preplanning of the 2023-2 Dakota St sidewalk project. Now that it is officially a project, Arnaud recommends a fund transfer to move those expenses into the project fund; this will help offset the general fund deficit for 2022 and can be completed at an upcoming regular meeting. Discussed P&Z permit fees for plats/rezones/variances/etc and the attorney expenses being greater than the fees, so the City is losing money for these types of applications/processes. Arnaud will do research on other community’s fees and will discuss again with P&Z/Council in the future. Also discussed updating the City’s employee policy/handbook on PTO and overtime; CM Peraza and Arnaud will review. The final determined preliminary budget for the City provides an increase in the general fund of about \$10K from 2023, for a total of \$242,697.00 for the 2024 calendar year. The combined total 2024 budget including the City’s general fund and share of specials levy, as well as the Airport and Library levy is \$264,147.00. Review of the estimated property taxable valuation and corresponding mill levy, attempting to estimate the impact on property owners. The preliminary budget can be reduced at the final budget hearing (October 4th) but cannot be increased higher. **MOTION**, passed – To approve the preliminary budget for the year 2024 with a total City levy of \$264,147.00. Spelhaug moved; Stoddard seconded. RCV; MCU.

MOTION, passed – To adjourn meeting at 8:08 pm. Spelhaug moved, Peraza seconded. RCV; MCU.

(Minutes subject to council approval.) (Agenda deadline is noon Wednesday the week before the meeting.)

Darrell Kersting, Mayor

Tabitha Arnaud, City Auditor

Date approved