



Town of Coulee Dam
Green Oasis at the Foot of Grand Coulee Dam

**Budget Workshop
Minutes
November 20, 2017**

6:30 p.m.

THOSE PRESENT

Mayor Greg Wilder
Councilmember Gayle Swagerty
Councilmember Ben Alling
Councilmember Keith St. Jeor

Clerk/Treasurer Stefani Bowden
Public Works Superintendent Mike Steffens

Mayor Wilder opened the workshop at 6:30 pm.

Clerk/Treasurer Stefani Bowden and Mayor Wilder presented the 2018 estimated expenditures/revenues for Fire Equipment Reserve, Streets/Street Reserves, Tourism, and Water/Water Reserves. Ben Alling asked if the Fire Reserve was just for the Wildland Firefighting. Clerk stated that it was. The general operating fund for Fire is included in the Current Expense Fund. The expenditures presented were for wildland equipment and salaries/benefits were included in the event that a fire occurs.

Alling asked if the expenditure for asphalt around Harvest Foods and the Casino was reflected in the budget requests. It was an item showing for the purpose of need, but was not included in the proposed budget due to insufficient funds. The hopes are that if a large paving project takes place in the local area that the town could piggy back off of it and get a better price. That can be addressed through budget amendments and/or re-evaluation of the unused expenditure items if needed.

The Clerk presented the projected revenues for Hotel/Motel tax. The expenditure requests far exceed the estimated revenues. Discussion was held on the decision 3 years ago to retain \$50,000 plus 10% of each following year's estimated revenue for future town needs. By continuing this practice, the town will not be able to fulfill the Chamber of Commerce request of \$30,000 not the amount of \$22,000 that has been awarded for the past 2 years. It would leave approximately \$14,000 left to award for total advertising. Swagerty felt that the chamber should be awarded their requested funds because advertising is what gets people here and keeps the hotel/motel money coming in. Alling and St. Jeor thought that the Town needs to consider its own future needs for tourist project. The Clerk was asked to prepare 2 drafts of the Tourism budget reflecting both ideas to be presented at the upcoming council meeting.

Much discussion took place regarding the water budget and the potential future repairs and maintenance that need to be considered such as the replacement of the water reservoir roof and painting of the reservoir. The non-potable water was also discussed in depth regarding the most accurate way to determine ERU usage. St. Jeor felt there are many factors that need to be considered and that installing a meter will not solve the issue.

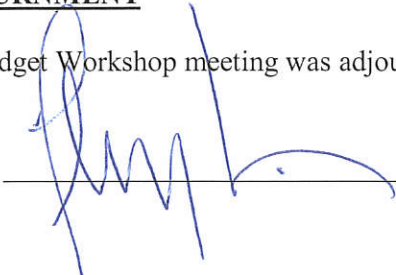
The Clerk reminded the council that the Senior Meal program has asked for funding. Council members would like to see "something" in the budget for it. The Clerk will see how much the Current Expense Fund could contribute and report back at the council meeting.

No decisions were made.

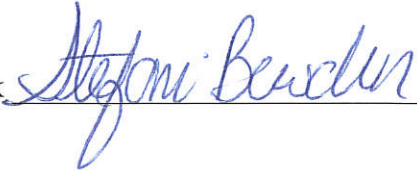
ADJOURNMENT

The Budget Workshop meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Clerk

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephani Beucher" in a cursive style.