

FINANCE COMMITTEE – BUDGET SESSION #1
REVENUE

Date and Time: Wednesday, September 23, 2015 @ 5:00 pm., Board Room
Members Present: Oberbeck(C), Kellbach, Mielke, Nutting
Members Excused: Nagle
Others Present: Groat, Jacobson, Giese, Schock, Seubert, Ray, Whalen, Goede, Abitz

In accordance with Chapter 19, Wisc. Statutes, notice of this meeting was posted and sent to the Daily Herald in the proper manner. It was noted that there was a quorum present and the meeting was called to order by Chairperson Oberbeck.

2016 Revenue Projections by Finance Director

Maryanne Groat presented a PowerPoint of the 2016 Budget summarizing revenues trends and changes. Options presented: Wheel Tax, Storm Water Utility, Premier Resort Tax, and refuse & recycling as a special charge.

2015 Property Value Projections by the Assessor

Jeremy Ray presented a PowerPoint relative to changes in property value. Giese noted some of their biggest challenges for the Assessment Department are technology and staff turnover.

2015 Economic Development Projections by Economic Development Manager

Chris Schock provided and reviewed data of City of Wausau building permit comparisons and developments. *(Nutting exited the meeting at 6:10 pm.)* Oberbeck suggested separating out the tax exempt properties from the reporting.

2016 Funding Level Discussion

Groat stated we receive a municipal aid payment, which is like a payment in lieu of tax, for any properties that are state properties in the city limits. Currently we only receive about 50% and it based on what they determine the value of the property to be. She noted the UW Extension is on that list, as is the Army Reserve building. She indicated there is a legislator trying to get support for the state to make 100% of the payment. She commented in general, when you look at the continued erosion and continued desire to control any growth of revenue for the city, it doesn't look good. She pointed to the recent room tax legislation changed in the last state budget taking that control away from us.

Oberbeck reiterated taking the garbage/recycling off the tax levy, as well as storm water is a source of revenue and levels the playing field for taxpayers.

Adjourn

Motion by Mielke, second by Kellbach to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.