

**MINUTES OF WORK SESSION  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LADUE  
ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2019**

The work session of the City Council of the City of Ladue, St. Louis County, Missouri, was held on Monday, November 18, 2019, at 3:00 p.m., at the City Hall, 9345 Clayton Road. The following members were present:

The Hon. Nancy Spewak, Mayor, presiding.

Members of the Council present:

Stacey Kamps  
John Fox  
Patrick Hensley  
Harold Burroughs  
William Brennan

Absent:

John Howell

Five Council Members present.

Also present were Ms. Laura Rider, Assistant to the Mayor/City Clerk; Mr. Sam Zes, Finance Director; Fire Chief Steven Lynn, Police Chief Ken Andreski, Jr.; Ms. Anne Lamitola, Public Works Director and Mr. Roger Stewart, Building Official.

**Items for discussion: Review of the 2020 Draft Budget**

Mr. Zes began the presentation of the 2020 Draft Budget by reviewing the new pages that were added to the budget including year to year actual totals, which makes it easier to see trends. There is an anticipated deficit of \$1,700,000 in the General Fund. Revenues are not increasing as fast as expenditures. Costs for personnel and benefits are increasing, specifically medical insurance, is expected to increase 28% to 30%. A \$700,000 deficit is forecast for 2019. Road & Bridge, Storm Water and Capital Funds all have deficits based on projects and timing of expenditures and fluctuate from year to year.

Ms. Lamitola explained that the Storm Water Fund has large projects that cover multiple years. She cited the example of Willow Hill which needs thirty-one easements, but to date, only one easement has been obtained as the project is currently in the easement acquisition phase. Ms. Lamitola went on to explain the Road & Bridge Fund has ongoing operational costs and always shows a deficit due to timing of grants and project schedules.

Mr. Zes presented the long-term projections noting \$1,000,000 transfers from the General Fund to the Capital Fund for City Hall renovations in 2022 and 2023.

Mr. Zes reported at their last meeting the Finance Committee discussed the timing for proposing a property tax increase and reported that an increase of .25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation would generate about \$1,700,000. The last property tax increase was in 2004 for .30 cents and was projected to last approximately five years. The Finance Committee also discussed recommending placing the use tax on the ballot in April 2020. The use tax is estimated to generate approximately \$60,000 annually. Options for reducing medical insurance costs were discussed. Mayor Spewak commented that the City has taken many steps to reduce medical insurance costs and the Insurance Committee will explore all options for the next renewal.

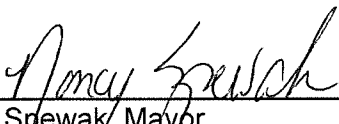
Chief Andreski reported on the personnel vacancies in the police department. When the School Resource Officer Program began, that officer was never replaced and spends nine out of twelve months at the school and is unavailable to the department during that time and one officer is being deployed for one year beginning in January.

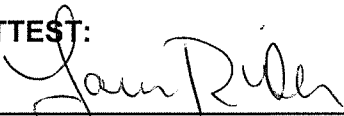
Council Member Fox commented that he was pleased with the new budget format with the photos in the Capital Fund, and overall, thought the budget document was more transparent and informative, and initiated discussion regarding the potential for entities that do not pay property tax but receive City services to make payment in lieu of taxes.

It was noted the Finance Committee will meet on December 11<sup>th</sup> for final review of the proposed 2020 Budget with their recommendation presented to the City Council on December 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Adjournment:** Council Member Hensley moved adjournment, seconded by Council Member Fox, which motion passed unanimously. The work session adjourned at 3:36 PM.

**APPROVED THIS 16TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2019.**

  
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Nancy Spewak, Mayor

**ATTEST:**  
  
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Laura Rider, City Clerk