

**City of Ida Grove**  
**Special Meeting – Budget Workshop**  
**January 31, 2019 5:00 p.m.**  
**City Council Chambers**

Mayor Whiteing called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm with the following council members present: Paul Cates, Ryan Goodman, Gregor Ernst, Doug Clough and Scott Tomlinson. Library Director - Angela Scales, Board President – Larry Albrecht, Vice President – Steven Schnabel and Trustee – Tom Grell were also in attendance.

Motion by Goodman to approve the agenda, second by Tomlinson. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Albrecht expressed his concern with the city's SIMPCO membership and the lack of benefit the Library is receiving from it. Whiteing will email the Library's wish list to a SIMPCO representative to see if there are any current grants available for libraries. The Library is requesting roughly a 25% increase to their wages line item due to a wage study they conducted, which was found that our library employees are paid on the low end as compared to other libraries our size. Ernst questions how long those individual employees making more have been employed; the answer is unclear. Ernst also states that he feels the library wages are low, but the city cannot accommodate a 25% increase this year. He states the library is doing great things already, but there are other opportunities available to bring in more revenue. Whiteing explained the general fund deficit and the need to cut all budgets that are paid with general fund money. The county versus city share of contributions to the library were discussed. Currently, the library is asking for a total budget of \$111,633.00, less employee benefit expenses paid by the city. Albrecht states if the council could agree to \$105,000.00, they could work with that. No decisions were made.

Motion by Goodman to adjourn, second by Clough. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

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Heather Sweeden, City Clerk

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Devlun Whiteing, Mayor