

**City of Ida Grove
Special City Council Meeting
February 19, 2020 – 5:00 PM
City Hall**

Mayor Pro Tem, Gregor Ernst, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with the following council member present: Jared Bogue, Jason Schable, Ryan Jordan and Reynold McLead. Mayor Whiteing was absent.

Motion by McLead to approve the agenda, second by Jordan. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Sweeden reviewed the proposed budget amounts which are based off changes that were suggested during prior budget meetings with each department head. Council thoroughly reviewed the profit/loss report for each fund, revenue accounts, expense accounts and the treasurers report. No changes were made to the budget as presented at this time. Sweeden was directed to obtain further information regarding the cemetery donation and was given permission to adjust the budgeted amount for that line item accordingly. Sweeden explained the City is still budgeting a negative balance for the general fund, however that budgeted negative balance has been cut by about \$150,000 since the last budget. Council discussed options to cover the budgeted deficit of about \$57,000. Sweeden explained the City is currently at the maximum 8.10 levy and will need to find other ways to increase revenue where possible. One main focus is to increase taxable valuations by bringing in new homes/business and renovating existing; even more so after the current taxable valuations have decreased. Council discussed the increased debt service levy in order to make bond payments for the upcoming Moorehead Avenue Bridge project. Lastly, council discussed creating purchase plans as a road map for vehicle/equipment replacement based on longevity and cost of equipment.

Motion by Schable to adjourn, second by Bogue. On a unanimous vote, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Heather Sweeden, City Clerk

Gregor Ernst, Mayor ProTem