

**COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**  
**Special Meeting**  
**Monday, August 10, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER:** By Mayor Pro-Tem Dyer on Monday, August 10, 2020 at 6:10 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Pro-Tem Dyer, Weissenborn, VanStee, Baker, McRae, City Clerk Terpstra and City Manager Guetschow.

**ABSENT:** Mayor Armitage and Council member Hoogstra.

**Council member Baker moved, supported by Weissenborn to excuse Mayor Armitage due to his obligations as Emergency Manager during the incoming storm.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**ITEMS OF BUSINESS:**

**A. DISCUSSION REGARDING PENSION:**

City Manager Guetschow gave an overview of the current situation in regards to pension funding. He stated that the State required us to submit a corrective action plan in October of 2019. He stated that this is prospective in nature. The pensions that have been promised to former employees have to be fulfilled. He stated that in 2012 changes were made for newly hired employees going forward. He stated that there may be a clearer picture for the City in September to know where the city's finances stand.

Discussion was held on options for either a millage or a special assessment to help to fund the deficit.

Council member Baker stated that he would prefer to seek a millage.

Council member Weissenborn stated that she would prefer to allow the community to vote through the process. She would like to cut more of the budget. She feels that significant cuts need to be made. She feels it is a lot to put on the residents shoulders when they don't get anything for it.

Discussion was held on the time frames for both millage and special assessments.

City Manager Guetschow explained in order to cut the amount of money that they need you would have to cut people.

Discussion was held on the headlee override and how that would work.

Council member Hoogstra arrived at 6:48 p.m.

Council member McRae stated that he could see the pros and cons of both the millage and the special assessment options.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dyer stated that he feels a millage should be sought before a Presidential election. He does not however, feel that it would pass in a May off year election either. He does not think the turn out for a November odd year would be a good turnout to pass a millage. He feel that it would need to be an assessment for police and fire funding and be ready for the first tax bill for 2021, not in December.

Council member Weissenborn questioned if only police and fire personnel could be cut or others also.

City Manager Guetschow stated that they should direct administration to come up with extra funds to cut.

Council member VanStee stated that he does not feel they have enough information at this point and feels this issue should be pushed

back to next year. He feels that they need to look into budget cuts at this time.

Discussion was held on using the OI money and when information would be available on funding that may be received from the CARES Act.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**Council member Baker moved, supported by Weissenborn to adjourn at 7:00 P.M. Carried. 7 Yes. 0 No.**

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Mayor Pro-Tem Dyer

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Ginger Terpstra, City Clerk, CMMC