

OAK GROVE COUNCIL
Work Session Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 29, 2024

The Work Session of the Oak Grove City Council was called to order by Mayor Rolf at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, July 29, 2024.

Present: Weston Rolf, Mayor
Angie Bray Johnson, Council Member
Paul Tradewell, Council Member
John West, Council Member (Remote)
Mike Wylie, Council Member

Also Present: Loren Wickham, City Administrator
Rob Engler, Fire Chief
Chuck Schwartz, City Engineer
Karri Thorsten, Abdo Financial Solutions
Matt Anderson, Public Works Director

1. DISCUSSION ON 2025 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Karri Thorsten from Abdo Financial Solutions presented the changes that were made to the preliminary budget based on meetings held with department heads.

Ms. Thorsten went through the budget timeline, the budget components, the Council's role in the budget process, and the general fund highlights along with revenues and expenditures.

Timeline:

Work Session scheduled for August 26, 2024

Draft of Preliminary Levy review to be discussed September 9, 2024

Official Preliminary Levy needs to be approved on September 30, 2024

Truth in Taxation Hearing December 9, 2024

In prior years, the City has used preliminary tax capacity data from Anoka County based on the prior year's actual tax capacity to prepare the preliminary tax levy. Anoka County preliminary 2025 tax capacity was not yet available. The prior year tax capacity has been used for calculation purposes until 2025 amounts are available.

City Management proposed an increase to the City levy of \$121,765 or 4.06%, to balance the General fund budget and maintain capital improvements in capital funds. The 2024

tax rate was 22.27% and the 2025 proposed tax is estimated at 22.82%, resulting in a tax rate increase of 0.55%.

Preliminary Highlights:

Wages and Benefits – 3% Cost of Living increase and applicable step increases.
Benefit contributions remain at 80% for single coverage and 70% for family coverage.

General Fund Revenues – General Fund property tax levy increased 4.06%.

General Fund Expenditures- Administration Department increased \$17,256, Elections decreased by \$22,780, Finance Department decreased due to wages and benefits, Legal increased \$12,000 due to additional code enforcement, Police Service increase of \$106,825 due to contract with Anoka County, Fire increase \$70,000, Public Works increase of \$26,815 due to equipment and crack sealing costs.

Council Comment Highlights:

Mayor Rolf requested to see what a 3.5% vs the proposed 3.0% Cost of Living increase would look like.

He also requested that the elections be budgeted every year instead of every other year.

Mayor Rolf requested an update on the ARPA funds balance.

Ms. Thorsten clarified after some discussion that Mayor Rolf is looking for a 3% or less increase in the levy.

Council member Tradewell asked about budgeting out for Public Works equipment.

2. ADJOURNMENT

The work session was adjourned at 5:52PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Billi Larson
City Clerk