Wednesday, October 19, 2011

In attendance:

Staff:
Mike Bestor, Anne Beierle, Jeff Hansen, Denise Hish

Guests:
Cheryl Mayer, Saoirse Charis-Graves

Council:
Karen Oxman

I. MINUTES APPROVAL

With a motion by Dick Sugg and a second by Bob Nelson, the September 21, 2011 minutes were unanimously approved.

II. SALES TAX – AUGUST (collected in September)

Sales tax collections were up $50,258 (5.9%) for the month. Use tax collections were up $1,109 (0.7%) for August and for the year, use tax is up $453,721. In the area of audit revenue, $30,041 was collected in September.

We have filed our response in the IBM case and they now have 30 days to respond and then a trial date will be set. MillerCoors court case has been appealed in District Court and we have till November 1 to respond.

Revenues from Downtown were up $24,944 compared to August of last year, some of which may be attributed to the bike race. Mike added that the Downtown Merchant’s are in favor of doing the bike race again next year. Matt asked if there was a way to know what sales was attributable to the bike race. Jeff stated that the sales tax figures are confidential and would have to rely on merchants coming forward with the information, which most are not willing to do. Golden’s cost (material, signs, water stations, salaries, etc) was under $100,000.

III. 3rd QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORTS

Overall revenues are exceeding expenditures year-to-date by $800,111 in the General Fund.

A few concerns are:
- Wastewater Fund – total operating revenues are at 60% of budget, but Council approved rate increases for 2011 and 2012 and we hope that will catch us up.
- Community Center concerns, projecting to have a deficit at the end of the year, but Rod and staff are working to correct.
- Cemetery Fund is expecting an additional subsidy at the end of the year.

Questions:
Jim – How much do we have in reserves in wastewater fund? Jeff replied that there was a cash balance is $331,000 and $1.5 M that we loaned to buy the Catamount shops.

IV. BUDGETARY POLICIES
CBAC discussed this policy at an earlier meeting and agreed there were no changes needed. GASB has since necessitated revision to this policy to the way fund balance is reported and Jeff will be asking Council to approve changes. With a motion by Jim Dale to approve the changes and a second by Jean Garrabrant, the revisions were unanimously approved.

V. PAYT CONTRACT WITH EDS – Anne Beierle

3 components to trash program that needs to be discussed:

Inventory of carts – have solved the problem and no reason to increase due to carts.
Adjustments to program – Anne distributed a spreadsheet with the price increase analysis, showing direct costs associated with this program (fuel costs, tires, steel, etc.) There has also been significant cost increases for disposal fees and insurance. The City is looking at an increase of 2.9% (.38¢) to cover these increases to EDS. Fuel surcharge is another piece of this and we are collecting $1,500/mo for the .50¢ surcharge, but as we went into March/April, those costs really went up. Another 10¢ cents additional would be needed to cover additional fuel surcharge. Total of .48¢ cents per household will be presented to Council. Kathleen asked why not just make it an even 50¢ and Jeff replied that even though it might make sense to some, others would be upset if they felt the City was not just covering the increase.

Cynthia:
Did EDS pay for their new equipment, trucks, etc at the beginning of the program? Anne answered that they knew they would need to buy new equipment and they put those costs into the original bid.
Is there open enrollment for HOA’s to join? Anne answered that HOA’s may at ANYTIME join and we have added several small HOA’s since inception. The 2 largest HOA’s have locked into longer term agreements (5 years) with Waste Management, so they will not be joining anytime soon.
How many residents participate? Anne answered that approximately 3,500 are in the program but about half of the City households are from multi-unit dwellings that don’t participate because they are 8units or more.

Dick – What about Commercial? CSAB is looking into that but the problem right now is space for downtown retailers. CSAB is also looking at putting an ordinance in place. Dick added that he is a very satisfied customer.

Jean – Is EDS accepting juice and milk boxes – Yes they are accepting as part of the cardboard recycling.

Jan – Stated that she is enrolled in the Super Saver and only has her trash/recycle picked up twice a month and it would be unfair that they be charged the full 48¢ but should be charged half or 24¢. Others agreed with Jan and felt Anne should check into making an adjustment to those on the Super Saver rates.

VI. PROPOSED RATE AND FEE CHANGES

Water (5%) and Wastewater (10%) rate increases were approved last year and those are the only increases anticipated, along with the increase in trash collection fees.

VII. 2012 REVENUE PROJECTIONS / 2012 OPERATING BUDGET

Mike discussed his recommendations for the 2012 budget.
• 2.4% pay increase across the board for all employees.
• 5% cost increase to each employee for health insurance premiums.
• Adding a new Evidence Technician in the Police Department.
• Keep 1 position in Communications to handle the bike race again next year; and we have also increased special events quite a bit in 2011 and will probably increase again in 2012 and the additional communications person will take on more of a role in these events.
• Budget $23,000 for a Citizen Survey – Ed questioned why we keep spending money on these surveys; if people don’t like something, we hear about it. Others agreed with Ed and felt the money may be more wisely spent elsewhere. The last survey was about 5 years ago. Jean Garrabrant made a motion to NOT participate in a Citizen Survey for 2012 and Lynda Wentworth seconded the motion. Ed asked for a raise of hands and
• $100,000 to upgrade the Fire Department Training room to an EOC with phones, equipment, etc.
• No significant changes in 2012. This budget includes $900,000 for the public works building improvement and we are not sure that will be done in 2012. Ed felt that Mike’s memo did not make that point clear and so he will make adjustments.
• Jean Garrabrant felt that if we are planning on participating in the bike race again in 2012, then there needs to be a line item in the 2012 Budget.

VIII. VOTING MEMBERS – AS OF OCTOBER, 2011

• Betsy Brooks
• Matt Burde
• Jim Dale
• Marv DeSelm
• Ed Dorsey
• Jean Garrabrant
• Ken Kranz
• Jan Martynuska
• Kathleen Moncrieff
• Marv Morgan
• Bob Nelson
• Eric Scarbro
• John Spice
• Dick Sugg
• Bethany Thomas
• Lynda Wentworth

IX. OTHER DISCUSSIONS / CITY UPDATES

• Beltway negotiations and possible strategies, moving forward, were discussed.
• Bob has a problem with Ford and 12th Street – timer needs to be re-set.
• Discussion about the recent armed robberies in Golden.
• Eric had questions about the Clear Creek Plan and his neighborhood feels they have been steamrolled because of the recent filling in of the pond. Mike stated that the quickness of the filling in of the pond was due to the health hazards brought by the geese and was discussed long before the CC Master Plan was adopted.
• With no further business, the meeting was adjourned 9:45.