

A special meeting of the Palo City Council was held on Tuesday, January 31, 2023, at the Palo Community Center in the Council Chambers. Mayor Van Kerckhove called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm. Council members present: Angie Brekke, Andrea Rahe, Pete Hagstrom, Jen Welton, and Kendra Klooster. Other city staff present was Lenna Goodale, City Clerk; Cynthia Stimson, City mentor; Clark Robertson, Public Works; Jeff Gibbons, Fire Chief; Andrew Lutter and James Seely, Fire Department. Hagstrom motion to approve the agenda. Rahe second. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Discussion had on EMT training, cost, and how many firefighters to attend per year. Gibbons would like to revise the contract between the City of Palo and volunteer fire department to provide education assistance for firefighter training. Goodale asked Gibbons to provide what changes he would like to change. Once changes made, Goodale will add to agenda for council's review. Discussion had regarding the auditor's report for the fire department. City will transition the changes by June 2023. More discussion had regarding the FY24 Budget. Goodale will send Gibbons a budget report for coding purposes.

Extensive discussion was held regarding the FY24 Budget and Max Levy. Stimson informed council of the recent Iowa legislation on the Senate Study Bill 1056 that could potentially affect the calculation of the 2022 Residential rollback. The auditor's office sent out the wrong valuations which will affect the Max Levy rate and the city's budget for FY24. If this bill passes the auditor's office will amend the rollback and the valuations. This would give auditor's 15 days to correct and notify each city and county for their new numbers. This would also provide an extended deadline for cities and counties to April 30, 2023, to submit FY24 Budget.

Council and city staff went through revenues and expenses projections for FY24. The city clerk is to revise numbers as discussed and present forecasted fund balances for the February 20, 2023 meeting. The budget schedule was reviewed. Motion by Brekke to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm. Second by Rahe. Roll call. Motion carried (5-0). Respectfully submitted by Lenna Goodale