

SPECIAL WORK SESSION NO. 7  
Room 8B – Depot Conference Room

February 25, 2025  
5:30 O’Clock P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 P.M.

Present were Council Member Hoffman, McAntire, Caviness, Reid, Galloway and Mayor Johnson. City Staff present: City Admin. Rath, Finance Dir. O’Donnell, PW Dir. Burgmeier, HR Dir. Codjoe, Dir. of Airport Operations Wheaton, Police Chief Farrington, Fire Chief Canto, Dep. Fire Chief Cronin, Comm. Dev. Dir. Simonson, IT Mgr. Wilson, Dir. of Parks & Rec Rathje, Library Dir. Ferrell, Aquatics Facility Mgr. Reyman, PIO Lawrence.

Hoffman moved, seconded by Galloway to approve agenda as presented. All ayes.

Finance – FY25/26 Budget Workshop

O’Donnell reported. Because of the size of the expected shortfall in the Gen. Fund, it isn’t something that can be reduced in the next few weeks, but over a few months; we may ask Council to approve numbers provided while we work through finding areas where we can reduce expenditures to better match revenues. Overall, expenditures have increased while revenues remain constant. Several funds expected to be in deficit by end of FY26; operational shortfalls. Proposing Max Tax Levy increase of \$0.186. \$20.99396/1,000 of taxable valuation. Property Tax hearing set for April 1, 2025. Once submitted, levy rates can only be decreased.

We are providing services at bare minimum levels. We may need to look at service cuts during this process.

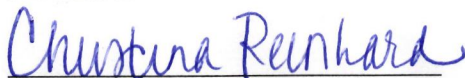
Council does not want to increase franchise fees.

State mandates are restricting local governments in how they generate revenue. State Legislatures don’t understand their impact on cities.

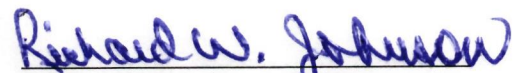
There being no further business, Caviness moved, seconded by Hoffman that the mtg. adjourn. All ayes. Adjournment was at 7:30 P.M.

CITY OF OTTUMWA, IOWA

ATTEST:



Christina Reinhard, CMC, City Clerk

  
Richard W. Johnson, Mayor

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