**CITY OF LEXINGTON**

**WORKSHOP MINUTES**

**Thursday, August 20, 2015**

**Immediately following Council meeting**

**City Hall**

**1. Call to Order:** Mayor Kurth at 8:21 pm on August 20, 2015

**2. Roll Call:** Present: Devries – Hughes – Payment –Plasch.

Also present: Bill Petracek, City Administrator; Tina Northcutt, Finance Director; Jim Coan, Police Chief; Gary Grote, Fire Chief.

**3. Discussion Items:**

1. Discuss emergency response for 911 calls

*Mayor Kurth discussed the idea of reducing police costs by coming up with a way that the police department wouldn’t need to show up to non-emergency 911 calls. Police Chief Coan responded by saying that even though responding to medical calls is not their expertise, as a police department, responding to medical emergencies is a necessary evil. He cautioned the Council on not allowing the police department to respond to non-emergency 911 calls. Discussion ensued.*

*Fire Chief Grote spoke with Anoka County dispatch and stated currently they do not have a protocol for police department response, it is up to the police officer that has been dispatched if they want to respond to the call or not. Discussion ensued.*

*Chief Coan suggested setting up some type of protocol on police response within the City of Lexington for non-emergency medical calls. Chief Coan discussed response times for fire department and the ambulance to 911 calls. He, again, cautioned the City Council about cost savings verses service levels and response times. Discussion ensued.*

*Chief Coan agreed to provide the weighting of each non-emergency medical call in regards to how it affects the formula that determines the City’s portion of the police department’s annual budget. Petracek stated he would look for communities in the metro area that have a volunteer fire department with police and EMS and how their response is set up and provide that information at the next workshop. The item would be on the next workshop agenda for discussion.*

1. Discuss Operational Review Process for Liquor Store

*Petracek handed out a “municipal liquor operation self- analysis” form to the Council and explained that this is an opportunity for each Councilmember to have a say in how the liquor store operations are being handled. He asked that the forms be filled out as soon as possible. Petracek further explained where they were in the midst of the operational review process with Minnesota Municipal Beverage Association. Discussion ensued.*

1. Minimum Wage Requirements

*Northcutt provided an overview of the new Minnesota minimum wage requirements and the proposed salary schedule for the liquor store part-time employees that would be affected by the new minimum wage laws. She stated that the City of Lexington is currently out of compliance with State Law. She explained that August 1st of 2015 minimum wage needed to increase to $9.00/hour and August 1st of 2016 minimum wage will need to increase to $9.50/hour. She further explained that this new salary schedule for the part-time liquor store employees will bring the City of Lexington into compliance with State Law through the year 2016. Discussion ensued.*

1. 2016 Budget

*Northcutt presented the proposed 2016 budget and tax levy. She explained that with the proposed items for the capital improvements/equipment fund would require and 18% increase in the tax levy. Discussion ensued about the proposed capital projects/equipment.*

*Discussion about liquor store transfers ensued. The consensus of the Council was to transfer $75,000 of liquor store profits into the General Fund. Northcutt recommended having a special workshop at the September 3rd Council meeting to recalculate the tax levy with the liquor store transfer and to further discuss the proposed capital projects.*

**5. Council Input**

*No input*

**6. Adjourn**

***A motion was made by Councilmember Plasch to adjourn at 10:14 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Devries. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.***