BILL 2015-30

****** First Reading ******

Agenda Item

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Mark S. Gaugh, City Manager

DATE: August 17, 2015

RE: 2015-2016 Fiscal Year Budget

Issues

The budget for fiscal year 2015-2016 is presented for your review. The General Fund has received some revenue in back property taxes and telecommunication taxes this year that will help further with our efforts to keep the balance healthy. We will continue to watch spending, while making some improvements to streets and other infrastructure as we are able. Capital improvements, or large expense items are ideally funded from available reserves to avoid financing costs, but we have some capital that will be financed, as well. This financed capital is mostly in the Wastewater Fund.

The budget was recently reviewed and discussed by the Council Finance Committee and some of the major budget items are listed below:

- In Public Works, the Street Improvements Contracts line (construction/repair) was increased this year to $350,000, and a pothole patching machine was budgeted at $65,000.
- In the police department, we do not plan any increases in personnel, but will increase supervisory levels from corporal to sergeant. This is estimated at $13,000 in cost. This move was also encouraged by Midwest Public Risk, our group pool administrator. We also budget $15,000 to remodel the booking/break rooms.
- The Parks Board has budgeted restroom improvements for Park Valley and soccer complex shelter addition. Also, included were funds for a mower replacement and demolition of the old band shell in Recreation Park.
- A cost-of-living adjustment of 2% was included in personnel costs in each fund.
- At the airport, $250,000 was included for a grant that will fund an automated weather station (AWOS) for aircraft management and usage. This will show as revenue, as well as an expense.

- Sewer improvements are carried over this year as design is nearly completed. Most of the construction work to the wastewater plant and part of the collection system will take place in the upcoming fiscal year.
- In the Fire Dept., the per-call pay was adjusted by a few dollars per call. The budget is not much different than last year, and the capital improvements plan will be addressed in upcoming budget years. So, there are no large capital items in this budget for the department.
- The Community Development budget was increased to cover the Community Development Director. In near future, this position will be also doing work as City Inspector, and those costs from that budget should decrease. The City Inspector will be retiring in November. So, for the few months of training time, we have two salaries to pay. After November, we will have only one. We plan to do at least some of our building inspections with a part-time inspector, as opposed to the past practice of using a full-time person. Should the number of building permits increase significantly, we will revisit this plan. We plan to expend more funds promoting Cameron for business, employment and recreational/tourism opportunities. An aggressive economic development plan will help current businesses in Cameron, as well as attract new businesses, creating more jobs and strengthening the tax base in the long term.
- The City's animal shelter is in need of replacement and once we get cost estimates, we will make a budget amendment to include that expense. We are estimating that it will cost about $250,000, but we did not include the estimate in the budget document at this time. A more accurate number will be developed before the amendment is made. This project may take some time to complete, depending on available staff hours.
- We have been building the Transportation Tax Fund to make major improvements for approximately eight blocks of streets in the Lathrop and Sixth St. area. This project has been on the list for quite some time, but we are not financing this work through borrowed money. Since we are paying as we go, we have to be sure that the fund balance can pay for all the work that needs to be done. This fund is also where sidewalk extensions on Walnut, crossing Highway 36 are paid from. The City was awarded a State grant for most of the work, and we will have a matching component that must come from the Transportation Tax Fund. This amount is approximately 20% of the project cost, with the rest coming from MoDOT.

<u>Recommendation</u>

Staff recommends the Council consider the 2015-16 budget for First Reading.

Bill 2015-30

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE CITY OF CAMERON, CLINTON AND DeKALB COUNTIES, MISSOURI BUDGET OF THE ENSUING FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2015 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF CAMERON, CLINTON AND DeKALB COUNTIES, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council hereby has approved and adopted a budget for the fiscal year 2015-2016.

Section 2. The Budget for the fiscal year 2015-2016 is made a part of this ordinance and attached hereto.

Passed and approved on first reading this 17th day of August 2015.
Passed and approved on second reading this _____ day of September 2015.
Passed and approved on third and final reading this _____ day of September 2015.

_____
Mayor Dennis M. Clark

ATTEST:

_____
City Clerk/Finance Clerk

First Reading