

A Special Workshop Meeting of the Otsego City Commission was held Monday, February 15, 2021.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Trobeck at 6:00 p.m. with the following Commissioners present: Stacey Withee, Brent Milhiem, Lauri Krueger and Dustin McNees. Absent: None. Also present: City Manager Mitchell, Finance Director Storbeck, DPW Supervisor Bosch, and Fire Chief Weber.

**A. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

City Manager Mitchell presented the Commission with a PowerPoint presentation of Revenues that covered following areas:

1. REVENUES PRESENTATION
  - A. Uncertainties and Solutions
  - B. Drop in Taxable Value and Revenue
  - C. PPT & LCSA
  - D. TIF

The Commission discussed the following:

- Where the City's revenues come from
- Revenue Uncertainties
- Potential Revenues
- Headlee Amendment
- Revenue Sharing
- Personal Property Taxes
- LCSA Money
- TIF – Tax Increment Financing and the DDA/MS
- Headlee Rollback – Finance Director Storbeck answered questions.
- Current Public Safety Millage
- Charter Mandates and Charter Amendment
- The City's current financial status
- Various avenues to increase revenues
- Fire Department's future needs
- Focus Groups

It was the consensus of the Commission to form a Focus Group, once they have various options in place, and listen to the community's feedback.

The Commission asked Finance Director Storbeck for a millage rate that would make the City whole. The Commission asked City Manager Mitchell to research the process of amending the City Charter.

**REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Fire Chief Weber commented that social media would be a way to reach out to the people and provide the correct information regarding the City's financial status. Mayor Trobeck commented that after the focus groups are formed social media would be a way to feed information to the public. City Manager Mitchell commented that the DDA/MS and Planning Commission needs to be informed and be on the same page. Commissioner Krueger stated that the more transparent we are the better.

## **COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Commissioner McNees commented that this was a fun meeting.

Commissioner Krueger stated that a lot was accomplished tonight at the Workshop Meeting, because of the cancelation of the Regular Meeting, there were no time constraints.

Commissioner Withee stated that the Commission has to be more transparent and “get real with people” communicating that the City does not have as much income as it has in the past.

Commissioner Milhiem commented that he appreciated the candid conversation and that it was great to come together as a Commission and wrap our heads around the revenues. He stated that now the Commission has work to do.

Mayor Trobeck encouraged the Commissioners to listen to the MML presentation on revenues. She asked if anyone was interested in the March MML Convention, which is going to be through Zoom. The possibility of having the Commission come together for the meeting at City Hall was discussed. She asked that the Commissioners contact her if they are interested.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner McNees, seconded by Commissioner Krueger. CARRIED – 7:35 p.m.

Angela M. Cronen, MMC  
City Clerk