

**Cloquet City Council Work Session**  
Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Present: Bjerkness, Kolodge, Langley, Maki, Rock, Wilkinson, Mayor Hallback

Absent: None

Staff: B. Fritsinger, N. Klassen, H. Butcher, C. Peterson

**Preliminary Budget / CIP**

- Mr. Fritsinger began by reviewing the budget procedure used by the City with the process starting in May. Detail discussion on 2017 Sales Tax CIP projects will also take place. The City will maintain the 2016 formula if legislation doesn't have a special session. Mr. Fritsinger also stated there are few items in the tax bill that will have a direct impact on the City.
- The City continues to use a 4 year budget. The 2017 budget will focus on more of the City's goals and priorities. Mr. Fritsinger and Ms. Klassen will discuss budget items with Department Heads throughout the process. Mr. Barclay will work with C. Peterson and L. Peterson on equipment budget items.
- Mr. Fritsinger reviewed the budget steps over several months. The preliminary budget date is September 30<sup>th</sup>. Depending on the status of work done to this point, there may or may not be much discussion if all is realistic.
- In the event that the Scanlon/Cloquet merger proceeds, the budget process will change. In the concept plan, most of the combining will take place in 2018 but remain separate until then.
- Mr. Fritsinger reviewed projects by department over a 10 year time frame. Also reviewed were the various projects upcoming in the CIP that were identified by the Council in 2015 as sales tax priorities. The main focus of the 2017 improvements is the Dunlap Island and Broadway overlay and streetscape projects.

**Other Discussion**

Discussion on the merger and the amount of questions that remain especially with the Knife Falls concerns. Mayor Hallback commented on the amount of money spent on the study only for the possibility for it to be voted down and feels there are too many questions to move forward. Mr. Bjerkness stated the only phone calls councilors receive are negative and we haven't heard enough from the general population to know how they feel. Mr. Fritsinger reminded the Council that the purpose of tonight's Council action will be only if we move forward for a referendum, work towards one in 2-3 years, or to drop the issue.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Fritsinger  
City Administrator