

## **Preliminary Budget Meeting July 17, 2024, at Town Hall**

**Present:** Jan Bowey, Tamara Todd Mayor pro tem, Curtis Green, and Jennifer Meacham Clerk/Treasurer.  
With no guests.

Called to order at 5:35PM

Diane is sick and will not be able to be here for tonight's discussion.

Discussion started with the general fund and the Fire Dept was up first; Tammy suggests \$27,000. Payroll was discussed next, and Clerk/treasurer Jennifer will look into what payroll will be for FY25 and get back with council asap. Discussion turned to what to do about Madison St and what needs to be done with the road. The roughest part of Madison Street is in front of Sheridan Elementary school. The council would like to start at that part of the road first. Labor will be the most expensive, and the town might not be able to get someone here to do it before school starts. There was discussion about doing a road grade which will be a temporary fix, which includes tearing up the road and smoothing it out with dirt/gravel. To pull up the street would cost around \$40,000 if the town did it. It would be much higher if it was contracted out.

There was discussion of zoning board and type of government concerning who might be interested in joining either one. Right now, there are three people who are possibilities for types of government, Doris Fischer is one. Cody Marxer was discussed as a possibility for the zoning board commission.

Water was the next topic, and the council went through the line items. The most expensive being a replacement backhoe, which the funds will be divided from water, sewer, and gas tax. Then discussion turned to getting water lines to 3419 MT HWY 287 and the property DASH Construction is considering purchasing on Washington Street. They will be costly to do but need to be done. Rehab of wells will also be a large expense. The budget for water with loans will be approximately \$151,000 to include reserves.

Sewer budget was next the first being utilities. There is concern about how much utilities were last year and the potential increase for this fiscal year. A priority would be an aerator for the lift station. Getting the generator installed at the manifold building and fenced around was discussed. Budget for sewer is approximately \$242,000 to include reserves.

Moving on to roads and streets budget a priority is getting a new sander for wintery roads. A considerable expense will be dust control for the dirt roads. Budget for roads is approximately \$32,000.

The parks budget was the last part of the budget discussion. Automatic sprinklers at the baseball park were considered along with a new lawn mower. The mower was moved to the next budget, FY26. Getting trees trimmed around town is being looked at. The signpost at the Main St Park has been purchased. The total budget for parks is approximately \$22,000.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Jennifer Meacham