



**CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**Monday, August 24th, 2026
at 4:30 P.M.**

ROLL CALL: Councilors Geissler, Hjelle, LeBlanc, Peterson, and Mayor Boucher

CITY STAFF: John Mulder, City Administrator; Kevin Orme, Director of Finance and Administration; Joe Wicklund, Assistant City Administrator; Jim Crace, Director of Public Safety; Paul Senst, Public Works Director; Zach Graves, Fire Chief

OTHERS: 1 visitor (there was no sign in sheet)

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. 2027 Budget

John Mulder reminded the Council of the Budget process which includes setting the preliminary levy on September 8 and setting the public hearing on the budget for December 7th. The preliminary levy is can go down before December 7th, but cannot be increased. The Council will hold the public hearing on December 7th, but must pass the budget and adopt the levy no later than December 21st

Previously, the City Council has set a goal of trying to have a 0% increase in the tax rate. In order, to accomplish that the City Council would have to cut \$879,000 from the proposed budget as of this date.

The Council focused on Capital Improvements, transfers, and use of fund balance. The general direction to staff was to include fire suppression upgrades, election machines, Fire Dept mobile radios, Police Squad tablets and a loader in the Capital Improvements. The Chiller would be funded using fund balance (a possible combination of General Fund and/or Municipal Building Reserve.).

The Council directed to eliminate the transfers out for Fichtner Park debt and the Municipal Building reserve, but keep the transfer out for Park Dedication.

2. Recess to September 8th, 2026 City Council Meeting: Motion by Councilor LeBlanc, second by Hjelle recess to the September 8, 2026 City Council Meeting. All ayes, motion carried. The meeting recessed at 5:53 pm

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Administrator