

September 2, 2014

The Red Lodge City Council met for a public hearing on September 2, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. This meeting was posted at the Post Office and City Hall and noticed in the legal ads of the Carbon County News. The meeting was called for the following agenda item, Public Hearing for Fiscal Year 2015 Budget and Resolution No. 3373 – Final Budget FY-15. The public hearing was opened at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Williams.

Lee Cooper, 410 S. Platt, commented that she was there as a friend of the Library and stated how important a public library in a community is. Growing up, the library was a refuge from her large family.

Jack Axley, Box 954, Red Lodge, stated that he agreed with what Lee had said.

Jim Ochiltree, Box 597, Kane Circle, wanted to ask the council what the total budgeted revenues and expenses are for the fiscal year 2015. On the revenue side, where the City is projecting revenues to come from. When the Board submitted the budget, they identified revenue sources as County, State, collections and City revenue and how the City's budget handles those particular dollar figures.

Beth Hutchinson, Box 1785, Red Lodge, said she agreed with Lee on how vital a Library is. She would like to see the community support the Library and not fall behind what was available last year.

Mayor Williams closed the public hearing.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS Present: Mayor Williams, Aldermen Mahan, Larson, Labrie, Schoenike and Brown. Absent: Alderman Foisy

RESOLUTION NO. 3373

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF RED LODGE, MONTANA APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015, AS PROPOSED BY THE RED LODGE CITY COUNCIL ON SEPTEMBER 2, 2014.

WHEREAS, the Carbon County Assessor reported that the taxable valuation of the City of Red Lodge for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 is \$6,785,686 and

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 and there were no protests to the adoption of the Budget at a public hearing held on September 2, 2014, at 5:00 p.m.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 is hereby adopted and the total mill levy set at 127.34.

Fund Name	Total Requirement	Non-Tax Resources	Property Tax Revenue	Mills
1000 General	1,999,910	1,289,314	710,596	104.72
2190 Comp. Ins.	86,932	68,747	18,185	2.68
2370 Fire Retire	39,368	39,368		
2371 Health Ins.	115,495	750	114,745	16.91
2372 PERS	83,058	71,455	11,603	1.71
2375 Police Retire	59,029	50,072	8,957	1.32
3020 Fire Truck Levy	25,324	25,324		
2100 Resort Tax	947,600	947,600		
2220 Library	133,008	133,008		
2394 Bldg. Code Enf.	122,129	122,129		
2396 CDBG/HOME	105,351	105,351		

2820 Gas Tax	78,130	78,130
2927 Homeland Sec.	50,000	50,000
2956 ISTEAs	4,839	4,839
4030 Capt. Proj.	532,182	532,182
4031 Ceme.Cpt.Imp.	101,583	101,583
5210 Water Opert.	1,093,400	1,093,400
5310 Sewer Opert.	982,752	982,752
5410 Solid Waste	414,734	414,734
5510 Ambulance	167,868	167,868
7010 Ceme. Trust	4,898	4,898
7050 Dance Pavilion	1,014	1,014
7390 TBID #001	65,824	65,824

Total	7,214,428	6,350,342	864,086	127.34
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Motion by Larson, second by Labrie to approve Resolution No. 3373, a resolution of the City of Red Lodge, Montana approving and adopting the final budget for fiscal year 2014-2015, as proposed by the Red Lodge City Council on September 2, 2014. On roll call vote all Aldermen present voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

Schoenike addressed the questions from the public hearing. The revenues are \$98,500 for the County Mill levy, \$3,750 from the State, \$1,000 from the Library collections, and six mills, worth \$40,714, from the City, for a grand total of \$143,964. This total was an adjustment from what was previously sent out, including the adjustment of the contribution from the City was moved to the full six mills that the Library Board had requested. The amount of revenue from the County was adjusted back to the \$98,500. If the County Mill Levy is higher than the \$98,500, then the excess will still go to the Library.

Brown had a question regarding the \$133,000 that was included on the Resolution. That fund is money that has been bequeathed over time to the Library and can only be used by the Library and has nothing to do with the general budget.

Schoenike also wanted to point out that in addition to the financial support that is given to the Library, the building and the land are also provided by the City. The accounting and payroll services are also provided by the City. The City gives more than just the financial support to the Library.

Schoenike said that the City struggles with the challenge of coming up with a budget to handle everything. There are limited resources and we have a lot of demands. The City has to get their budget below the amount of money available to us and how to balance and prioritize the needs of the City.

Schoenike also wanted to point out that the City tax payers provide services that County residents also use and over the last few years the City has looked into coming up with a more equitable system where the county residences don’t have a free ride on the taxes being paid by the city residents. The Library does receive money from the County Mill levy, which the city tax payers are also paying and they also are paying again for the City taxes. He encouraged the Library Board to look at what possibilities there are for the future and other possible sources, including another mill levy from the County.

Williams wanted to point out that as compared to a year ago the proposed budget is less by \$118,000. Our revenues are flat and the payroll expenses are about a million dollars a year and that will increase by \$50,000 in the coming year and that is if the employees working today are still working a year from today. That includes the raises that are provided in their union contracts and their benefits package that the City provides. He felt that the City will be faced with another difficult upcoming year.

Mahan wanted to thank Lee Cooper for the effort she put into her presentation for the public hearing.

Shoenike wanted to clarify on the Resort Tax budget the total for expenditures are listed as \$947,600, which are more than what we expect to collect and the difference will be taken from Resort Tax reserve.

Shoenike also wanted to point out that in numerous years the Public Works budget has been hit hard. The Water and Sewer enterprise funds are both about a half a million dollars down from last year, some of that is from the expenditures of last year's water project. The streets budget has been cut by \$9,000 and with another cold winter coming upon us, plowing will be an issue and he was concerned for the City's infrastructure if the streets budget is continued to be cut in the future.

Williams mentioned that plowing was a big cost last winter with accumulated overtime and repairs to the 40 year old equipment that continued to break down. With the two new plows being purchased out of Resort Tax, the expenses should go down. In the enterprise funds, they have not had any adjustments to rates and that needs to be looked at.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk