

**City Council Budget Workshop
City Hall, Cherokee, Iowa
February 10, 2014 – 5:30 P.M.**

A budget workshop was called to order on this date by Mayor Murphy. Present: Council members Johnson, Brown, Miller, Pingel, Peck, Administrator Eikmeier, Clerk-Treasurer Taylor.

The council began review of the proposed 2014-15 budget, which takes effect 7/1/14. Administrator Eikmeier reported that most budgets, as presented by Department Supervisors, don't show any major increases over the current year. Department Supervisors from Parks, Recreation/Community Center/Pool, Library and Wastewater, were present to review their budgets and answer questions from the Council. The Park budget includes a request for several new pieces of equipment and funding to level and seal the campground road and Wescott road. The Administrator hopes to have current Park projects completed by June 30, including the new outdoor shelter at Spring Lake Park; trail through Wescott Park; repair or replacement of the Wescott restroom facility; repair of the Wescott shelter; and rerouting of electrical and plumbing in Spring Lake Park as the result of demolition of the old park maintenance buildings. There were no major changes in the budgets for Recreation, Community Center, and Library. The Library Director explained various funding sources for library operations. They receive funds from the County, memorial gifts, and donations from Friends of the Library. Also, the Library Foundation has funded major expenses in the past such as boiler replacement. The Pool budget includes a local match for the possible purchase of an inflatable water feature, the balance to be funded through grant funds. The Administrator then reviewed budgets for Building Inspection, City Council, Mayor/Administrator, Financial Administration, Legal Services, City Hall, and Planning & Zoning. These budgets also remain largely unchanged. The Building Inspection budget includes funding to train an employee to do rental housing inspections. The Wastewater Superintendent was present to review the City and Industrial budgets. There are several large repair/replacement projects needed in the near future for the City's wastewater facilities, including a new influent valve for the treatment plant costing a minimum of \$22,000; updates to the boiler system of about \$20,000; and possibly adding a second chopper at the Beech St. lift at a cost of \$50,000. On the Industrial side, the next major project will be to rebuild the aeration tanks at a cost of \$500,000 - \$800,000. This project will be reviewed with Tyson Foods before proceeding, as they would have to finance the costs.

The next budget workshop will be held on Tuesday, February 11th at 5:30 p.m., preceding the regular city council meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Mark Murphy – Mayor

ATTEST:

Debra Taylor
City Clerk-Treasurer