

THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CIVIL CITY OF NEW ALBANY, INDIANA, HELD A BUDGET HEARING IN THE THIRD FLOOR ASSEMBLY ROOM OF THE CITY/COUNTY BUILDING ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2016 AT 6:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Council Members Mr. Coffey, Mr. Phipps, Mr. Nash, Mr. Aebersold, Mr. Barksdale, Dr. Knable and President McLaughlin. Mr. Coffey and Mr. Blair were absent.

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Gibson, Mrs. Moeller, Police Chief Bailey, David Hall, and Ms. Milburn

Mr. McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

City Clerk

Mr. Gibson stated that this is essentially the same as last year with the 2% increase in salaries that include the clerk and deputy clerk.

Animal Shelter

Mr. Gibson stated that there is a change to both the part-time and full-time salaries because they have two employees moved to full-time but it is close to the same amount. He explained that the main difference they will see is the medical and dental benefits because it hasn't been in there in the past and because of the issues they have had in the past with the budget they thought it important to show exactly what that would cost and what the city has been absorbing.

Mr. Nash asked if it worked out they would get back half of the 571.

Mr. Gibson replied yes. He explained that the other item is for legal and that is Jonathan Leachman for when their violation would need to go to court. He stated that if they do the math the only real difference is the insurance. He explained that Mr. Hall always does a great job on his budget and it's only at 38-40% right now.

Mr. Aebersold asked if the county is aware that this is going into the budget.

Mr. Hall replied yes.

Police

Mr. Gibson stated that this doesn't happen often but their budget is actually less than last year. He explained that there was an arbitration award that was a onetime deal but everything else is close to being the same. He stated that PERF is \$50,000.00 less because the contribution amount from the state dropped. He stated that a few small items increased slightly such as supplies, K-9 supplies, garage supplies, and contractual services.

Mr. Phipps asked how often the officers get new clothing.

Chief Bailey stated that it is a clothing allowance that is in their contract and explained that accounts for two payments per year and any new hires.

Mr. Gibson stated that one item that is not in this budget is vests. He explained that they will have to get new vests next year and it will be about \$50,000.00

Mr. Coffey asked if he wanted to put that in the budget or do an appropriation.

Mr. Gibson stated that he thinks he is going to get it back into this budget and that is what he would like to do but he will keep them updated.

Chief Bailey stated that they have to replace them every five years because the microfibers break down due to normal wear and tear.

Mr. Gibson stated that the revenue is fluid but if there is a change from what they are getting right now he will let them know before the final ordinance is in front of them.

Mr. Phipps stated that they have talked in the past about gradually getting the cars as part of the budget and asked where they are on that.

Mr. Gibson stated that they are not there yet because they don't have enough funds but they are working towards that.

Dr. Knable stated that it looked like it might be 2-3 years out and asked if that was correct.

Chief Bailey stated that they feel like they need 1-1 1/2 full appropriations and then they can start dialing that back. He explained that the new cars are wearing very well but the department had gotten so far behind that it was impossible to fund it.

Mr. Gibson stated that if it can get dialed back to 7-8 cars per year then that would be able to put it in the department's budget.

Dr. Knable asked if all of the officers are carrying NARCAN.

Chief Bailey stated that it isn't something he is prepared to speak about tonight because they haven't received the full research back yet.

Mr. Aegersold asked how many vests they have.

Chief Bailey replied 70.

Mr. Aegersold asked if they can do a rotation on those as well.

Mr. Gibson stated that they did have it in the budget but he took it out because he wasn't sure if they would have the money for it.

Chief Bailey stated that the problem is that they all expire at the same time.

Mr. McLaughlin asked if Dodge will still be making the vehicles.

Chief Bailey stated that he hasn't heard anything different and they have a great product for the best price.

Mr. Barksdale asked about contractual services.

Chief Bailey stated that they have miscellaneous services that come up over the year where they may have to contract out, for example, an expert on a specific case or a contractor to work on cameras. He stated that he has a meeting once a week with the assistant chief and they are very conscious about their numbers.

Mr. Barksdale asked when he anticipates coming to them for the appropriation for the cars.

Chief Bailey stated that within the next two meetings.

Police Merit Commission

Mr. Gibson stated that this is basically the same with a slight increase in the salary for the members and the secretary.

Chief Bailey explained that they recruit, test and interview as well as maintain all the lists for eligibility. He stated that they also manage promotions so it is outside of his authority and it is a good program.

Mr. Gibson stated that they also handle certain disciplinary actions.

Mr. McLaughlin asked if this is common in other communities.

Chief Bailey stated that it is about 50/50 and it is driven by state statute.

Police Pension

Mr. Gibson stated that most of it is funded from the state and they contribute to the fund that supports this. He explained that it is kind of a pass through and they have two employees that the city is obligated for. He stated that it falls under the property tax umbrella so if they ever needed to fund it they would look at the general fund, but they haven't had to do that in several years.

Communications

Mr. Gibson stated that this is the city 911 whenever someone calls in they are directed to this department.

Chief Bailey stated that it funds 13 employees.

Mr. Gibson stated that the only change is in the part-time for call-ins when they get low on staff. He explained that the other items are adjusted for the 2% raise and preferred comp that is a contractual item that was never budgeted for.

Mr. Barksdale asked if they have uniforms.

Chief Bailey replied yes.

Mr. Coffey asked if they get any 911 funds for this even though it is collected and the money goes to the commissioners who decide where it is going to go. .

Mr. Gibson replied no.

Mr. Coffey asked if this is something the county wants to take over why they don't let them have it.

Mr. Gibson stated that it is a good policy question but it might be a little heavy for them to discuss tonight.

Mr. Coffey stated that he is just throwing it out there for them to discuss it at some point because it should be coming out of the 911 fund that the county is getting but they are paying for it out of their EDIT.

Chief Bailey stated that his feelings are that services get diluted with larger centers and it makes it more difficult on the providers so he wouldn't personally be in favor of it.

Dr. Knable asked what happens if they get kicked back to the county or if they are transferred.

Chief Bailey stated that they have a direct transfer so the call is never dropped.

Mr. Gibson stated that they have run the numbers to show what the city has paid over the last ten years for the animal shelter and passed out the numbers to the council. Said summary sheet is on file with the city clerk's office.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Pat McLaughlin, President

Mindy Milburn, Deputy City Clerk