



City of Fort Wright Public Hearing
Wednesday, October 2, 2019 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The public hearing was called to order at 6:03 PM by Mayor Hatter. Mayor Hatter led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence. City Clerk Susan Ellis called the roll.

Councilman Abeln	Here
Councilman Feinauer	Here
Councilman Wall	Here
Councilman Weber	Here
Councilman Wessels	Here
Councilwoman Witt	Here

Also present for the meeting were:

City Administrative Officer Jill Bailey
City Attorney Todd McMurtry
Police Chief Marc Schworer
Police Captain Jonathan Colwell
Fire/EMS Chief Steve Schewe
City Clerk Susan Ellis

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Hatter reviewed spreadsheet tools he developed. He explained that this was an historical analysis rather than just taking a guess. The budget was realigned this year, so some items do not line up the way they have in the past. He proposed turning this over to Finance Committee to make this part of the regular review process. The date should become more accurate over time. This will allow for examination of the historical rate of increase vs. a more realistic view of what may happen.

Mayor Hatter also expressed the need to implement an investment program. He recommended that the Finance Committee discuss this with a consultant with expertise in investing for guidance and advice.

Other points of discussion included:

- Improvement of the spreadsheet tools over time.
- The compounding affect over 10 years tends to get unrealistic.
- In 10 years, a \$2 million surplus is projected even with the projected pension increases
- Pension and health insurance costs are unable to control. A 9% increase in the cost of health insurance becomes 8% of budget.
- CIP expenses this year are higher than normal because of Amsterdam project. Usually at much lower number such as 60,000.
- Fort Wright is currently in an extremely sound condition with good revenues. \$2 million of the revenue is business related from gross receipts, occupational, and payroll taxes.
- Gross property values have increased in the last 7 years by 2.9%. Exemptions and net assessments have also increased.
- Concern for the loss in road aid. The trend is showing decreasing revenue.
- Proposal of keeping the tax rates the same as last year and concern regarding keeping tax rates the same as this year's budget was based on the compensating rate.
- Compounding formulas on the spreadsheet tools and future value calculations.
- Separation of property tax revenue and personal property tax revenue in the budget.
- Making sure operating expenses under control. Capital expenses can be put off.

Mayor Hatter proposed not taking any tax increase at all recognizing that the City would be picking up the historical 2.9% increase. With the upcoming property assessment and new development, the revenues should increase even more. Tax rates would remain .279 for property tax and .409 for personal property tax.

Mayor Hatter also expressed the importance of focusing on developing a conservative investment plan. KRS has guidelines and KLC has resources to assist with this.

There were no citizen comments during the public hearing.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

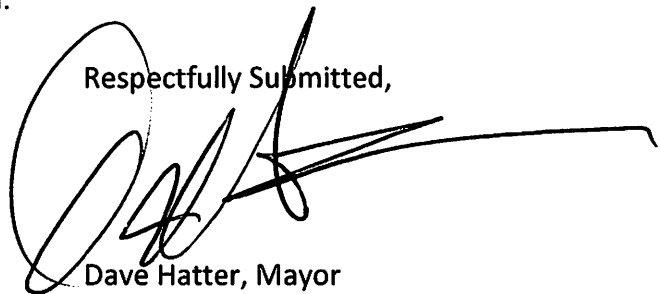
Councilman Wessels made a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing. Councilman Feinauer made a second. City Clerk Susan Ellis called the roll.

Councilman Abeln	Yes
Councilman Feinauer	Yes
Councilman Wall	Yes
Councilman Weber	Yes
Councilman Wessels	Yes
Councilwoman Witt	Yes

MOTION CARRIED

The Public Hearing was adjourned at 6:51 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Dave Hatter, Mayor.

Dave Hatter, Mayor

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Susan Ellis, City Clerk.

Susan Ellis, CMC, KCMC
City Clerk