



Minutes
Committee No. 1
Revenues, Disbursements, Water and Wastewater
November 10, 2010

Committee #1 – Revenues, Disbursements, Water and Wastewater met on Wednesday, November 10, 2010 at 5:30 PM in Council Chambers, City Hall, 30 West Central Street, Chippewa Falls, WI.

Committee/Council Members Present: Michael Dahlby, Brian Flynn, Bill Hicks, Jane Lardahl, George Adrian.

Other Attendees: Police Chief Wendy Stelter, Public Works Director/Utility Manager Rick Rubenzer, Chamber President Mike Jordan, Chamber Tourism Representative Allyson Gommer, Fire Chief Tom Larson (arrived at 6:10 PM), Parks & Recreation Director Bill Faherty (arrived at 7:03 PM) Chamber Tourism Representative Allyson Gommer.

The meeting was called to order at: 5:31 PM.

Item #1: Discuss the City's room tax ordinance and the room tax agreement between the City and Chippewa Falls Chamber of Commerce. Possible recommendations to the Council.

The Committee summarized the three main items that need to be decided: 1) the percentage of room tax kept by the City as well as the percentage forwarded to the Chamber; 2) the term of the new contract; and 3) the status of the Board member. Jane Lardahl presented her concerns about the expenses that could justify the City keeping a larger portion of the room tax as well as the proposed status of the ex-officio Board member. Mike Jordan referred to a lease agreement between the City and the Chamber entered into in 1998 or 1999 when the visitor's center was established and indicated some of the tourism expenses submitted in the tourism's budget were based on that agreement. Committee members felt the two year time frame would allow staff to analyze costs that could be offset by room tax revenues. They also discussed communication efforts between the Chamber and the City so the City is aware of how the room tax funds are being utilized.

Motion by Flynn/Hicks, all present voting aye, to recommend the Council enter into a two year contract with the Chippewa Falls Chamber of Commerce to administer room tax funds for the City. The City's room tax rate will remain at 6% of gross receipts as stated in the City's current ordinance, Section 3.13 (2), with 5% of the gross receipts retained by the hotel/motel operator and the balance forwarded to the City. Of that amount, 8% will be retained by the City and 92% will be forwarded to the Chamber to be spent for tourism promotion and development as allowed by State Statutes. In addition, the City will retain their membership on the Chamber Tourism Committee and the City Council will receive a minimum of quarterly reports on the activities of the tourism board from either the City's tourism representative or the Chamber representative. **Motion carried.**

Item #2: Discuss 2011 budget issues including proposed revenues and expenses. Possible recommendations to the Council.

The Committee discussed the proposed revenue and expenditure budgets. Expense items not included in the budget will be discussed in a meeting prior to the public hearing to determine if they should be factored into the 2011 budget. Issues relating to reduced State aids, levy limits, health insurance increases and the time frame of labor negotiations were also discussed. No action taken.

Item #3: Adjournment.

Motion by Flynn/Hicks, all present voting aye, to adjourn at 7:42 PM. **Motion carried.**

Minutes submitted by:
Lynne Bauer, Finance Mgr.