

City of Fairfield, Iowa Ways and Means Committee Meeting

Wednesday, July 24, 2013 3:30 p.m.

In attendance:

Committee members: Connie Boyer, Daryn Hamilton, John Revolinski (Chair)

Kevin Flanagan, Derik Wulfekuhle, Martha Rasmussen, David Johnson (Library Board), Scott Timm

Library Solar Project

Discussion of proposal to borrow \$43,447 to purchase and install solar array on Library roof. Alliant Energy will contribute an additional \$23,447 to the project from its Hometown Rewards Program which will bring the loan balance down to \$20,000. The loan will be repaid from energy savings. Unanimous vote to recommend approval to the Council

Ambulance Board

The committee reviewed research by the City Administrator on how other communities cover the shortfall in ambulance operations. We have the only 28E agreement that he found. Currently our ambulance budget has a projected \$35,000 deficit in addition to the need for new ambulance(s). This is after the county's \$25,000 contribution. Because the City budget is already set for the coming year, and because in the past the city contributed less than other 28E partners, the committee unanimously agreed to recommend to the Council to direct the City Administrator to find a creative way for the City to contribute \$10,000 to the current years' operation.

Park and Rec Request

Request from Park and Rec Director to create and fund an Assistant Parks & Recreation Director position which will be filled by Jody Kessel. Ms. Kessel would receive a pay increase from \$12.85 to \$15.00 per hour, or from \$26,728 per year to \$31,200.

Derik offered to fund the salary increase for the coming year by pulling money away from Park and Rec budget line item #001-6-440-6799 (for a PA system in Central Park) by finding donations to replace that line item.

Move to recommend the increase to the Council by Boyer, second by Hamilton. Revolinski voted no on grounds that the increase was unsolicited by the employee and seems to be a needless escalation of spending in a time when the City faces so many fiscal challenges.