



- Mr. Daniel noted the deficiencies of the RNR calculation, specifically that it did not account for properties changed in use or formerly abated properties re-entering on the tax roll. There is also no consideration for CPI and inflationary changes from year-to-year. His main point was that the RNR as designed is a disincentive for growth.
- Mr. Daniel reviewed the Wyandotte County-calculated RNR mill levy, 38.0479, which is about 3.6 mills less than the current year. Mr. Daniel noted that should the City maintain its current mill levy, the average homeowner would pay \$1,366.46 in annual property taxes, vs. paying \$1,247.02 under the RNR.
- Councilmember Bishop asked on the impacts to the City. Mr. Daniel noted that the City would relinquish about \$353,791 in the City's General Fund. This assumes that any mill reduction would come through the City's General Fund rather than its debt service fund.
- Mr. Daniel noted that the General Fund is the City's primary fund for City operations and employee payroll. Roughly 75% of the General Fund is made up of salaries and benefits.
- Mr. Daniel outlined possible next steps, which included no action and accepting the RNR as calculated or adopting the proposed Resolution, which would cap the mill levy at the current rate, ensuring there would be no tax rate increase. The City Council could then move to lower the mill levy from there.
- Mayor Caiharr requested cost data on the average home value for City property taxes over the last 4-5 years.
- Mr. Daniel reviewed the FY24 Budget Priorities, noting that employee compensation and staffing would be the major items effected by a mill reduction. He stressed the need to retain good staff and attract quality new staff.
- There was additional discussion regarding tax reduction vs. tax burden reduction.
- Councilmember Adcox requested that all efforts be made to not increase the tax rate. Mr. Daniel noted that the proposed resolution would guarantee that the tax rate (and subsequently the tax burden) would not increase with the FY24 Budget.
- Mayor Caiharr asked that staff consider other tangential benefits other than pay that would make someone want to work for the City. She noted that potential scheduling changes.
- Councilmember Shriver asked for the mill levy comparison tables that had been presented in previous years.
- Mayor Caiharr asked when this action regarding the RNR resolution needed to be done. Mr. Daniel noted that the proposed resolution is ready for action at this meeting but that the deadline is July 20.
- **Motion:** Councilmember Bishop made the motion to adopt Resolution 2023-06 with the addition of a 6:15 start time for the Public Hearing on the on August 28
- **Second:** Councilmember Scott seconded the motion
- **Vote:** Passes, 5-0
- Mr. Daniel reviewed the budget development calendar. There was general consensus to hold a Council work session regarding the budget beginning at 5:00 PM on July 10.

## 6. City Manager Report

- City Manager Michael Webb noted the speed limit sign updates at the UP-RR crossing. He's hoping the issue gets resolved soon.

## 7. Council and Mayor Comments

Councilmember Bishop reviewed the recent activity related to the facilities planning, noting it has been a positive experience so far. He also encouraged Councilmember Adcox to attend LKM training to help her become a better elected official.

Councilmember Adcox noted she was thankful for being selected and happy to serve.

Councilmember Mellott remarked that the budget process is a difficult one but noted his emphasis on making sure employee compensation stays competitive for the good work City employees do. He asked about the timing for the upcoming road projects and demo work. Mr. Webb provided an update. He closed by thanking the people who put together the reunion at the City Park. He thanked staff for their work cleaning up the site.

Councilmember Shriver encouraged people to be safe over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. She welcomed Councilmember Adcox to the group and thanked the student and Education Foundation representatives.

Councilmember Scott recommended some sign-up protocols to speak before the City Council to keep staff and elected officials from being uninformed about potential issues. There was additional discussion on the proposed service contract between departing City Manager Mike Webb and the City to act as a point of contact for specific City projects.

Mayor Caiharr noted that the County recently sent out information related to the City's first early voting site, which will be at the Community Center. She thanked staff for following up with the River Falls. She noted the work that the CPPS Board was involved them and thanked them for their efforts. She thanked the student for her artwork.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Zachary Daniel  
City Clerk