

**MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP MEETING
CITY COUNCIL
LITTLE CANADA, MINNESOTA**

AUGUST 25, 2021

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof a Workshop meeting of the City Council of Little Canada, Minnesota was convened on the 25th day of August, 2021 in the Conference Room of the City Center located at 515 Little Canada Road in said City.

Mayor John Keis called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and the following members of the City Council were present at roll call:

CITY COUNCIL: Mayor Keis, Council Members Fischer, Torkelson, McGraw & Miller. Absent: None.

ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Chris Heineman, Finance Director Brenda Malinowski, Public Works Director Bill Dircks, Parks & Rec/Community Services Manager Bryce Shearen, Community Development Director Corrin Wendell, and City Clerk/HR Manager Heidi Heller

PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF 2022 PROPOSED BUDGET & LEVY

The Finance Director reviewed how the 2022 budget relates to the Strategic Plan. She explained that tonight's discussion is to review the 2022 General Fund Operating Budget and Property Tax Levy. She stated that the preliminary 2022 operating levy currently has a 6.19% gross levy increase. She noted that while this is a higher increase than initially discussed earlier this year, there are ways to reduce the impact on taxpayers. Fischer asked if any of the COVID relief funds could be used for one-time uses. The Finance Director stated that the ARPA funds can potentially be used for street and park improvement projects and some revenue replacement.

The Finance Director stated that police services use 42% of the City's General Fund expenditures. City Staff reviewed the individual departmental categories: Mayor & Council, Administration, General Government-Other, Community Development, Public Safety, Public Works streets & stormwater, Shade Tree/Emerald Ash Borer, Parks & Community Services. She reviewed optional ways to reduce the levy, and noted there could be an increase in proposed building permit revenues due to some larger building projects occurring.

Keis stated that 6.72% is at the very high end of what he would consider, and stated that he sees reducing it in multiple ways.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

John T. Keis, Mayor

Attest:

Christopher Heineman, City Administrator