

**CITY OF RANIER
RANIER CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING RE: 2018 DRAFT BUDGET FOR GENERAL FUND
NOVEMBER 28, 2017**

REVENUE

1. Lodging Tax revenue reduced – Woody’s Resort will close in March.
2. Building Permits – increased fees in 2017.
3. Small Cities Development Program – a portion of funds from a deferred loan was repaid and will be available for rehabilitation. KOOTASCA will work with us on this project.
4. MN State Peace Officer Aid – not sure if we will get this every year – so did not add to the budget.
5. MNHS – grant for historical consultant to complete nomination form for Ranier Community Building to the National Historic Registry was received in 2017 but will be deferred income in 2018.
6. Small Cities Assistance for Roads - \$8397 funded by Legislature 2017-2019. Councilmember Coulombe suggests creating a separate Road Fund where specific funds for roads would be allocated. The unused funds from 2017 budgeted to streets and roads could be transferred to the Road Fund. In addition, the Small Cities Assistance for Roads funds could be allocated to the Road Fund. Discussed with accountant – he stated that we need to set up a Debt Service fund for the GO Revenue Note to pay out the debt service payments. Money would be deposited in the Debt Service fund from property taxes. In addition, a Capital Improvement Fund would be set up where the bond proceeds would be deposited. Payments for road construction would be made out of this fund.
7. KEDP aid comes from Koochiching County to be used for tourism and economic development.
8. Town Hall rent rates were increased 25% from 2017. Raised revenue to \$10,000.
9. Ranier Rec Club donations are dedicated to rink expenses.
10. Transfer from Liquor Fund to Water/Sewer Fund of \$20,000.

EXPENSES

11. Council/Board – **increase dues to \$1150 to more accurately reflect the expenses.**
12. Elections – need to fund for 2018 elections.
13. Clerk – built in 2% wage increase. No raise since 2015.
14. City Clerk Other – Increase Duplicating and copying supplies to \$2950. Decrease postage to \$525.
15. Clerk Benefits – increased 2%.
16. Accounting – increase to \$7800
17. Insurance premiums – slight increase for GL
18. General Government Wages – built in 3% to Nick and 2% to Jane. No raises since 2015. Have enough in “leftover” to increase Nick to 5% which would be a total of \$1375.
19. General Government Employee Benefits – increased by 3%. Could increase to 5% - around \$200.
20. A new (used) work truck is needed. If we also purchased a v-plow, we could save on paying the contractor to plow the parking lots and alleys (spent around \$4000 so far in 2017). Currently \$16,000 is budgeted for a new truck (adding an additional \$3000 to the truck from the snowplowing budget). Will need to look into how to purchase a decent truck and plow for the city. Wants a ¾ ton Chevy or Ford work truck, gas engine, extended cab to put tools in cab rather than in bed of truck. **Councilmember Dunbar will take the lead in looking for a used truck.**
21. Rink Expenses – same. Minimum wage will increase to \$9.65.
22. Park Expenses – increased wages commiserate with more hours worked. Can add more to Park Expenses.
23. SCDP – Deferred loan program can be spent on a home rehabilitation project to qualifying homeowners.
24. \$7716 is budgeted to the “Special Items.” “Special Items” money has been reserved as sort of an overflow to have \$ available for unforeseen projects or can increase other expenses for other items. **Decrease by \$150.**

A recommendation was made by Coulombe; seconded by Wilcox and carried unanimously to approve the proposed budget reviewed tonight with the changes made as described above.