

**THE OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GERING CITY COUNCIL,
SEPTEMBER 7, 2022**

A special meeting of the City Council of Gering, Nebraska was held on September 7, 2022 at 5:05 p.m. at Gering City Hall Council Chambers, 1025 P Street, Gering, NE. Present were Mayor Kaufman and Councilmembers Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison and Cowan. Also present were City Administrator Pat Heath, Acting Finance Director Liz Loutzenhiser, Deputy Finance Director Cheri Hutchison and City Clerk Kathy Welfl. Absent was Councilmember Smith. Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in the Star-Herald, the designated method of giving notice. All proceedings hereafter were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public except as otherwise indicated.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kaufman called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. A quorum of the Council was present and City business could be conducted.

1. Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer
2. Roll Call

OPEN MEETINGS ACT - NEB.REV.STAT. CHAPTER 84, ARTICLE 14

Mayor Kaufman stated: As required by State Law, public bodies shall make available at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room. Agenda items may be moved up or down on the agenda at the discretion of the Mayor. As required by State Law, additions may not be made to this agenda less than 24 hours before the beginning of the meeting unless they are considered under this section of the agenda and Council determines that the matter requires emergency action.

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Public Hearing for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers and citizens relating to the City of Gering Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Proposed Budget

Mayor Kaufman opened a public hearing for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers and citizens regarding the City of Gering Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Proposed Budget at 5:07 p.m.

Mayor Kaufman stated the following:

FY23 Budgeted Gov't Wide Total Revenues net of transfers \$29,661,422 (increase due sales tax revenue projections and LB357 sales tax, 7% property tax valuation increases on residential property).

FY22 Budgeted Gov't Wide Total Revenues net of transfers \$28,510,984 (increase from prior year due to ARPA funds, sales tax revenue projections, Muni Equalization payments from State).

FY23 Budgeted Revenues - General Fund only \$5,442,357 (includes enterprise transfer in of \$1.9M and \$600,000 sales tax revenue, no transfers in from sinking fund for capital purchases).

FY22 Budgeted Revenues - General Fund only \$5,282,657 (includes enterprise transfer in of \$1.93M and \$503,027 transfer in of sales tax revenue, no transfers in from sinking fund for capital purchases).

FY23 Budgeted Property Tax Revenues \$1,907,582.

FY22 Budgeted Property Tax Revenues \$1,767,985.

FY23 Budgeted Sales Tax Revenues \$2,160,000 (includes estimated LB357 sales tax of \$350,000).

FY22 Budgeted Sales Tax Revenues \$1,618,054.

FY23 Budgeted Enterprise Transfers \$1,960,000.
FY22 Budgeted Enterprise Transfers \$1,990,000.

FY23 Budgeted Gov't Wide Total Expenditures \$42,133,252 (includes capital expenditures of \$9,213,021 debt service \$1,007,128, contingencies \$1,000,000).

FY22 Budgeted Gov't Wide Total Expenditures \$37,613,025 (includes cap exp \$5,349,027 debt service \$1,210,679, contingencies \$750,000).

FY23 Budgeted Total Operating Expenses (excludes debt and capital expense) \$28,841,858 (largest increase was payroll and benefits 3.5%) COLA - \$533,961, increase in health insurance expense of 10% (cost approx. \$148,686), 11.0% increase in property insurance, 5.5% increase in liability insurance and work comp insurance 5.0% increase.

FY22 Budgeted Total Operating Expenses (excludes debt and capital expense) \$27,586,219 (largest increase was payroll and benefits 4%) COLA - \$241,420, also includes 5% increase in work comp insurance expense, 12.6% increase in property and vehicle insurance across all funds and 8% increase in liability insurance across all funds), additional expense budgeted for insurance repairs for hail storms.

FY23 Budgeted Expenses - General Fund \$5,497,679 (includes \$15,000 in capital expenditures and \$45,421 in transfers out).

FY22 Budgeted Expenses - General Fund \$5,305,159 (includes \$22,000 in capital expenditures and \$45,421 in transfers out).

FY23 Budgeted operating expense General Fund without capital improvements or contingency \$5,437,258.

FY22 Budgeted operating expense General Fund without capital improvements or contingency \$5,283,159.

FY23 Budgeted FTEs authorized 87

FY22 Budgeted FTEs authorized 86

Mayor Kaufman asked if anyone in the Council Chambers wished to speak regarding the Fiscal Year 23 proposed budget and if so to please state their name for the record. Hearing none, Mayor Kaufman asked again if anyone wished to speak regarding the proposed FY23 Budget. With no further comments, the administrative record was closed and the public hearing closed at 5:14 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION: None.

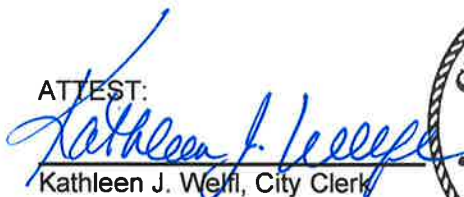
(Council reserves the right to enter into closed session if deemed necessary.)

ADJOURN:

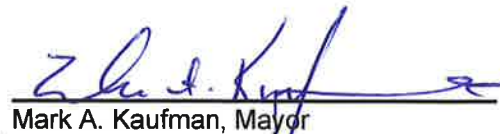
Motion to adjourn by Councilmember Gillen. Second by Councilmember Wiedeman. There was no discussion. Mayor Kaufman called the vote. "AYES": Gillen, Backus, Bohl, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Cowan. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Smith. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

ATTEST:


Kathleen J. Welfl, City Clerk




Mark A. Kaufman, Mayor