**NORA SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP SESSION**

**Monday, February 5, 2024 at City Hall at 6:00 p.m.**

Mayor Randy Hassman, called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm with the following members present: Dain Mann, Dewey Koch, Sarah Avery, Andrew Hicok, and Steven Bailey.

Others Present: Bill Van Hauen, Renee Bartling, Al Brallier, Gladys Brallier, Alice O’Toole

Bailey made a motion to approve the agenda. Second by Hicok, all ayes. Motion carried.

Council discussed the budget packets that Martin presented. Which three of the council new to budget time it was decided to go line item by line item. Martin explained the water rate and sewer rate review was for council to see if what the city charges for base and usage rates will cover the budget numbers. Martin talked about the employee benefits spreadsheets and employee wage spreadsheets. On the wage report Martin calculated a 5% raise for each employee and explained this could be changed it was just a number that she used to calculate employee wages and benefits from.

There was discussion about continuing budgeting for a second officer. At this time, council agreed that a second officer was not something that is realistic at this time. Chief Dugan said it’s hard to compete with surrounding police department starting wages.

Council discussed using some of the general funds for hiring a second full-time public works employee. Martin stated her concern about using general funds for public works. Right now, public works employees are paid out of Road Use Tax. Martin discussed how employee benefits would be affected with employee levy if the city pursues using general fund for public works employees. Council asked to have the numbers moved around with public works director being payed 90% from Road Use and 10% General and a second full time public works employee 50% from Road Use and 50% General funds. Martin will work on this and have it at the next budget meeting.

Discussion continued with library, police, aquatic center, public works, and employee benefits. Council agreed to have an additional budget workshop February 8th to continue discuss and to make sure the city in on track with the max levy requirements.

Motion by Bailey to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 pm. Second by Koch, all ayes.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Ashley Martin, City Administrator Randy Hassman, Mayor