

(The following is a synopsis of the minutes of the West Branch City Council meeting. The full text of the minutes is available for inspection at the City Clerk's office. The minutes are not approved until the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting.)

**West Branch, Iowa
Council Chambers**

City Council Work Session #1

**February 2, 2016
9:17 p.m.**

Mayor Roger Laughlin called the West Branch City Council Work Session meeting to order at 9:17 p.m. Roll call: Mayor Roger Laughlin was present. Council members: Jordan Ellyson, Colton Miller, Brian Pierce, Tim Shields, and Mary Beth Stevenson were present. Laughlin welcomed the audience and the following City staff: City Administrator Matt Muckler, Deputy City Clerk Leslie Brick, Finance Officer Gordon Edgar, Police Chief Mike Horihan, Park & Recreation Director Melissa Russell and Public Works Director Matt Goodale.

FY 2017 Budget Session.

The budget presented continues the aggressive debt reduction of the past few years and is the first budget in which the General Fund has not subsidized bond payments for debt related to costs of constructing improvements and extensions to the City's water system in 2005. Local option sale tax revenue continues to come in strongly. General Fund Revenue will be down slightly from last year but property taxes and the overall revenue estimate are up slightly. The proposed compensation schedule is \$13,000 less than the previously submitted schedule due to a 6.6% reduction in group health insurance rates vs. FY16. The Council directed Muckler to include 3% for his salary increase. Muckler noted this budget has proven to be tighter than previous budgets. Some of the items that were not able to be funded in this year's budget proposal included a road construction project on East Green Street, additional funding for playground equipment in Wapsi Creek Park, a radio for the police department, additional advertising to promote West Branch, and consulting services in the administration budget.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting by Ellyson, second by Shields. Motion carried on a voice vote. City Council Work Session meeting adjourned at 10:27 p.m.

Roger Laughlin, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Leslie Brick, Deputy City Clerk