

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

AUGUST 9, 2023

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof a Workshop meeting of the City Council of Little Canada, Minnesota was convened on the 9th day of August, 2023 in the Council Chambers of the City Center located at 515 Little Canada Road in said City.

Mayor Tom Fischer 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 Fischer, Council Members T. Miller, Gutierrez, Kwapick and D. Miller. Absent: None.

ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Chris Heineman, Parks & Rec/Community Services Director Bryce Shearen, Finance Director Sam Magureanu, Community Relations Manager Laura Linehan and City Clerk/HR Manager Heidi Heller.

DISCUSS PRELIMINARY 2024 BUDGET

The City Administrator explained that what is being discussed tonight is the operating budget which affects the levy amount. The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is a separate budget that does not affect the levy. He stated this is the first discussion of the 2024 budget with the Council and the preliminary levy must be adopted and certified to Ramsey County no later than September 30, 2023. Fischer explained that the final levy adopted in December cannot exceed the adopted preliminary levy, but it could be less. The City Administrator pointed out that public safety costs for police and fire services make up 53.4% of the city's budget.

The Finance Director reviewed the current estimated city tax capacity for 2024 which is an increase of almost 13% from 2023. He noted this amount could change slightly before the final budget it adopted. He explained that tax capacity (or tax base) values increase because of building improvements, increased assessed property values and adding new homes and commercial buildings. He reviewed the changes to revenues and expenditures proposed, and noted there will be a large increase in 2024 for the amount of Local Government Aid (LGA) the city receive. He stated the LGA funds have been split between the General Fund and the CIP Fund 400 so Council can make the final determination on the percentages allocated to each fund. He reviewed the items that will increase the budget and ways to reduce the levy. There was Council consensus to further discuss the budget before the preliminary levy is adopted.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Thomas Fischer, Mayor

Attest:

Christopher Heineman, City Administrator