

City of Forks  
Council Meeting Minutes Special Session  
City Council Chambers  
500 East Division Street  
November 12, 2019

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Budget Workshop was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Fletcher.

**ROLL CALL**

Council members present: Preston, Brager, Soha, Hillcar, Weissenfels, and Mayor Fletcher. Staff present: Grafstrom, Clerk/Treasurer, Rowley, Police Chief and Hampton, Public Works Director. Absent: Fleck, Attorney/Planner

**2019 Budget Workshop**

Clerk/Treasurer Grafstrom began the Budget Workshop by reading a memo she had prepared beforehand, adding additional information and explanations as she read. One very important thing to keep in mind is that the City is still in negotiations with the Teamsters regarding police and corrections contracts. This makes effective discussion of many aspects of the proposed budget very difficult.

Police Chief Rowley explained the budget he has proposed for his department. He hopes to hire a couple of new people for both the police department and corrections that will stay for a while as the hiring process is quite expensive. This would additionally relieve overtime expenses and employee burnout. His ultimate goal is to make the Forks Police Department self-sufficient by eliminating debt as quickly as possible and beginning to establish a pool that could be used to make the necessary purchases or repairs, and eliminate the need for loans. He has eliminated one patrol position in his department so that funds previously budgeted for that position can be used elsewhere, but he does hope to re-establish that position in the future.

Council Member Brager prepared a handout which analyzed variances between 2019 budgeted amounts versus 2020. Most of his questions were answered, with a few requiring additional research.

Clerk/Treasurer Grafstrom proceeded to review pages 10 through 21 of the proposed budget packet, which include all of the general fund departments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn by Hillcar, second Preston, motion carried. The Budget Workshop was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

  
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Audrey Grafstrom, Clerk/Treasurer

  
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Tim Fletcher, Mayor