

September 13, 2017
Garnett, Kansas

The Governing Body of the City of Garnett met in special session on September 13, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall with the following present: W. Gordon Blackie, Mayor; Jody M. Cole and Greg A. Gwin, City Commissioners; Christopher T. Weiner, City Manager; and Kristina L. Kinney, City Clerk. Whereupon the written request for said meeting as signed by Commissioners Cole, Gwin and Blackie was read as follows:

We, the undersigned, Commissioners of the City of Garnett, Kansas respectfully request that a special meeting of the Governing Body of the City of Garnett, Kansas be held at City Hall at 7:30 p.m. on September 13, 2017 for the purpose of considering the following items, to-wit:

1. Budget workshop
2. Any other lawful business to come before the Governing Body

Signed:

W. Gordon Blackie
Jody M. Cole
Greg A. Gwin

The Clerk was instructed to enter such request at length on the journal.

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m. by Mayor Blackie.

Commissioner Gwin stated that the budget calls for a .506 mill increase. The assessed valuation has gone up which is good, however he wanted it noted that he objects to the mill increase and prefers to hold the line at our current mills.

City Manager Christopher Weiner reviewed the State budget forms and format. He reported that the budget fund changes show the true cost for operating each department.

City Manager Weiner stated we need at least three (3) months of operational funds to operate. City Manager Weiner noted we need to look at increasing water rates on January 1, 2018 due to the water plant project, as well as a sewer rate increase to cover costs. Electric and gas are our only utility that we could possibly lower.

Commissioner Gwin stated there is no way citizens could save money on their taxes, however if the utility rates are increased citizens could regulate their usage or look at

more energy efficient options. City Manager Weiner stated he would like to have a fixed source of revenue versus low revenue due to weather and less usage. The utility services and operations are fixed costs. The \$2.00 base meter charge for gas does not cover costs. The variable charge is based on usage. We need to recoup our natural gas charges we pay in the meter charge. He is looking at making a recommendation to set the base rate higher, and lower the usage charges.

There being no further business to come before the Governing Body, Mayor Blackie adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

s/ W. Gordon Blackie
Mayor

Attest:

s/ Kristina L. Kinney
City Clerk