

**ABSTRACT/SYNOPSIS OF THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF THE OFFICIAL
ACTIONS OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITEWATER,
WALWORTH AND JEFFERSON COUNTIES, WISCONSIN.**

August 31, 2010.

The special meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Council President Singer. MEMBERS PRESENT: Olsen, Butler, Binnie, Singer, Kienbaum, Stewart. MEMBERS ABSENT: Winship. LEGAL COUNSEL PRESENT: Wallace McDonell.

REVIEW OF 2010 BUDGET. Brunner introduced the meeting as a general review of the budget with development of a timeline and direction from Council. No action was to be taken by Council at this meeting. Finance Director Doug Saubert presented the figures that affect the budget for the next year with comments from Brunner. Brunner indicated that in order to continue the level of services currently enjoyed by the citizens of Whitewater, there will need to be better ways found to fund local government. He added, as an example, that 40-50% of the budget is related to public safety and perhaps a fee for these services as opposed to a tax might eventually be one way to more effectively raise funds.

REVIEW OF REFUSE RECYCLING FINANCING ALTERNATIVES. Brunner reviewed the current program and indicated that the current contract with John's Disposal will expire at the end of the year. A three-year contract will be brought before the Council for approval as a part of the budget process. Brunner introduced alternatives to the property tax for financing, including "pay as you throw", trash pickup as a fee on the property tax bill, or as a charge to be billed and sent out along with the water and sewer bill. An additional fee for bulky items could also be considered. A discussion by Council ensued. More information on these options will be presented at a future meeting.

GENERAL DISCUSSION REGARDING 2011 BUDGET PROCESS AND REQUEST FOR DIRECTION FROM COUNCIL REGARDING UPCOMING BUDGET. Brunner's first question was concerning service levels. Council suggested that janitorial costs for City buildings could be lowered, or job-sharing with other governmental agencies could occur (ie. University, Townships). It was suggested that Neighborhood Services could look for efficiencies in how their services are provided. Brunner then asked Council for their opinions on fees, charges and special assessments. This was followed by a question concerning what percentage amount Council feels should be kept in the General Reserve. He then asked if the Contingency Fund, kept at 1% of budget, is at the correct level. He asked for the Council's feelings concerning possibly raising the levy limit. There were suggestions ranging from 0% to 2%, most feeling that it would be desirable to have no increase in levy limit. Brunner then asked if Councilmembers had any suggestions for what services could be cut. Reduction in Parks and Recreation funding or sharing with the School District was suggested. It was suggested that Police Administration and Investigation funds could be reduced. The possibility of contracting out for Wastewater, Water or other Public Works services was suggested. Brunner's last question was concerning non-represented employees and possible raises for next year. As previously agreed, those employees will be getting a 2.5% increase effective 12/31/10. City Manager Brunner mentioned the possibility of furloughs. The passing on of additional health insurance

costs to employees was also mentioned. Brunner indicated that a budget will be submitted to Council on October 12th.

ADJOURNMENT. It was moved by Olsen and seconded by Stewart to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm. AYES: Olsen, Butler, Stewart, Binnie, Singer, Kienbaum. NOES: None. ABSENT: Winship.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michele Smith, City Clerk