

**AKELEY CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
SEPTEMBER 4TH, 2024 @ 6:00 PM**

The Akeley City Council met in a Work Session Wednesday, September 4th, 2024. Mayor Brian Hitchcock called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Council Members Present: Brian Hitchcock, Dan Riggs, Bobbie Wosika, and Billy Krotzer

Council Members Absent: Dale Nelson

Employees Present: Kristi Kath and Jimmy Hansen

Discussion with regards to the General Fund budget for the 2025 Levy with the following highlights:

- Kristi states that she has not gotten a lot of numbers yet so some of the budget is on the high side. The big numbers that she has not received yet are for insurance.
- Bobbie states that she thinks that the number for the fire contract should rise as there have been a lot of calls for the city this year. Brian would like it to be put at \$22,000.00
- Brian states that the council should look into raising the council pay. It would be an extra \$3,000.00 a year if each council member got a raise of \$50.00 a month. The council wages were increased from \$7,800.00 to \$10,800.00.
- Brian would like to cut the instructor fees for the council. They don't foresee any training as there are no new council members. The instructor fees and lodging were changed to zero.
- Brian would like to see raises for everyone. At least a dollar instead of two percent. Dan states he thinks it should be \$1.50. For Kristi, Jimmy, Kella, Reid, and Lacey to get a \$1.50 an hour raise would raise the budget line item an extra \$12,500.00. Discussion on raises for Herb, Willie, Lenny, and all the bartenders at the muni. Decision to increase the budget to reflect a \$1.50 raise for Kristi, Kella, Lacey, Reid, Jimmy, and Becca. Also, a two percent raise for Lenny, Willie, Herb, Dottie, and all the bartenders at the Muni. Administration wages rose from \$53,163.00 to \$55,419.00. PERA rises to \$4,156.44 and FICA rises to \$3,435.99 and Medicare rises to \$803.58.
- The council would like lodging, miles, and meals dropped from \$1,200.00 to \$800.00.
- Discussion on City Hall needing a new roof. There are leaks all over the building. The council decided to leave building repair at \$1,000.00.
- Police wages rose to \$53,219.88 with the \$1.50 raise. PERA rose to \$9,419.92. Medicare rose to \$771.69.
- Highway, streets, and roads line items rose to \$30,712.56. PERA rose to \$2,303.44. FICA rose to \$1,904.08. Medicare rose to \$445.33.
- The council would like to see property taxes raised to \$1,000.00.
- The total levy percentage raise is 6.846%
- If \$34,500.00 was taken from enterprise funds to offset the levy, the levy percentage would change it to 2.963%. With a levy amount of \$251,860.69.

Motion by Billy Krotzer to adjourn the meeting at 7:23pm, seconded by Dan Riggs, passed.

Respectfully Submitted By;
Michaella Dunham
Deputy Clerk