

**MINUTES OF THE
WATERTOWN CITY COUNCIL
Special Meeting Thursday, September 8, 2011**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the special meeting of the Watertown City Council was called to order at 5:00 p.m. on **Thursday, September 8, 2011** by Mayor K. J. McDonald in the Watertown City Hall Council Chambers.

Upon roll call the following Council Members were present: McDonald, Nicholas Hoese, Rick Mann and Michael Walters. Council Member Stephen Crowder was absent.

The following staff members were present: City Administrator Luke Fischer, City Finance Director/City Clerk-Treasurer Steven Wallner and City Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Jim Bart.

Also present: Matt Bunke

2. DOWNTOWN LAND CLOSING

Fischer told the Council that the EDA has a purchase agreement to buy land associated with the downtown redevelopment project. He stated that the EDA met Aug. 31, 2011 and recommended the City Council authorize closing on the Right-of-Way portion of land only. City staff recommended deferring purchase of Phases I and II until the city has a development agreement in place with a private developer. He stated that Centra Sota has indicated it has some interest in extending the closing dates on Phases I and II and staff would like to continue negotiations for an extension. Fischer stated that the closing would take place Monday, September 12, 2011.

WALTERS MOVED, SECONDED BY HOESE, A MOTION TO DIRECT CITY STAFF TO CLOSE ON THE RIGHT-OF-WAY PORTION OF LAND WITH CENTRA SOTA FOR \$108,939 AND CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS ON AN EXTENSION FOR PHASES I AND II. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

3. PRELIMINARY LEVY

Wallner went over the numbers for the preliminary levy for 2011 payable in 2012. The total preliminary levy before adjustments for 2012 is \$1,865,330 which includes General Fund (\$1,310,856), Debt Service (\$415,864) and EDA (\$46,798). The total tax levy is \$1,340,283 and the total tax rate is 57.1017%. The consensus of the Council was to go with the projected tax rate and total tax levy. These amounts will be discussed at the September 13 council meeting when the preliminary tax levy will be approved.

3. ADJOURNMENT

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 5:50 PM.

ATTEST:

Steven Wallner
Clerk-Treasurer

KJ McDonald
Mayor