

City of Skyline

# Special Meeting Minutes

September 19th, 2022/ 7:00 PM / Skyline City Hall

COUNCIL ATTENDEES: Mayor Paige Attarian, Shirley Piepho, Jason Hamond, Eric Manske

Guests: Charlie Berg, Brian Knauer, Sabrina Ehmke, Michelle Kotila

Via Google Meet: Nancy Kluck

## Meeting Minutes:

- Meeting called to order by Mayor Attarian at 7:00 p.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance performed by all in attendance
- Public Forum-No comments
- 2023 preliminary property tax increase discussion

Mayor Attarian states that she has this is a preliminary discussion and the decision on what the increase will be voted on at the November city council meeting. Mayor Attarian states that she has inquired with the League of MN Cities and with Blue Earth County to see what increase would be sufficient. Shirley asked about the recent history of Skyline tax increases. Mayor Attarian determined that prior to the 3% increase in 2022, there had not been any increases in Skyline in approximately 10 years. Mayor Attarian states that she is proposing a 10% increase in property taxes for 2023. Eric Manske states that he feels it would be prudent to go in with a high number like 10% and then have a discussion to determine the exact amount at the November meeting. Shirley asked what a 10% increase would look like for each resident approximately. Mayor Attarian states that based on her own property taxes, her cost after a 10% increase would be approximately an additional \$60/year. This is just an example so that residents can envision what the increase may look like for them. Shirley explained that Blue Earth County is proposing a 5% increase for 2023, and added that Blue Earth County increases annually. Mayor Attarian explains that the tax increase will be to support basic operating expenses (electricity, support staff, cleaning/maintenance of the hall, etc.) for the City of Skyline. Mayor Attarian explained that the city is a non-cash flow entity and that they rely on cell tower revenue. If the cell towers are removed for any reason, without property tax funds the city would fall behind in operating revenue.

Shirley brought to attention that the residents of Skyline pay approximately half of what Mankato residents are paying in property tax. Mayor Attarian asked council member Jason Hamond if he had a number in mind that he would like to propose. Councilman Hamond states that if this is a preliminary number and the council can vote to go lower, but cannot go higher than the preliminary number he motions for resolution 2022-13 to state a preliminary tax increase of 10%, Eric Manske seconded his motion, passed unanimously.

Mayor Attarian requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Jason motioned to adjourn the meeting, Eric seconded, and passed unanimously.

DRAFT