

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
SPECIAL MEETING - AUGUST 23, 2021  
7:00 P.M.**

- A. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Irlan Fullbright called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- B. **ROLL CALL:** Members present were Councilmembers Kirk Clawson, Jacque Isern, Ken Lebbin, Steve Oelke, Jon Prescott and Mayor Irlan Fullbright. City attorney Jane Isern was present.
- C. **RECITATION OF THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**
- D. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** A motion was made by Councilmember Kirk Clawson to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Councilmember Jon Prescott. Motion carried. All voting in favor.
- E. **VISITORS:** NONE
- F. **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing: As part of the new budgeting process when a governing body elects to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate they must hold a public hearing to allow for public input relating specifically to the potential tax increase. The hearing is only for the tax increase and not the final budget. Notice has been given pursuant to statute to hold this year's hearing at 7:00 p.m. on this date.

Mayor, Irlan Fullbright opened the public hearing to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate at 7:02 p.m. After hearing no comments from the public, Mayor Irlan Fullbright declared the public hearing closed at 7:03 p.m.

2. Consider Revenue Neutral Rate Resolution: After the conclusion of the public hearing, Resolution 082321, a resolution of the City of Ellinwood, Kansas to levy a property tax rate exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate was presented to council for consideration.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kirk Clawson to approve Resolution 082321, seconded by Councilmember Steve Oelke. Motion carried. All voting in favor.

3. 2020 Budget Hearing: As part of the adoption of each year's budget, a Public Hearing is required. Notice has been given pursuant to statute to hold this year's hearing at 7:00 p.m. on this date.

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Mayor, Irlan Fullbright opened the public hearing on the proposed 2022 budget at 7:05 p.m. After hearing no comments from the public, Mayor Irlan Fullbright declared the public hearing closed at 7:06 p.m.

4. Consideration of Budget for Approval: At the conclusion of the public hearing, the Council considers adoption of the proposed budget. An ordinance must be passed adopting the budget. Adoption of the proposed budget does not require spending the amounts adopted; however, the adopted budget allows those amounts to be utilized when necessary.

A motion was made by Councilmember Ken Lebbin to approve the 2022 proposed budget and adopt Ordinance 2021-6, an ordinance approving, adopting and appropriating, by fund the budget of the City of Ellinwood, Kansas for the year beginning January 1, 2022, seconded by Councilmember Jacque Isern. Motion carried. All voting in favor.

5. Discussion of Health Insurance: Staff reported the City's health insurance policy is up for renewal on November 1<sup>st</sup>. The renewal premium for the current health and dental insurance policy has increased 6.75%. Staff explained there were no changes in benefits from the previous year. The 2022 budget included a 10% increase for health insurance.

The premiums for this policy are aged based, therefore, every employee's premium is different. Currently the City pays 100% of the employee premium, including dental and 75% of the premium for spouse and dependents. Staff also presented to council information on BXBS Option 1 – Quad 2 plan which would allow employees to choose among plans with different benefits.

After some discussion, the consensus of council was to further study the current plan and suggested staff have a meeting with all employees to discuss the options available and the possible need to shift a portion of the employee premium to the employee and/or decrease the city contribution for spouse and dependents this year or in future years to help ease the financial impact to the City. Staff will prepare additional documentation for council to review at the September 14<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

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G. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business at this time, a motion was made by Councilmember Jon Prescott that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Councilmember Jacque Isern. Motion carried. All voting in favor.

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Irlan Fullbright, Mayor

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Kim Schartz, City Clerk