



City Commission Agenda Item

Meeting Date: September 5, 2023
From: Jennifer Waggoner, Finance Director/Treasurer
Item: Public Hearing on Proposed 2024 Budget

Purpose: 1) Hold a public hearing to receive public comment regarding the proposed 2024 budget.
 1a) (Optional) Consider first reading of an Ordinance adopting the 2024 Budget for the City of Arkansas City. **(Roll Call Vote)**

Background:
 The final two steps of the budget process is to hold the public hearing and adopt the budget. September 20th is the final date to hold the public hearing and the budget must be adopted and certified to the County Clerk on or before October 1st.

Two budget work sessions have been held with the City Commission and all department heads. All sessions were open to the public. Each department has put forth their best analysis of what the City needs to include in the 2024 budget. Staff has worked diligently to cut costs and expenses, create competitive wages, delay projects and maintenance where possible, and extend the life of vehicles and equipment while maintaining a level of service our citizens deserve and expect. Staff is requesting approval of a budget that decreases our current mill levy, from 70.044 to a projected 68.000, which will bring an estimated increase of \$383,428 in property tax revenue.

Kansas State Statute requires a public hearing be held at least 10 days after the publication of Notice of Hearing is published in the official City paper. The Notice of Hearing for the 2024 budget was published in the *Courier Traveler* on August 5, 2023, and subsequently placed on the City’s website. The public hearing is held to allow taxpayers an opportunity to be heard regarding the proposed budget. The publication sets the maximum amount of expenditures and amount of ad valorem tax to be levied. The adopted budget cannot be more than the published budget in any fund.

Commission Options:
 The Commission has the following options:

1. Hold the public hearing and then approve the budget either as presented or as modified.
2. Open the public hearing and then continue the public hearing to the next regular commission meeting on September 19, 2023 to allow for additional public input at which time the ordinance would be approved and the budget would be adopted as presented or as modified.

Fiscal Impact:
 Amount: None
 Fund: Department: Expense Code:
 Included in budget Grant Bonds Other (explain)

Approved for Agenda by:



 Randy Frazer, City Manager