

Falls City budget receives approval

(KLZA)-- The Falls City Council approved the budget proposed for Fiscal Year 2019-20 following a public hearing drawing no public comment Wednesday evening.

The Total property tax requirement for the budget will be \$736,105 with a levy of 47.86-cents per \$100 of assessed valuation. The levy includes 2.9-cents for various interlocal agreements.

City Administrator Gary Jorn said the city valuation increased approximately \$4-million, up about 2.7 percent from the previous years. Of that total, about \$500-thousand dollars was from growth, the rest coming through reassessment of properties.

The property tax request from the previous year will be about a 14 percent increase. With the increase in the valuation, the levy decreased one percent. Jorn said city revenues do not keep pace with the increase in expenditures. .

While quite a few proposed expenditures were cut from the budget, Jorn said some were approved including a new vehicle for the Police Department and a new radio system. A new mower with bagger for the cemetery, a security system for the library and upgrades to the tennis court at Grandview Park.

One increase noted in the budget was a 5-percent increase in health insurance premiums for city employees and an estimated 2.5 percent wage increase for employees.

Many Signals Communications