The Budget Hearing for the 2016 Budget was called to order by Mayor Schmidt at 6:15 P.M. The City levy is $518,647. Clerk Gurtner decreased Street Lighting by $2,000, Insurance Premiums by $1,000 and Wages by $3,500 in order to qualify for the expenditure restraint program for 2017. Motion was made by Kaiser, seconded by Thieme to adjourn the budget hearing at 6:30 P.M. Motion carried with a voice vote.

The regular meeting of the Colby Common Council was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Mayor James Schmidt. On roll call: Flink, O’Brien, T Schmidt, Thieme, Lynn, Hederer and Kaiser. Oestreich arrived at 6:31 P.M. Also present were Mayor James Schmidt, Clerk Connie Gurtner, DPW Harland Higley Jr and citizens.

**Agenda** was posted by the clerk. The agenda will stand as the order of the meeting.

**Minutes** of the October 4th council meeting were pre-read and reviewed.

Motion was made by T Schmidt, seconded by Lynn to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Financial Statement and Bills** were discussed. Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by O’Brien to approve the bills. The amounts approved are as follows: General Fund $79,981.38; Water Department $25,725.46; Sewer Department $26,886.48; Net payroll $18,030.12. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Colby-Abbotsford Police Commission** met on November 10th.

The commission approved minutes and expenditures.

Under comments from the public, it was stated that the Brat Fry held by the officers raised $1,072.73 in brat sales, plus another $1,600 in donations in the tip jar. The Police Union was thanked for their support and contribution to the drug dog fundraising efforts.

Under purchase of new squad, two quotes were received. Ewald presented a quote for a Ford Interceptor in the amount of $29,844 and a Dodge Durango in the amount of $25,359; both vehicles would require an additional $215 delivery charge. Colby Chrysler presented a quote for a Dodge Durango in the amount of $25,900. Voss questioned if there was concern because the Dodge Durango was not pursuit rated and questioned the safety ratings. Chief Bauer stated he had no concerns with the safety ratings or pursuit ratings. Mayor Schmidt questioned if there were differences in the trade in values of the Dodge versus the Ford. Chief Bauer stated that the maintenance costs were similar and the officers preferred the Dodge Durango. It was stated that in the past the Department took local businesses into consideration as they support local events and promote the local economy. Chief Bauer stated that it would be ideal to purchase two vehicles, one to replace the Impala and one for the K-9 vehicle. It was stated that the life of the K-9 vehicle will be longer than a regular department vehicle as the K-9 vehicle is not shared. The K-9 vehicle should last the life of the dog. At this time the vehicle fund contains $67,685. It was stated the newly budgeted officer position will utilize the Expedition and the vehicle will be de-striped. The commission approved the purchase of two new Dodge Durangos from Colby Chrysler at a price of $25,900 each. Motion was made by T Schmidt, seconded by Lynn to approve this purchase. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Under the discussion of Jessica Weich answering phone calls for the Central Fire and EMS District, it was stated that this request came from Interim Fire Chief John Niehart. It was stated this would be for the non-emergency calls only and would only be if the Chief was not in the building or was unable to answer the telephone. Chief Bauer estimated there would be about 8-10 calls a week. It was felt that teamwork is important. The commission approved allowing a 6-month trial of having the fire calls forwarded to the Police Secretary when the Fire Chief is not available; with all cost of phone reconfiguration to be paid for by the Central Fire and EMS District; beginning January 1, 2017.

Under K-9 Fundraising update, it was stated that Thrivent Financial is planning a large event on November 4, 2016. The band, Boogie and the Yo Yo’s, has been paid for by Bryce Kelley and Thrivent Financial. Smith Brothers Meats will be handling the food and the Fire Department will handle the beer sales. Chief Bauer stated that they have received excellent financial support from local businesses. At this time there is $34,173.73 in the K-9 donation fund.

Under Chief’s report, Chief Bauer informed the Commission that Officer Brander is now on regular duty. Chief Bauer stated he is looking into utilizing dispatch services from Marathon County. He has met with the Marathon County Sheriff’s Department and there is a single button transfer system that could transfer calls quickly to Clark County if necessary. Chief Bauer stated that the main benefit for the switch would be to the streamline the record management system, as all data would be entered by dispatch and it would be available electronically to the Officers. At this time Clark County does not offer free squad computers nor free computer support. Chief Bauer will review the Clark County dispatch options as well prior to bringing a recommendation to the Commission for approval. It was stated the radio traffic would remain unchanged and all other communications would be handled the same. Chief Bauer stated that all details would be in writing prior to any approval and the start date for any transition is at the end of 2017. The activity report was reviewed. It was questioned if the Abbotsford-Colby Police Department is having active discussions with the Village of Dorchester to handle their police coverage. It was stated that there are no current negotiations in progress, but Chief Bauer is not opposed to holding such a discussion if requested by Dorchester.

**Central Fire & EMS District** met on October 17th and 19th.

The committee reviewed a letter of concern from a Colby EMT. The Battalion Chiefs and EMT coordinator were appointed. The committee decided to add “A Division of Central Fire and EMS” logos to existing vehicles to save cost and new logos will be added when new vehicles are purchased. An e-mail system has been established. The insurance bids were reviewed but they were all bid differently, so they will review these again at a later date. Some billing fees were discussed. There are five chief applicants and they will be interviewed on November 21st.

**City Planning Committee** met on October 24th.

Colby School District Request to Build a Press Box on N 2nd Street Right of Way: The Colby School District would like to build a press box within our 50’ street right of way on North Second to the West of the bleachers. Mayor Schmidt contact Attorney Gamoke to determine our best solution for the request. Gamoke will research and contact the city with his suggestions.

Garage Height Ordinance #2016-13: The committee discussed if we should amend the ordinance to just read that a garage should not exceed the height of the principal building and not include any other height limits in the ordinance. Motion was made by T Schmidt, seconded by Flink to approve Garage Height Ordinance #2016-13 to read “Detached accessory building and/or garages shall not exceed the height of the principal building.” Motion carried with a voice vote.

Review Zoning Map for Changes Regarding the CG-2 Commercial District: The city adopted a new commercial zoning district restricting residential use on the first floor. The committee started to discuss what areas of town they would like to re-zone to this new district. There was discussion if we should just keep it in the downtown area or include areas of Highway 13. It was decided that we would included the downtown, the main corridor of Highway 13 and also the strip mall area. It was suggested that DPW Higley look at current uses and list all parcels that the city would consider for the new zoning.

Ordinance 2016-4 Regarding Public Contracts and Competitive Bidding: Ordinance 2016-5 Regarding Legal Posting and Official Newspaper; Ordinance 2016-7 Amending Statutory Offenses Adopted by Reference; Ordinance 2016-8 Relating to Statutory References; Ordinance 2016-10 Regarding E911 Emergency Telephone Line Abuse Prohibited; Ordinance 2016-11 Amending Qualification of Applicants for Alcohol Beverage Licenses; Ordinance 2016-12 Regarding Alternative Forms of Sworn Testimony at Board of Review Hearings: The committee voted to forward all these ordinances to full council for approval. Motion was made by T Schmidt, seconded by Flink to approve Ordinances 2016-4, 2016-5, 2016-7, 2016-8, 2016-10, 2016-11 and 2016-12 to the city council for approval. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Ordinance 2016-6 Amending Regulation of Fermented Malt Beverage, Wine or Intoxicating Liquor Licenses: This ordinance change is suggested by our attorney Alan Harvey to keep our local alcohol beverage licensing regulations consistent with state requirements. The committee would like to review this ordinance further and will discuss again at the next meeting.

Ordinance 2016-9 Regarding Payment of Engineering, Legal and Other Fees by Benefitted Parties: This ordinance creases a new section to enable the City to better charge back to private requesting parties the cost of professional services provided by the municipal attorney, engineer, planner and other such professionals serving the community to those private parties.

**Clerk Gurtner:** Clerk Gurtner reported on the upcoming election. She also reported that the clerk’s office has been using a free on-line time clock system.

The following building permits were issued: Colby High School, signs on the building, 705 N 2nd Street; Kurt Frome, 500 W Spence St, metal roof; Julie Zettler, 202 S 6th St, re-roof; Joy Miller, 305 W Dolf St, new garage door & 2 house doors; Bowl Winkles II, 506 N Division St, black top parking lot; Sharon & Ken Laube, 210 Green Acres, detached garage; Dennis Frome, 306 W Spence St, basement windows; Gary Fetting, 515 N 2nd St, roof.

Mayor Schmidt reported on the precipitation and flows for October 2016 at the STP. He also reported on the pumpage of water for October 2016.

**2017 Budget:** The budget was discussed in length during the budget hearing. Motion was made by T Schmidt, seconded by Kaiser to approve the City of Colby Proposed 2017 Budget as presented to the council from the hearing with a local levy of $518,647. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Flink, Hederer, Kaiser, Lynn, O’Brien, Oestreich, Schmidt, Thieme. Motion carried.

**Committee meetings for November:**  Colby-Abbotsford Police Commission will meet on November 14, 2016 at 6:00 at 6:30 P.M. at the Police Department. Personnel/Labor Relations Committee will meet on November 15, 2016 at 6:30 P.M.

**Adjourn:**  Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Oestreich to adjourn at 7:23 P.M. Motion carried with a voice vote.  
  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

James W Schmidt, Mayor

Attest \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
 Connie Gurtner, Clerk