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## Holton Commission Readies Budget, Denies Tobacco Ban

(KNZA)--Holton City Commissioners on Monday moved forward with preparing the budget for the next fiscal year; and, despite the need to make up a difference in the budget, which could be accomplished through an increase to the mil levy, a maneuver was made to keep that from happening.

City Manager Bret Bauer says the Commissioners, exploring the two options, selected the one that equates to good news for taxpayers(Play Audio)

The Commission has now scheduled a public hearing regarding the 2013 budget for the evening of August 6th at 7:00.

The Budget must be submitted to the Jackson County Clerk by August 25th.

Meanwhile, much discussion arose during Monday night's session regarding an off agenda proposal, by an organized anti-smoking group, seeking to see all tobacco use outlawed in city owned recreational areas.

Pushing to see that happen at parks, ball fields and lakes, the group took the matter to the Commission, which had already planned to discuss the possibility of creating a designated smoking area at Holton ball fields.

Bauer says, once the figurative smoke had cleared following the discussion, a compromise was reached(Play Audio)

Bauer says, as the matter now stands, the rights of all taxpayers-tobacco users and those opposed to it-are being respected(Play Audio)

The anti-smoking group, despite an apparent focus on the health affects of 2nd hand smoke, initially called for an outright ban of all tobacco, including smokeless, in the recreational areas.

Many Signals Communications