

BUDGET WORK SESSION

May 14, 2018

In Attendance:

Mayor Janet Winkler, Commissioners: Larry Chapman, Jonathan Greer, Barry Mitchell, Rick Shew, Ann Smith and Bill Warren

Others Present: Town Manager, Rebecca Bentley and Town Clerk, Tammy Swanson

Call to Order:

Mayor Janet Winkler called the budget work session to order, and Commissioner Bill Warren led the group in the opening prayer.

Discuss FY 2018-2019 Budget:

Rebecca Bentley reviewed the proposed budget with the Board. She stated that according to what she knows now, we should finish in the black for the current budget (FY 2017-2018).

The following budget items were discussed.

- The proposed budget reflect a 6% increase over last year's budget
- No property tax increase proposed – (remains at .43 cents per \$100 valuation)
- No increase in number of employees

Review of Revenue Source:

- Local Taxes, Sales Tax, Unrestricted, Restricted (Powell Bill), Sanitation Fee, Other Revenues (Dinner Theater, HUB Rentals, Cell Tower, Investment Earnings, Appropriated Fund Balance, Community Resource Officers (Restricted))
- Sales Tax is on target -
- No change in sanitation fee –
- Review of Sales and Service Fees - Rebecca mentioned that she believes our Zoning Fees and extra pick up fees are not high enough.
- Contingency – 2%

Expenditures:

- Code Enforcement Contract with WPCOG – remains one day per week
- Staff:

Employees: 28.5 Full-time – 15 Part-time

Police Investigator Position – new/not filled

2.4% Cost of Living Increase

1.5% Merit Increase (Rebecca commented that almost every employee gets a merit increase.)

Fringe Benefits:

Health Insurance – Have decided to stay with our current broker – he gets best deals available. – He felt the best deal this year is with the League of Municipalities. Will also have GAP plan – deductibles have gone up but GAP will cover. Health insurance costs reflects a 3.6% increase. Employees will still be paying \$20 per pay period.

Other Considerations:

-Pedestrian Planning Grant – Will be administered by the NCDOT – a steering committee will need to be appointed.

-Vacant housing

-Scattered Site Housing Grant Available – Rebecca has asked for COG’s help in looking at this.

-Art at the Round About – has now been changed to the Redwood Park. It will be placed in the area of the zip line.

-Vehicles – 3 police vehicles per year

-Addition to building in Police Department – funded in current budget

HUB Improvements –

Roof/Stairway – has turned into a bigger project for the stairway – funded in current budget.

-Arts Center

-Dinner Theater – Maybe could have one caterer for the spring production and then Dan’l Boone for the larger fall productions.

-Horizon’s Building – Rebecca presented a proposed budget for the Horizon’s building. – Total was \$104,450 – She mentioned that this is not a part of the proposed budget.

-PARTF Match

-ARC Match – HUB Kitchen - Rebecca stated that she understands this grant program likes equipment grants/plus defined numbers of how it is used.

Barry asked about use of the gym at the Horizon’s building. Rebecca stated that the gym would be owned by us; however, the school would have preferential use.

Rebecca reminded the Board that the proposed budget is still a working document, and will remain a working document until it is adopted at the June 19th meeting – so changes can still be made. The Budget will be presented for public review at tomorrow night’s (May 15th) Board Meeting.

Adjournment:

Motion: (Bill Warren/Larry Chapman) to adjourn the meeting. Unanimously approved.

Tamra T. Swanson, Town Clerk

