

**MINUTES  
BUDGET WORK SESSION  
MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2020  
5:00 PM**

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(Summary minutes of City Council meeting. Audio tapes of the meeting are on file and are included by reference as part of this meeting. An agenda of this meeting has been either mailed or made available to persons, organizations and local news media as per their request. The agenda gives the date, time and place of the meeting as well as the order of business. This disclosure is in compliance with the South Carolina Code of Laws of 1976, Section 30-4-80 (e).)

A budget work session was held on Monday, April 6, 2020 at 5:00 pm in the City Municipal building with the following present:

**COUNCIL:** Mayor Harold Thompson; Mayor Pro Tem Robert Garner, Councilmembers Tommy Anthony, Vicki Morgan, Ricky Todd Harris, Pamela Sloss and Sonja Craig

**DEPARTMENTAL STAFF:** Gloria Rogers – Municipal Clerk/HR Director; Joe Nichols – City Administrator; Laura Hembree – Finance Director; Mark Brown – Utility Director and Sam White – Public Safety Director

**NEWS MEDIA:** None

Mayor Thompson called the meeting to order and gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all. The roll was called by Municipal Clerk Gloria Rogers

**OTHERS:** None

Finance Director Laura Hembree reviewed revisions by City Council for budget considerations for FY 2021.

She states that the general fund line item was reduced by \$94,950. The line items are listed below:

- Outside agencies
- Hospitality & Accommodations
- Main Street Junction
- Solid Waste Management
- Electric, Water, Sewer, Natural Gas Utilities

The All Funds Summary decreased by 2.21%.

Other budget revisions for equipment and improvements recommendations by City Council are:

**City Hall & City Buildings**

- Bathroom & Window Improvements @ YMCA - \$18,000
- HVAC Controls @ City Hall - \$25,000

**Public Safety**

- (4) Restraint Devices - \$5,000
- (4) SCBA Devices - \$36,000
- (18) In-Car Laptops (lease) & Docking Stations - \$30,240
- (10) Downtown/Foster Park Cameras - \$15,000
- Convert two (2) Fireman positions to PSO's

**Utility Administration**

- Wide Format Printer (mapping) - \$20,000
- ESRI Cloud Base (mapping) - \$12,000

**GPS Contract**

- Currently \$ 31,200 annually (reduce number of units)

**Construction**

- Electric - \$398,00
- Water - \$1,433,950
- Wastewater - \$3,194,900
- Natural Gas - \$593,000
- Warehouse - \$369,900

Next the Finance Director discussed the general fund line items revisions recommendations:

- Intergovernmental revenue reduced by \$7,610 due to reduced administration allocation from U/F and SWM
- General Administration account reduced by \$2,180
- Legislative Account reduced by \$10,500
- Public Safety reduced by \$89,880

She further states that FY 2021 general fund is still anticipating a large deficit 6/20/2021 even with expenditure reductions decided on 3/30/2020.

Outside agencies were reviewed. It shows reductions recommended by City Council. Also Union County's Radio Station billing for FY 2021 was reduced from \$12,180 to \$10,000.

The Finance Director continued by discussing the general fund summary. It shows a total revenue of \$6,002,620 and total expenditures of \$6,440,510. There is a deficit of \$437,890. She states that it could be balanced by raising taxes by millage cap up to 2.16 mills; however, council does not recommend this for FY 2021. Another way to balance budget is to reduce expenditures in the fund balance.

Next she discussed Hospitality & Accommodation Funding. O&M Tourism/Recreation Facilities include improvements to Foster Park, Mural, Gateway Signs, etc.

Main Street Junction was reviewed. Adjustments were made to revenues due to the postponement of rental because of the Coronavirus.

Solid Waste Management was reviewed. Total revenue is \$808,500 and total expense is \$860,070. This shows a net loss of \$51,570. The Finance Director states that ways to balance budget is to increase garbage fee \$1. Council does not recommend. She states another way is to reduce expenditures of prior year retained earnings.

Items discussed by the City Administrator were:

- No capital improvement in this year's budget
- New contract from Gregory Pest Control; consensus of council to approve new contract
- No rate increases

Councilmember Morgan asked the City Administrator if he could get Attorney Flynn to work on an ordinance for the Planning Department to put a time limit on building permits and extensions.

Councilmember Harris led a discussion pertaining to the number of PSO's in the Public Safety Department. He asked Chief White to figure out how many Police Officers he needs to cover road patrol.

The recommendations will be incorporated in the proposed budget for approval at the May regular council meeting.

**MOTION** by Mayor Pro Tem Garner to adjourn  
**SECOND** by Councilmember Sloss  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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Budget work session adjourned at 5:39 pm.

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Gloria J. Rogers, Certified Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_ 2020