

**MINUTES
WATAUGA CITY COUNCIL
BUDGET WORKSHOP
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2020
CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBER, 7105 WHITLEY ROAD
5:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Miner called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The City Council of the City of Watauga, Texas convened the Budget Workshop Meeting of the City Council, with the following members present:

Mayor, Arthur Miner

Mayor Pro Tem/Council Member Place 2, Tom Snyder (Late with notice. Arrived at 5:10 p.m.)

Council Member Place 1, Danielle Tucker (Absent with late notice)

Council Member Place 3, Lovie Downey

Council Member Place 4, Andrew Neal

Council Member Place 5, Juanita King

Council Member Place 6, Mark Taylor

Council Member Place 7, Kim Irving (Absent with notice)

and

Andrea Gardner, City Manager/ City Secretary

Raquel Guajardo, Deputy City Secretary

Sandra Gibson, Director of Finance

Deby Woodard, Assistant Finance Director

Paul Hackleman, Director of Public Works

Bradley Fraley, Chief Information Officer/ PIO

Marcia Reyna, Director of Human Resources & Civil Service

Lana Ewell, Library Director

Robert Parker, Chief of Police

Shawn Fannan, Fire Chief

PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Proposed City Manager Budget - Overview and Tax Rate

Mayor Miner introduced Ms. Sandra Gibson to provide the Finance Department presentation. Ms. Gibson began by stating that this was the most difficult budget she has ever put together. She also invited citizens to contact the Finance department and City Manager with any questions. The summary included the following:

- The over 300 page budget was published on the city's website on July 31, 2020
- Public hearing is scheduled August 24, 2020
- The budget must be adopted before September 15, 2020
- All calculations of tax rates will be on the city's website and TAD website

Ms. Gibson stated that the city goals and strategic plan drives the creation of the budget document and that there many challenges to include due to the pandemic. Also, the recent legislative session have impacted the budget as well.

Council Member Taylor commented that keeping the tax rate the same or lower requires the understanding and need to continue cutting services and at some point, will need to look at an increase to the tax rate or cut more services.

2. Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Proposed City Manager Budget - Departmental Budget Summary

The following were called upon to provide their Departmental Budget Summary:

Ms. Woodard provided a brief presentation regarding the Finance, Municipal Court and Utility Billing departments.

Chief Parker provided a brief presentation regarding the Police Department general fund and significant impacts that included the Traffic Safety Fund, Animal Control and Code departments.

Chief Fannan provided a brief presentation regarding the Fire Department, Safer Grant Fund and Fire/EMS.

Ms. Reyna provided a brief presentation regarding the Human Resources Department expenditures and significant impacts.

Council Member Neal asked if Watauga FIT participation will drop due to the loss of monetary benefits. Ms. Reyna responded that the city will continue to promote various challenges and home workouts.

Mr. Hackleman provided a brief presentation regarding Public Works, Building, Planning & Zoning, and Fleet/Building Maintenance and Utility/Storm Drain funds.

Mayor Miner asked for an update regarding the Hightower Estates project. Mr. Hackleman stated that the developer is working on drainage issues development can't place anymore water on downstream properties post development that existed pre-development.

Mr. Fraley provided a brief presentation regarding Information Technology Department presentation.

Mayor Miner asked if there was software that would improve virtual meetings. Mr. Fraley responded that Office 365 would have the biggest impact.

Ms. Ewell provided a brief presentation regarding Library significant impacts.

Ms. Gardner provided presentations for Parks and Recreation, Economic Development and Office of the City Secretary and City Manager's Office.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

APPROVED:

this 14TH day of SEPT, 2020

SIGNED:

this 15TH day of SEPT, 2020

APPROVED:

Arthur L. Miner /s/
Arthur L. Miner, Mayor

ATTEST:

Andrea Gardner /s/
Andrea Gardner, City Secretary

NOTE: Original Audio and Video Recording of this meeting is preserved and maintained by the City Secretary's Office