



**MINUTES
WATAUGA CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER,
7105 WHITLEY ROAD,
JUNE 10, 2024
5:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Arthur Miner called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The meeting convened with the following members present:

Arthur L. Miner
Malissa Minucci
Pat Shelbourne
Cris Blackburn
Lovie Downey
Andrew Neal
Mark Taylor
Jan Hill

Mayor
Mayor Pro Tem/Council Member Place 5
Council Member Place 1
Council Member Place 2
Council Member Place 3
Council Member Place 4
Council Member Place 6
Council Member Place 7

and

Sandra Gibson
Linda Proskey
David Berman
Deby Woodward
Timothy Hamilton
Alan Thomas
Rober Parker
Paul Hackleman
Trina Nosenzo

Interim City Manager/Director of Finance
City Secretary
City Attorney
Assistant Director of Finance
Director of Parks and Community Services
Assistant Fire Chief
Police Chief
Director of Public Works
Technical Services Supervisor

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

No requests for public comment were received.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR ACTION ITEMS

No requests for public testimony were received.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation on the Proposed Capital Outlay Plan FY2025-FY2029

Sandra Gibson, Interim City Manager and Director of Finance, presented the capital outlay plan. The plan encompasses technology, furniture, equipment, and vehicles, spanning a five-year period. However, it requires annual review due to cost updates and changes in the replacement schedule.

This year's recommended items have increased primarily because the build-out of a fire truck has a lead time of 30 months, necessitating its earlier replacement. Additionally, the fire department is requesting extrication equipment and cardiac monitors. Other departmental requests include RFID-equipped computers for the library, light and heavy-duty trucks and other light equipment for public works, fitness equipment for parks and recreation, hardware and software for IT, and HVAC systems and fire alarms for facilities.

In the CCD fund, there are requests for five emergency vehicles. The water and sewer fund requests include light-duty trucks, heavy-duty trucks, and heavy equipment.

2. Presentation on the Proposed Capital Improvement Plan FY2025-FY2029

Sandra Gibson, Interim City Manager and Director of Finance, presented the capital improvement plan. This comprehensive five-year plan undergoes an annual review to ensure accuracy and relevance. Ms. Gibson detailed the total costs for each project over the next five years, outlined the required funding, and explained the strategies for financing these projects.

Timothy Hamilton, Parks and Recreation Director, discussed the projects requested by his department. He elaborated on the pole barn project and its intended uses. Additional projects include the Park Vista/White Branch Creek Trail, Park Vista Park Phase 1, and playground equipment upgrades at Hillview, Indian Springs, Capp Smith, and Virgil Anthony Parks, as well as Foster Village Park renovations.

Regarding the Foster Village cottage, Hamilton addressed its current dilapidated state and the consideration of either renovation or demolition and reconstruction to transform it into an event center. He also mentioned the need for a splash pad filtration upgrade to meet NSF/ANSI-50 standards, with UV light being the only viable option. Furthermore, he discussed plans for installing solar trail lights at Indian Springs, BISD, and Virgil Anthony Parks. Finally, he noted the challenge of replacing the 20-year-old HVAC unit at the recreation center, which would require the removal of a wall.

Trina Nosenzo, Technical Services Supervisor at the library, discussed the necessity of a circular central service desk. This new desk will optimize staffing efficiency and enhance the staff's ability to assist users with computers and copiers. Additionally, it will create space for a small café, further improving the library's services.

Paul Hackleman, Director of Public Works, reviewed the status of several ongoing projects. The enhancements to the Public Works facility parking lot are progressing,

alongside improvements to the Bunker Hill Storm System and stormwater infrastructure upgrades in Echo Hills/Bristol Square. The Park Vista Park Culvert Extension aims to increase usable land for patrons and eliminate the need for a bridge to connect the currently divided sections of the park.

The Animal Shelter Flood Study, addressing the portion of the building located in a floodway, will provide essential information for planning necessary improvements. Similarly, the Foster Village Park Flood Study addresses floodway concerns in that area. On Whitley Road 4, work includes the demolition and pavement marking on Bursey Road, while Whitley Road 5 is nearing the bidding and construction phase, with work scheduled to commence this year.

For Hightower Drive 1, a public hearing was held in April. The Watauga Road 1 project involves a full concrete reconstruction planned in five phases. Street maintenance projects are scheduled for Whispering Drive, Bowling Drive, Lara Lane, and Kennedy Street. The 50th Year CDBG Bunker Blvd. Water Main project is part of the Community Development Block Grant program. Additionally, the CDBG_CV Round 4 Plum Street Water Main project is funded by a county grant.

Various citywide water and wastewater projects are underway to enhance infrastructure. The water lines on Maurie Drive and Barry Drive are being replaced due to frequent leaks and degradation. Lastly, the Lead Water Service Line Identification project, mandated by the EPA, involves identifying and addressing lead water service lines.

Sandra Gibson, Interim City Manager and Director of Finance, addressed the Advanced Meter Infrastructure project, emphasizing the need for debt issuance to fund its implementation. This initiative is projected to result in an approximate \$2.50 increase in the base rate for utility customers.

Additionally, Gibson reviewed the details of the proposed 2024 debt issuance, highlighting the specific projects that would be encompassed.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting at 6:29 pm

Approved: this 24 day of June, 2024

Signed: this 24 day of June, 2024

ATTEST: [Signature]
Linda Proskey /s/
Linda Proskey, City Secretary

APPROVED:

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

