

MINUTES
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
September 8, 2022

The City Commission met this date for a budget workshop in the Commission Chambers. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM with the following in attendance.

Mayor	:	Hubert B. Smith
Commissioners	:	Christine Wasdin
	:	Edward Crosby
	:	Kay Hamilton
	:	Clark (Tom) Browning
City Clerk	:	Tammy Johnson
Police Chief	:	Joe Hart
Battalion Fire Chief	:	Scott Funchess
Library Director	:	Hope Willis
Public Works Director:		Nathan Kelley (camera)
Recorder	:	Beth Millsaps

Others in Attendance: (Not Inclusive) Robin Enos, Arlene Hansen, Irwin, Les Chambers, Adam and Briana Koetner, Tami Gullain, David Lloyd, Terry Emley, Hicks, Yavsantak Boose-Martin

1. Tentative Budget Hearing

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 PM. Mayor Smith said we have some new figures to go over, increases in our insurance.

Mrs. Johnson said this meeting was announced by our TRIM notice . Mrs. Johnson said we received notice our health insurance was going up 70%. She said we went out for bid and did not have only received one quote and it was higher than the 70% we had. Mrs. Johnson said after some negotiating and looking over our claim data with if we stay with our current provider and keep the same plan that we have in health insurance it will be a 55% increase instead of the 70%. She said the insurance provider paid more in claims over the last year than the city paid in premiums. Mrs. Johnson said there is also an option to go with a lesser plan it would be a 48% increase. She said this coverage the deductibles will be higher. Mrs. Johnson said she has added some carry forward items to the budget along with the carry forward revenue for these items. Mrs. Johnson said this budget contains a 5.024% ad valorem rate. Mrs. Johnson said general fund has carry forward of \$689,750, \$455,000. in reserves making for a balanced budget. The total City has a balanced budget of \$13,658,940.

Mrs. Johnson said this budget includes the 5.024% ad valorem tax rate, 48% health insurance increase, increase for property and workers' comp insurance, 2% merit and 9% COLA.

GENERAL FUND

Mrs. Johnson said the highlighted items in revenue are new line items. Parks Reserve \$60,000, Fire Service Fund Reserves \$100,000 possible payment for new fire truck, carry forward money \$597,540, money and projects carry forward \$92,310 and money from reserves \$295,000. She said after speaking with Mr. VanZant from Jordan and Associates some of the ARPA funds can be used for

1 the fire truck. Comm. Hamilton said we always seem to take money from parks, which is her
2 department and doesn't have revenue coming in. Mr. Irwin said the city gets money from pavilion
3 rentals at the park. Mrs. Johnson said every year after the audit all expenses not expended but
4 budgeted for except for personnel wages and benefits that were not expensed is put in parks reserves.
5 Currently \$345,000 in Parks Reserve. Comm. Hamilton said she always does her best to protect the
6 parks.

7 **ADMINISTRATION**

8 Mrs. Johnson said life and health insurance went down, it all depends on what insurance the
9 employees select. She said the O/M remains the same and no changes in the capital requests.

10 **LIBRARY**

11 Mrs. Johnson said the 48% increase in insurance is there, O/M remains the same and no
12 changes in the capital requests.

13 **POLICE DEPT.**

14 Mrs. Johnson said the employee wages went down, life and health went up. Mrs. Johnson said
15 added 15 fact duty gun cameras and lights from the current year budget to carry forward to this budget.
16 Mayor Smith asked if we use the \$1,000 in the budget for the pistol range. Chief Hart said we do, we
17 use it for our training as well as other agencies,

18 **FIRE DEPT.**

19 Mrs. Johnson said life and health insurance went up. O/M remains unchanged and no changes
20 in the capital requests.

21 **PARKS**

22 Mrs. Johnson said life and health insurance went up, she has moved the Christmas decorations
23 from parks to general fund. The Lincoln Park Boating Improvement grant funds moved forward, two
24 new positions and using reserves money for the pickup with trailer and 54" mower.

25 **SHOP**

26 Mrs. Johnson said life and health insurance went up and she increased the vehicle insurance
27 expense.

28 **CEMETERY**

29 Mrs. Johnson said no changes have been made since last meeting except life and health
30 insurance went up.

31 **NON-DEPARTMENTAL**

32 Mrs. Johnson said no changes since last meeting except for the addition of \$5,000 for
33 Christmas decorations.

34 Mrs. Johnson Said the General fund has a balanced budget.

1 **ARPA Fund**

2 Mrs. Johnson said we have received all the money now and we are taking from reserves
3 \$1,250,000. She said that money would be used for lining of gravity sewer main in Plat 1 to eliminate
4 infiltration and root intrusion. Mayor Smith asked if we knew how much of the money would be
5 needed for this project? Mr. Kelley said we will piggyback off of the county contract, the amount of
6 money will not really be known until we are in there.

7 **HALF CENT FUND**

8 Mrs. Johnson said \$450,000 will be used for paving of unimproved roads. Comm. Wasdin said
9 the streets have already been named.

10 **STORMWATER**

11 Mrs. Johnson said we are taking \$14,175 from reserves to balance the budget, consultant and
12 contracts was a new line item added to pay for the water and sewer rate study which is a carry forward
13 and we are carrying forward the CDGB project. Stormwater fund has a balanced budget.

14
15 **STREETS**

16 Mrs. Johnson said we budget \$72,000 from reserves to pay for capital items, we are carrying
17 forward the CDGB project and carrying forward \$100,010 in funds. In the capital expenses there will
18 be one new position and an increase in the health insurance. Streets fund has a balanced budget.

19
20 **UTILITY FUND**

21 Mrs. Johnson said we are bringing \$100,000 from reserve to pay for some capital, carrying
22 forward money \$226,075 and there is an increase for health insurance. Utility fund has a balanced
23 budget.

24
25 She said that Mr. Kelley may have found a possible grant to convert water wells from oil
26 lubrication to water lubrication.

27 **COMMUNICATION FUND**

28 Mrs. Johnson said no changes in revenue but there is a health insurance increase in expenses
29 and reserve expense was decreased to balance budget.

30 **SANITATION FUND**

31 Mrs. Johnson said carry forward \$64,050 and health insurance increased. Sanitation fund has a
32 balanced budget.

33 Comm. Browning said the insurance increase is 48% or 55% now higher deductible. Chief
34 Hart who also sat in the meeting with our insurance representative said the same coverage would be

1 55%, a little less 48% with a higher deductible. Comm. Wasdin said with the 9% COLA increase
2 could help balance things off. Chief Hart said the insurance representative said for every \$100
3 collected, Florida Blue paid \$200.

4 Ms. Amanda Hicks, 377 Glendale, said in her company they are encouraged employees not to
5 go into the ER unless it is an emergency, giving the employees the 9% COLA would help offset the
6 insurance. Comm. Browning said hopefully the raise will cover the deductibles. Chief Hart said in
7 reviewing the plans with insurance representative and Mrs. Johnson, the prescription plans are the
8 same, the 48% encourages employees to look at outpatient options.

9 Mr. Daniel Irwin, 184 Chicago Avenue, Mr. Irwin said travel expenses listed, taken Christmas
10 decorations off then moved, was \$10,000 in past years now \$5,000, there is a Christmas bonus given to
11 employees every year, but it is not listed on any budget. Mrs. Johnson said that money comes from
12 other wages each year. Mayor Smith said travel expenses have decreased a lot. Mr. Irwin said maybe
13 we could quantify for the fire department and police department expenses; we need to do the math and
14 see if the money is needed. Comm. Hamilton said we try to be as tight with the budget as we can. Mr.
15 Irwin said uniforms for sanitation he usually sees those guys wearing t-shirts and shorts, where does
16 that money go? Mr. Irwin said with the Police Department look at how many emergency responses we
17 have, need to nickel and dime things. He realizes the easy fix is to buy but we need to try and get more
18 out of what we have.

19 Comm. Wasdin said everyone on the Commission is experienced with the budget, the
20 department heads are also, we expect the department heads to really look over their budgets and they
21 do. We have an acquisitions policy for large purchases.

22 Comm. Hamilton said she is proud of the forward movements of our fire department, we have
23 developed amazing relations with other cities, our responses times are way faster. She said that is not
24 her department, but she is very proud of the fire department.

25 Mrs. Johnson said money not spent used is put in the reserves or it will be carried forward to
26 the next year. Mayor Smith said hopefully we will have the prison crew back around the first part of
27 2023, we also have people training with guards to oversee the prisoners. Mr. Irwin said he wants
28 things to be transparent, he asked about our workers comp claims and how much of that was used in
29 regard to Covid illnesses. Mrs. Johnson said she has workers comp information but not in how it
30 would relate to Covid.

31 Comm. Wasdin said tourist development money, project that impacts tourism, we have to go
32 through the county but if we come up with a project, can we do that after the budget is set? Mrs.
33 Johnson said we can amend the budget if necessary. Mr. Irwin said there are a ton of active grants out
34 there if you look, he appreciates the work of the Commission.

1 Mr. Jack Gill, 263 Glenview, said 5.024% the milage stays the same. Mrs. Johnson said the
2 budget presented tonight was with the 5.024%, that will be what we set for the new fiscal year. Mr.
3 Gill said that is great he said go for it.

4 Mayor Smith said he thinks we have a wonderful city, full of the best department heads,
5 personnel and a great Commission.

6 **a. RESOLUTION NO. 06-09-08-22 Adopt Tentative Mileage**

7 Mayor Smith read Resolution No. 06-09-08-22 a resolution adopting the tentative levying of ad
8 valorem taxes for fiscal year 2023, providing for an effective date. The tentative adopted millage rate
9 is greater than the rolled back rate of 4.4820% by 11.98%. **MAYOR SMITH MADE A MOTION**
10 **TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 06-09-08-22 AS READ WITH A MILLAGE RATE OF**
11 **5.024 PER \$1000 EVALUATION. COMM. HAMILTON SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH**
12 **PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE COMMISSION 5 TO 0.**

13 **b. ORDINANCE NO. 715 Adopt FY2023 Budget First Reading**

14 Mayor Smith read Ordinance No. 715 an ordinance adopting the budget for fiscal year 2023,
15 providing for an effective date. **COMM. HAMILTON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE**
16 **ORDINANCE NO. 715, FOR A SECOND READING. COMM. BROWNING SECONDED**
17 **THE MOTION, WHICH PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE COMMISSION 5 TO 0.**
18 Finally reading will be held on September 19th.

19 Comm. Hamilton said the Field of Honor ceremony is Saturday at 10am, at the Mullet Festival
20 site. It is a beautiful tribute to our veterans.

21 **ADJOURN**

22 With no further business before the Commission this evening, the budget workshop adjourned
23 at 7: 13 PM.

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27 _____
28 Hubert B. Smith
29 Mayor

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33 _____
34 Katherine Hamilton
35 Chair, VCA

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38 _____
39 Tammy Johnson, CMC
40 City Clerk

41 ***A recording of the September 8, 2022, Commission meeting will be kept on the City's
secure file server as a permanent part of these minutes.***