

CITY OF WILLIAMS CITY COUNCIL

SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING

ANNOTATED MINUTES
AGENDA ITEM

PAGE 1

MAY 19, 2016
COUNCIL ACTION

PROCEDURES:

I.

- A. Call to Order Mayor Moore called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- B. Roll Call Mayor John Moore, Vice Mayor Don Dent, Councilmen Craig Fritsinger, Bernie Hiemenz, Frank McNelly and Lee Payne were present and it constituted a quorum. Councilman James Wurgler was absent. Present from City Staff were Jim Wine, Interim City Manager, Fire Chief Chase Pearson, Public Works Director Kyle Christiansen, Finance Director Keith Buonocore, and Deputy City Clerk/HR Administrator Pamela Galvan.

II.

- A. Council will review and discuss the 2016-2017 Preliminary Budget.) Mayor Moore began by explaining the purpose of this meeting is to discuss the preliminary budget. The next budget meeting will be at the regular Council meeting on the 26th of May. At that time we may adopt the tentative budget subject to expense limitations.
-) Mayor asked Council how they wished to proceed as they have already gone through most of it. He pointed out that the Fire Chief was not able to present at the Staff Budget meeting and was here tonight; also, that the Court was not present either, but has provided a fee sheet for review and consideration to the Mayor and Council.
-) The Mayor has the current agreement with the Chamber and would like to discuss it along with tourism marketing.
-) Keith Buonocore began by saying that the budget will change a bit now that the WIFA loan has been approved. He has to add the amortization schedule to the budget, and it runs us about \$28,000 dollars a year. It actually brings in \$450,000 cash that we can use. HR had an increase in personell, and raises that need to be incorporated into the budget. Workers Comp will have a minor adjustment from \$20,000 to \$23,000.
-) Mayor Moore mentioned a final payment to APS and well drillers with some of the funds. We will then be current with bills.
-) Councilman McNelly inquired on HURF funds. Keith Buonocore explained that they are going to provide a one-time fund, but without explanation of how or when they are going to split it. We are looking to get a piece of this one-time fund; nothing too substantial, but at least something to go towards the Street Department.
-) The Mayor asked if there were any more questions on the budget.

CITY OF WILLIAMS CITY COUNCIL

SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING

**ANNOTATED MINUTES
AGENDA ITEM**

PAGE 2

**MAY 19, 2016
COUNCIL ACTION**

-) Mayor Moore then asked everyone to reference page 49 of the preliminary budget (Fire Department.)
-) Mayor invited Fire Chief Pearson to go over it with the Council.
-) Fire Chief Pearson provided a handout of the Fire Department Proposal for the 2016-2017 budget year. He began by noting that a majority of their budget is for education and services.
-) He read through page 3 of the 2016-2017 Proposal to Council.
-) Councilman McNelly noted that it seems firefighters are leaving faster than we can get them certified. Fire Chief Pearson said we are not able to keep people long enough to train them; we are nervous about spending monies on them before 18 months of service. There are changes in vehicle manufacturing, home construction, EMS liabilities and what people expect them to do and what they really can do. Changes in the world compliance, ISO and OSHA, require so much training. It is almost pushing out the volunteer fire departments. They are trying to keep current.
-) Their current challenges are 5 to 35 hours are spent on training and calls. They are at 30 calls for the year; most are during the day and week, with an average response time of 13 minutes. They are also looking at high hazard construction, 3-story hotels, lumber mill and the truck stop; and the aging equipment.
-) They do not have the room for a ladder that would reach to the top of the 3-story hotels.
-) They have changed the training program with clearer goals for the entire department and for new recruits.
-) They have talked about adding Colonial Life Insurance to the benefits.
-) Want to work with local employers to let the volunteers leave work to assist.
-) Councilman Payne asked out of the sixteen volunteers how many are able to respond on average during the day. It varies.
-) Fire Chief Pearson then discussed inside and outside City limit calls. He told of the distances that they cover half-way to Ash Fork, half-way to Parks. Their response time to calls has increased from six minutes to thirteen minutes.
-) Councilman Payne brought up the Canyon fire and how that was the hardest he has ever worked. How would you

CITY OF WILLIAMS CITY COUNCIL

SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING

ANNOTATED MINUTES
AGENDA ITEM

PAGE 3

MAY 19, 2016
COUNCIL ACTION

-) handle something like that? What is your contingency?
-) They have mutual aid fire agreements with the surrounding fire departments. Our first call is to Ponderosa Fire District, they are twenty-five to thirty minutes away. They are a 4-man engine crew.
-) They are looking into a statewide mutual contract.
-) Councilman Payne asked if there is any liability to us for a hotel fire, because we don't have the equipment for the height, or because we are a volunteer fire department. We don't provide the same service as a larger City could. Chief Pearson said, "We follow all fire and building codes. We are not negligent."
-) Councilman Dent said our legal fire boundaries are the City limits.
-) There was additional discussion regarding responses to fires and City limits.
-) Mayor asked to move onto the budget.
-) Fire Chief Pearson read their current goals: Addition of Colonial Life Insurance incentive to replace health insurance, complete a needs assessment and finalize strategic plan, replace utility pickup with crew cab box bed, continue to replace needed equipment and continue training opportunities.
-) There was discussion of the needs assessment at a cost of \$10,000.00, and the consensus is this needs to be done as soon as possible.
-) Mayor Moore stated that we need to look into the needs assessment, because ISO is pushing to move away from volunteer fire departments, and to replace some of the old equipment.
-) Fire Chief Pearson expressed that they would really like to have a third-party validate their direction with needs and plans for the future.
-) Council collectively agreed we need to do the assessment not only for equipment but for the future.
-) Interim City Manager Jim Wine pointed out that Chief Pearson has been aggressive at trying to find grants, and continues to search for them for equipment, tools and training. As far as an analysis, we need to set the parameters, because we may otherwise get something different from our exact needs.
-) Councilman Fritsinger asked why they are leaving after training. Chief Pearson responded, "For various reasons."

CITY OF WILLIAMS CITY COUNCIL

SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING

ANNOTATED MINUTES
AGENDA ITEM

PAGE 4

MAY 19, 2016
COUNCIL ACTION

There was discussion of the type of individuals they recruit.

) Mayor Moore reminded the Council that they had discussed court fees at the Staff Budget meeting. Jennifer Carter from the court had stopped by and presented a court fee sheet that they would like addressed with Council. The court is trying to match the fees with the State. Their consensus was the same from the previous Staff Budget meeting. This is not something they want to do.

) Mayor Moore directed the Council to the Chamber of Commerce agreement and the possible option of contracting with Front Burner Media for our Tourism Marketing.

) The question was asked “What is the best way or the most efficient funding for tourism promotion?” The answer was, “We would be much better off with contracting with a marketing firm.”

) The Agreement with the Chamber is greatly outdated.

) We are looking at two proposals, one from the Chamber and/or one from Front Burner Media.

) It was noted that Chamber of Commerce is for commerce, not tourism.

) There was much discussion on the purpose and duties of the Chamber of Commerce and its future.

) There is a deadline of June 17th for funds matching with the AOT so a decision needs to be made.

) The discussion for a proposal with the Chamber of Commerce or to contract with Front Burner Media is to be on the next agenda dated May 26th, 2016.

III. ADJOURN:

The Council meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Mayor John Moore

ATTEST:

Deputy City Clerk