

Budget Workshop

July 9, 2018

Present Were: Commissioner Hooks, Commissioner West, Commissioner Carpenter, Commissioner Gardner, Mayor Hooks; Town Administrator, Lisa Pate; Town Attorney, Justin Minsheu and associate Harry; Town Accountant, Gary Pittman.

Also in attendance were 3 residents and guests.

Commissioner Hooks called the meeting to order and proceeded with the Pledge of Allegiance and a short prayer. He mentioned to the residents and other board members that the town has recently donated flowers to families of children that are having some medical issues.

Gary proceeded to introduce the budget with no tax or utility increases. Proposed salary changes are listed on the back two pages of the new budget. The only salary change would be Jennifer Bray would no longer be paid out of parks/recreation but instead would be paid out of electric and sewer.

Gary pointed out that on page 2 in the middle of the middle of the page that the \$13 thousand dollars in expenditures are going to exceed revenues the town has accumulated but this was better than the \$23 thousand from last year. He also said that the police department and the town hall should split the light bill between electric, sewer, administration, and police to cover the bill. He was also not sure about the cost of the SUV for the police department and how that would affect the budget once it was properly placed for this year.

There was also discussion about the Powell Bill expenditures match and how that money could be moved around should it be needed.

The rent money from the land that was purchased by the town will also contribute to the revenues the town can count. Once the project is completed, Ms. Pate mentioned that there were three residents who had asked about purchasing some land. She told them that the commissioner board and mayor had decided not to sell any land until the town's project was completed and town attorney Justin Minshew agreed that that was the best course of action. There was also discussion of how much money could be raised should there be 100 acres of land cleared and the renting price for an acre be up to \$175. There is about \$72 thousand in capital outlays and whatever is made in land rentals would be added to that money. This money can not be used for the equipment needed by the utilities department and when asked if the town could use the electric fund to provide that equipment Gary explained that the state legislature does not allow for spending on things that are not used for the electricity in the city.

Another item that has been added to the budget is the new pay schedule for the commissioners and mayors. Each time they meet they will receive a check. Commissioners are paid \$75/meeting and the mayor will receive \$100/meeting. There was also the question of when the board has last had a raise and that is going to be checked on.

The vote in on the budget is July 23rd. Ms. Pate is to work with Gary on commissioners' pay, police department spreadsheets that were entered incorrectly on the budget, the SUV payment for the police department, and installment loans.

Commissioners asked when mosquitos were going to be sprayed for and Ms. Pate said that she would speak with Perry Jones about it. She also told the board that Jennifer will have her ORC 2 done at the beginning of December.

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Hooks

Unanimously passed.