

**CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL**

Mayor Brett L. Wittner called the special meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and led the pledge of allegiance. Councilmembers David M. Viafore, Shannon Reynolds, Joe Barrentine, Hunter T. George, Nikki Bufford, and Jim Andrews were present.

**AGENDA MODIFICATIONS**

There were none.

**2023 PRELIMINARY BUDGET DISCUSSION**

Interim City Manager Corcoran briefed the Council on the 2023 preliminary budget and provided detailed explanations for several items. Corcoran highlighted city goals, major variances, property taxes, and the 9.5% cost of living adjustment for city staff. Corcoran requested feedback from Council regarding the Council Chamber audio-visual upgrade, utility rate increase, property taxes, and an additional Police Officer.

Discussions included the use of ARPA funding, sales tax revenue, the Mildred property development, property taxes, audio-visual upgrades, cost of living adjustment financial impacts, an additional officer, and moving the part-time Deputy City Clerk to a full-time position.

Wittner left the meeting at 6:41 P.M. and returned at 6:42 P.M.

There was a consensus to add to the 2023 budget: an additional officer, moving the Deputy City Clerk position to a full-time position, an additional \$2,000 to the Planning Department professional services line, and the Council Chambers audio-visual upgrade.


Corcoran requested Council feedback on the proposed utility rate increase. Discussions included financial impacts, steady and manageable increases, and General Facilities Charges Fees. There was a consensus for a two percent in water, storm, and sewer utility rate increase.

Corcoran reported that the first reading for the 2023 Preliminary Budget is scheduled for October 25, 2022.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Bufford MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 P.M., seconded by George. The Motion Carried (7-0).**

  
Brett L. Wittner, Mayor

  
Jayne Westman, City Clerk