

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, Nikki Bufford, and Jim Andrews were present. Councilmember Hunter T. George was absent.

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

There were none.

PRELIMINARY 2024 BUDGET

Finance Director Corcoran presented the Preliminary 2024 Budget General Fund overview, which included personnel changes, capital projects, and transfers. Finance Director Corcoran highlighted that the preliminary budget reflects a 4.5 percent cost of living adjustment increase for all employees based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI). 2023 Personnel changes include the addition of a Community Development Director and City Clerk, and the deletion of the Administrative Services Director. The 2024 proposed budget does not include , but staff is recommending the request for an additional Recreational Specialist and a part-time Accountant II.

There was a brief discussion on the benefits and cost breakdown for the personnel changes.

Finance Director Corcoran briefed the Council on City staff's recommended uses for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Council discussions included on going costs associated with ARPA purchases, the City's heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system, and the police vehicle dash cameras. There was a Council consensus to have a special meeting for an ARPA funds discussion and have staff provide additional information for ongoing costs on suggested ARPA purchases.

Councilmember Barrentine left the Council Chambers at 6:41 P.M. and returned to the meeting at 6:43 P.M.

Finance Director Corcoran presented the Equipment Repair and Replacement (ERR) Fund overview and highlighted the replacement of three police vehicles and 14 computers.

Finance Director Corcoran highlighted the 2024 capital projects including the City's time and temperature sign upgrade project, City Hall alarm system upgrade, and dash cameras and patrol rifle noise suppressions.

Councilmember George joined the meeting at 6:57 P.M.

Discussions included the Council Chamber's audio-visual equipment upgrade, police vehicles, and the alarm system in the ERR fund. There was a discussion held on the lower business district light standards.

Finance Director Corcoran highlighted General Fund revenue changes, stating the property tax line, retail sales tax, and other tax revenues increased. Pool and recreation revenue increases are

based on the pool season usage analysis. Lastly, the investment interest increases are based on the current market and cumulative reserve loan.

She highlighted major general fund expenditure changes. Administration changes include a decrease in professional services due to City Manager recruitment and an Acting City Manager contract in 2023. Non-departmental changes include a transfer out of ARPA funds to Water Capital. Police changes include a decrease in professional services due to the Police Chief recruitment and Interim Police Chief contract. There was an increase in Fire and Emergency Management Systems of 4.5 percent due to an increase in CPI. Recreation changes include an increase in instructor-based expenses and an increase in donations.

Discussions included the Mildred Street development revenue, assessment of the public safety building, service levels from the Building Official, City’s centennial funding, community events, and police vehicles.

Finance Director Corcoran highlighted the Park Bond Debt Service Fund and Park Bond Capital Fund changes. There was a brief discussion on the Fircrest Park maintenance facility.

Finance Director Corcoran stated that the 2024 Real Estate Excise Tax Fund included revenue for REET-I and REET-II estimated at \$150,000 each and a transfer to Street Fund for capital projects.

The Cumulative Reserve Fund will receive its last loan payments and the interest will go into the General Fund.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Bufford MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 P.M., seconded by Councilmember Barrentine. The Motion Carried (7-0).


Brett L. Wittner, Mayor


Arlette Burkhart, Acting City Clerk