CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Bufford called the special meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers David M. Viafore, Shannon Reynolds, Brett L. Wittner, Hunter T. George, Karen Mauer-Smith, and Joe Barrentine were present.

Councilmembers Viafore, Reynolds, and Barrentine attended the meeting virtually.

PRELIMINARY 2027 BUDGET – 2nd BUDGET WORK SESSION

Public Works Director Bemis presented the 2027 Preliminary Street, Storm, Water, and Sewer Fund budgets, including operating goals, revenues, expenditures, and proposed capital projects.

Public Works Director Bemis reported on the Street Fund, including pavement preservation, project reimbursements, and Public Works staffing allocations.

Public Works Director Bemis reported on the Storm Drain Fund. There was a brief discussion on the stormwater and sewer improvement project in the alley between Summit Avenue and Farallone Avenue and the use of Pierce County Flood Control Zone District funds.

Public Works Director Bemis reported on the Water Fund and highlighted the planned $150,000 Yale Street water main replacement project. There was a brief discussion on the deferral of Well House No. 4 replacement.

Public Works Director Bemis reported on the Sewer and Sewer Capital Fund. Discussions included infiltration and inflow (I&I) evaluation, smoke testing, pipe bursting, and the City's sewer loan obligations.

Council discussed the proposed 3% water rate increase for 2027 to maintain the City's minimum reserve requirement of three months of operating expenditures. Council discussions included incremental rate adjustments, sustainability, and adequate reserves. There was no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Viafore MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 P.M., seconded by Councilmember Mauer-Smith.

The Motion Carried (7-0).

Nikki Bufford, Mayor

Arlette Burkhart, City Clerk