

**SPECIAL MEETING
AUGUST 19, 2010**

Mayor Jeff Bearden called the Special Meeting of the City Commission to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Commission Chambers and a quorum was declared present.

Present: Mayor Jeff Bearden
Commissioners: Jimmy Dennis, Russell Brownlow, Travis Taylor and Phil McCuiston

Staff Present: City Manager Mitch Grant, Police Chief Tom Wilson, Community Development Director Monica Wilkinson, Finance Director Anne Garmon, and Fire Chief Kent Smead.

Commissioner Taylor led the group in the invocation.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BUDGET

Robert Webb, representing the Business Development Corporation in the absence of Sean Stockard, presented the BDC budget which is basically the same as the prior year with total expenditures of \$550,000, but expanded because of the projects that are being sponsored (Tangerie, Agriboard, Cool Creations, RV Park). Project funds will be \$125,284.58, a decrease of \$101,211.42.

Expenses for the current year are lower than anticipated, and those funds will be applied to the project budget. Budgeted Salary includes a 3% increase, but BDC will copy what the City budgets for a salary increase.

There was discussion on expected revenue for next year, salary increases, equipment purchases, and project versus administrative expense. Mr. Webb assured the Commission that the board will be good stewards of public funds.

Commissioner Dennis made the motion to approve the budget with the amendment that the salary increases to be comparable to the city salary increase.

Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

City Manager Grant explained the budget to the commission, and explained the format and information presented. Total proposed expenditures are \$13,923,067. Budgetary expenditures by fund are:

• General Fund	\$6,306,855	up 1.7%
• Enterprise Fund	\$6,140,781	down 0.38%
• Hotel/Motel Fund	\$ 232,590	up 3.37%
• Debt Service Fund	\$1,221,841	up 0.46%
• Electric Trust Expense Fund	\$ 21,000	down 44%

There are no increases budgeted for water and sewer rates. Tax revenue is budgeted at the effective tax rate of \$0.370683, based on tax valuations of \$3,364,517. Sales Tax revenues are expected to decrease \$61,000 or 4.88%. The proposed budget provides for a transfer of \$672,453 of net profits out of the Enterprise Fund to the General Fund to offset costs of administration.

There were very few capital requests in the 2010-2011 Budget. They include:

- (3) Police Vehicles (SUVs) \$ 71,374
- Ladder Truck for Fire Department \$ 540,000
- New Street Paving \$ 20,000
- Street Sander \$ 5,000
- Aquatic Center \$1,500,000
- Telephone system for City Hall \$ 6,500

Total employment will be 102 full time employees with the Public Works request that a part-time employee be increased to full-time. Total budgeted cost for personnel is \$5.2 million. A salary increase of 2% was included for Division Directors and City Manager, an increase of \$5,000 for the City Secretary, and Step & Grade increases for all other employees.

Notable expenditures included in the budget:

- Advanced Life Support Training for EMS \$ 30,000
- Continued Seal Coat Project \$200,000
- Maintenance for GPS Mapping \$ 5,000
- Mandated Water Conservation Brochures \$ 2,000
- Sewer Grease Cutter Chemicals \$ 8,500
- Partial Year Chemicals for Nitrate Plant \$177,000
- Fire Hydrant Replacements \$ 10,000
- Operation costs for Aquatic Center \$ 45,000
- Main Street Program operation \$ 69,475

There was discussion about the contracts between the Wilbarger General Hospital and Wilbarger County for the shared cost of the ambulance service. There was lengthy discussion concerning advanced life support training for EMS. Every city in the area has at least one paramedic, and EMS Coordinator Adam Scott emphasized that this was a very important program, especially for heart attack patients. Fire Chief Smead plans to send seven (7) to school. Wilbarger General Hospital has indicated that they will help fund this training with a one-time grant, but final approval has not yet been received for this funding. Since training starts August 24, full cost of the program is included in the budget. After training is complete, Ambulance rates can be changed for full life support transport. Paramedic training will not be completed until this time next year, so no funding is provided in this budget for increased salary expense. There was discussion about rates of pay compared to current levels, training costs and turnover. There was consensus from all of the Commission to leave the training expense in the budget.

Tape #865 and #866

There was discussion about the swimming pool revenue. Commissioner Brownlow stated that we needed to change the wording to "Aquatic Center".

Commissioner McCuiston made the motion to change the name from "Swimming Pool" to "Aquatic Center".

Commissioner Brownlow seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

City Manager Grant went through the budget department by department and explained any changes from the current year's budget.

It was agreed that the Police Department could purchase 2 SUV vehicles at the beginning of the fiscal year, and another nearer to the end of the fiscal year if funds are available.

Commissioner Brownlow made the motion to approve the change from proposing two police vehicles to three to the proposed budget to be adopted at a later meeting.

Commissioner McCuiston seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.


Commissioner Brownlow agreed to attend the Main Street Conference in El Paso in October when they announce the cities accepted into the Main Street Program.

Mayor Bearden stated the commission's appreciation for the good job of each department and the City managers effort to present a balanced budget.

ADJOURN

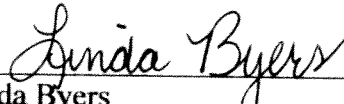
Commissioner McCuiston made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm.

Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.



Jeff Bearden
Mayor

ATTEST:



Linda Byers
City Secretary