

The Smithfield Town Council continued the recessed May 18, 2016 budget work session on Monday, May 23, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Smithfield Town Hall. Mayor M. Andy Moore presided.

Councilmen Present:

Emery D. Ashley, Mayor Pro-Tem
Marlon Lee, District 1
J. Perry Harris, District 2
Travis Scott, District 3
Roger A. Wood, District 4
John A. Dunn, At-Large
Stephen Rabil, At-Large

Councilmen Absent

Administrative Staff Present

Michael L. Scott, Town Manager
Jim Freeman, Interim Town Manager
Lenny Branch, Public Works Director
Gary Johnson, Parks & Rec Director
Tim Kerigan, Human Resources/PIO
R. Keith Powell, Interim Chief of Police
Greg Siler, Finance Director
Shannan Williams, Town Clerk

Mayor Moore reconvened the meeting at 6:30 pm.

Non-Profit Organization Funding Requests

• **Hawk Youth Leadership Chapter –\$1,500.00**

Carrie Richardson Hawk Youth Leadership Coordinator informed the Council this funding would allow three cadets to participate in the CopTube program.

• **Helping and Healing Hearts –\$4,000.00**

Rachel Ayers of Helping and Healing Hearts informed the Council her organization helps feed 635 families a month in Johnston County. This funding would allow her to better serve the community because she is currently operating through private donations.

• **Inter Faith Food Shuttle - \$ 2,000.00**

Rachel Ayers on behalf of Inter Faith Food Shuttle informed the Council this organization is based out of Raleigh and they assist her organization by delivering food that will ultimately be donated. The funds would assist with gas and maintenance

• **Harbor, Inc. - \$2,500.00**

Angie Locke Board Chair and Kay Johnson Executive Director informed the Council the requested funding would assist their organization with victims of domestic violence.

• **Community and Senior Services of Johnston County - \$3,500.00**

Neal Davis Executive Director informed the Council these funds would benefit the aging population in the community.

• **F(X) Robotics from Smithfield Selma High School – \$6,000.00**

Noah Kiser and Joshua Baker members of the Robotics Team and Club explained to the Council their organization and informed them they were seeking funding to assist with competition entry fees.

• **Chamber of Commerce –\$4,000.00**

Rick Childrey Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce informed the Council these funds directly benefit the Town through economic development and marketing opportunities.

- **Downtown Smithfield Development Corporation - \$55,000**

Sara Edwards Executive Director provided a brief overview of the organization. Ms. Edwards explained approximately \$89,000 in revenue is generated from the Downtown Municipal Service District tax. The additional funding provided by the Town in the amount of \$55,000 is used to promote Smithfield to enhance the quality of life for all.

- **The Public Library of Johnston County and Smithfield - \$257,500**

Margaret Marshall Executive Director and Library Board Chairman Jeff Jennings explained in this budget year the Library is funded 26% by the Town, 46% by Johnston County, 19% by State, and 9% revenues are internally generated. The Library requested a 1% increase from last year to help assist with employee pay increases. Ms. Marshall explained the roof is in need of total replacement.

Town Manager Michael Scott informed Council that the Johnston County Visitor's Bureau representative was not in attendance due to a death in the family and the representative from the Ava Gardner museum was not in attendance due to illness.

Parks and Recreation

Town Manager Michael Scott and Parks and Recreation Director Gary Johnson reviewed the Parks and Recreation annual budget. Mr. Johnson explained that the department is relatively unchanged from this year's adopted budget.

Mr. Scott explained that \$10,000 was proposed for the demolition of the Eva Ennis pool because it has been unused for several years and it is a hazard.

Mr. Johnson explained that in the Capital outlay line item \$50,000 was being proposed for a playground unit at Johnson Park; \$26,450 was being proposed for a ventrac utility tractor; and \$ 15,000 was proposed for repairs to the Talton Park restrooms.

Councilman Rabil questioned if all the Capital Outlay items had been ordered and installed. Mr. Johnson responded that bleachers are here and waiting for the concrete to be poured, the fence at Johnson Park has been installed, the scoreboard for Smith Collins has been ordered, and the grading and concrete at Smith Collins Park is being completed.

Councilman Lee asked the Town Engineer to look at the drainage of Smith Collins Park. Mr. Johnson responded a meeting has been scheduled to inspect those issues.

Councilman Lee questioned why the Town was spending money at the Civitan Field since the Town does not own that property. Mr. Johnson responded the Civitan field is the only true Little League Field and if it is to be utilized then the Town should maintain it.

Councilman Scott questioned if a dog park was still being considered. Mr. Johnson responded a location has not been determined. Mr. Johnson was instructed to bring a cost estimate to the Council for an adequate dog park facility.

Smithfield Recreation and Aquatics Center

Town Manager Michael Scott and Parks and Recreation Director Gary Johnson reviewed the Smithfield Recreation and Aquatics Center Annual Budget. Mr. Johnson explained that the department is relatively unchanged from this year's adopted budget.

Mr. Johnson did inform the Council of a slight increase to the part-time line item and temporary labor line item primarily due to utilizing the custodial services not provided by Johnston County Schools beyond Monday-Friday.

Councilman Harris instructed Mr. Johnson to make sure the dog stations on the Greenway were adequately stocked.

Other Items for Discussion

Mayor Pro-Tem Ashley suggested that each member of Council email the Manager a list of key budget points that each would like to address at the next meeting.

Councilman Harris stated a decision on the Eva Ennis Pool needed to be made at the next meeting.

Councilman Lee stated the drainage issues needed to be addressed. He further stated that two studies have been completed and it was time to do something. Mr. Lee asked the status of the Family Life Center and the funds budgeted for that project. Mr. Scott responded that the funds are still encumbered and more research was being completed. Mr. Lee also requested an update on the Pine Acres buffer. Mr. Scott responded the Engineer was still trying to contact the landowner for an easement. This easement would allow for sidewalks to be constructed in the future. If the Council did not desire to have sidewalks constructed, the project could move forward now.

Mr. Scott informed Council the Public Hearing was scheduled for the June 7th regular meeting and a proposed budget would be sent to them on Tuesday, May 24th.

Recess

There being no further business, Mayor Pro-Tem Ashley made a motion, seconded by Councilman Wood, to recess the meeting until Wednesday, June 1, 2016 at 6:30 pm. unanimously approved.

M. Andy Moore, Mayor

ATTEST:

Shannan L. Williams, Town Clerk