

The Smithfield Town Council reconvened its March 23, 2023 Special Meeting on Thursday, March 27, 2023 at 6:45 pm in the Council Chambers of the Smithfield Town Hall, Mayor M. Andy Moore presided.

Councilmen Present:
 Mayor Pro-Tem, John Dunn
 Marlon Lee, District 1
 Sloan Sevens, District 2
 Travis Scott, District 3
 Dr. David Barbour, District 4
 Stephen Rabil, At-Large

Councilmen Absent
 Roger Wood, At-Large

Administrative Staff Present
 Michael Scott, Town Manager
 Michael Brown, Fire Chief
 James Grady, Interim Chief of Police
 Tim Kerigan, Human Resources/PIO
 IT Director, Eric McDowell
 Stephen Wensman, Planning Director

Reconvene: March 23, 2023 Meeting

Mayor Moore reconvened the meeting at 6:49 pm

Councilman Barbour asked that a moment of silence be observed for the victims of a mass shooting at a Tennessee school.

1. General Fund

a. Revenues

Town Manager Michael Scott reviewed the FY 2023-2024 Revenues with the Town Council. He explained that property taxes were the largest revenue source for the General Fund. He explained this budget did not include the property taxes from the Amazon site.

Grant- GHSP: The Town Manager explained that only \$9,130 was budgeted for this year and the two traffic officers have been taken out of the budget.

JCC Police Officer – The Town Manager explained this was the only resource officer the Town had. All other Smithfield school resource officers are employed by the Johnston County Sherriff's Department.

CO- 1st Responders Stipend – Councilman Scott stated that this amount should be increased. The County should be allocating almost \$30,000 to the Town.

b. General Government

Town Manager Michael Scott highlighted the General Government's FY 2023-2024 budget which included the following:

- Salaries: These portions are split evenly between the three funds.
- Group Insurance: 9% proposed increase, but final figures have not been obtained.
- Legal Fees: \$10,000 increase due to increased fees. The Town Manager explained that in the future, the Town Council may want to consider hiring a full-time attorney.
- Advertising Employment: 25% increase due to the increased amount needed to advertise vacancies
- Capital Outlay: \$15,000 was proposed for refurbishing the Manager's Office
- Items requested, but not included in the Budget
 - \$20,100 for Neo-Gov Human Resources Software
 Human Resources Director Tim Kerigan explained the importance of this software.

Councilman Barbour asked staff to investigate salaries of the Town Council's in surrounding areas.

c. Debt Service

Town Manager Michael Scott highlighted the Debt Service FY 2023-2024 budget which included the following:

- No new debt was proposed in this budget
- Police Department Expansion was the newest loan payment.
- Dump truck/SUV loan will mature in January 2024.
- Hook Lift Truck loan will mature in January 2025.

d. Finance

Town Manager Michael Scott highlighted the Finance Department's FY 2023-2024 Budget which included the following:

- The Finance Department remained mostly status quo

e. Information Technology (IT)

IT Director Eric McDowell highlighted the IT Department's FY 2023-2024 Budget which included the following:

- IT Supplies – General Government: The budgeted amount for this line was \$16,990 due to adding Archive Social. Marketing and Communications Specialist Brian Eaves explained the software and its importance.
- IT Supplies – Fire: 456% increase in this line due to the IT needs of the Fire Department.
- Capital Outlay: \$49,800 was included for replacement of network switches.

f. Planning

Planning Director Stephen Wensman highlighted the Planning Department's FY 2023-2024 Budget which included the following:

- Professional Fees: 7% increase due to the cost of increased fees
- Fuel: 45% increase due to the increased cost of fuel.
- Items requested, but not included in the Budget:
 - \$50,000 for the Spring Branch Construction Project. Mr. Wensman explained that the consultant requested an additional \$50,000 for the project due to cost increases. The Town Manager explained this was not included in the budget because there were funds to complete this project, but if it came in over budget then it could be dealt with at that time.


Recess

Councilman Barbour made a motion, seconded by Councilman Stevens, to recess the meeting to Monday April 3, 2023 at 7:00 pm. The meeting recessed at approximately 8:48 pm.

ATTEST:


Shannan L. Parrish, Town Clerk




M. Andy Moore, Mayor