

TOWN COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
MAY 14, 2012  
7:00 PM

Mayor Moore-Absent  
Vice-Mayor Greer-Present  
Councilman Ward-Present  
Councilman Massey-Present  
Councilman Doughty-Present  
Councilman Metz-Present  
Councilman Scanlan-Present

STAFF PRESENT: Arthur Miles, Ethel Parks, Chief DiMartino.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Vice-Mayor Greer in Mayor Moore's absence.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION-COUNCILMEN:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present. Vice-Mayor Greer stated that an invocation was not required at a Special Meeting.

2013 INCOMING BUDGET:

Councilman Metz questioned the increase in the phone bill. Mr. Miles explained that in the past the expenditure for telephones was under budgeted so he increased the amount to cover the cost of office phones and cell phones for Public Safety and the same for Public Works. Councilman Metz also asked if there was any money budgeted for new wells. Mr. Miles stated that there is \$24,000 allotted for the new wells in the Water System Reserve Fund. Councilman Metz asked where we buy our gas for vehicles. Mr. Miles noted that this year we contracted with the Department of General Services for approximately \$3.00 per gallon and that it has saved the Town a lot of money. The Clerk explained that employees may purchase fuel at any location that accepts the Voyager card then we are billed at the State price.

Councilman Scanlan asked Mr. Miles if he set aside any money for the T-21 grants. Mr. Miles said that he added \$135,000, which is half of the current part of the parking lot.

Councilman Doughty asked if J.R. has a license to spray chemicals. Mr. Miles stated that he does and needs to update his CEU's before June 30.

Mr. Miles noted that the COLA was done to cover what he thought was an employee contribution to VRS. He said that it was in error after finding out that the employees already contribute their 5%.

Councilman Scanlan asked if there was any money set aside for possibility of Springsted. Mr. Miles said he did not but it can be done out of the reserve. Councilman Scanlan stated that it should be in the budget whether they use it or not. Mr. Miles noted that the current proposed budget will be advertised in Wednesday's newspaper and the Public Hearing would be next Thursday and that a

representative from Springsted will be here. Councilman Scanlan and Mr. Miles discussed adding Springsted to the budget and decided to readvertise.

Councilman Metz recommended to ask other police departments and agencies to help out with the legal fees incurred with the pistol range since they will be using it as much as Exmore will.

Vice-Mayor Greer asked how much the health insurance increased. Mr. Miles noted that the increase was less than 9%. He noted that he has a problem with overtime. Vice-Mayor Greer said that the police department cannot control their overtime but the office and maintenance workers can. He said that overtime should be approved and have a good reason for working it. Mr. Miles noted that the majority of the total overtime is the police department and the majority of that is Safety Enforcement, not overtime.

Councilman-Elect Lewis stated that they need to get a handle on the overtime.

Chief DiMartino stated that the overtime that listed for the police department is mostly Safety Enforcement. The Council discussed putting the department heads on salary.

Councilman Scanlan asked Chief DiMartino if he really needed the 8<sup>th</sup> officer. Chief DiMartino stated that the 8<sup>th</sup> officer would be good to have but the department could make do with seven.

Vice-Mayor Greer suggested to take the \$22,818 for the 8<sup>th</sup> officer out of the budget and dedicate it to Springsted. Councilman Scanlan made the Motion to take the \$22,818 for the 8<sup>th</sup> officer out of the budget and dedicate it to Springsted. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Doughty. Discussion-None further. The Motion was passed unanimously.

Vice-Mayor Greer asked the Council how they wanted to handle the overtime and salary. Councilman Massey suggested to wait until the Mayor is present. Councilman Scanlan suggested to leave it the way it is and wait until a new Town Manager is hired to straighten it out.

Vice-Mayor Greer asked the Council where they stood on the COLA and bonuses. Councilman Metz said he feels it should be one or the other. They all agreed. Councilman Ward made the Motion to do away the COLA and keep the bonuses. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Scanlan. Discussion-None further. The Motion was passed unanimously.

Councilman Scanlan asked if the parking lot would be finished in this fiscal year's budget. Mr. Miles noted that it would not.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:**

Councilman Scanlan made the Motion to adjourn the meeting. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Ward. The meeting was adjourned.

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Douglas W. Greer, Sr. Vice-Mayor

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Ethel Parks, Town Clerk