

TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING
BUDGET
AUGUST 27, 2013
7:00 PM

Mayor Greer-Present
Vice-Mayor Lewis-Present
Councilman Ward-Present
Councilman Massey-Present
Councilman Doughty-Present
Councilman Duer-Present
Councilman Metz-Present

STAFF PRESENT: Zeke Jackson, Ethel Parks, Chief DiMartino, Sgt. Campbell, Officer Zieger, Buster Spady.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Greer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

INVOCATION:

The Invocation was given by Mayor Greer.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Melissa Potter spoke to the Mayor and Council regarding the Selective (Safety) Enforcement. She noted that during the course of traffic stops our officers often find drugs, weapons, stolen items and charge drivers with a DUI. She said that we need all of our officers and we need the Selective (Safety) Enforcement to continue. Mayor Greer stated that he, Vice-Mayor Lewis, Chief DiMartino and Mr. Jackson met and assured Ms. Potter that the Selective Enforcement is in place, just not as much of it. He said that this does not prevent an officer from doing his duty on regular time. Mr. Jackson stated that the Selective Enforcement is grant funded and will change from \$5,500 last budget year to approximately \$8,400 this budget year. He said that the Safety Enforcement Program is locally funded and that is the one that has been cut back.

Bob Mishefski asked to have funds appropriated for bike and skate board lanes in town. Mayor Greer stated that it could not be worked into the budget at this time. He said that he would like to work on an ordinance at a later date that would allow bike and skate boards on sidewalks.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Jackson noted that in preparing the budget, he overlooked the holiday pay plan. He said that there is no written policy in place it has just been handed down over the years by word of mouth. Mr. Jackson explained that they need to adopt a written holiday and emergency pay policy, amend the budget to reflect funds for holiday and emergency pay and appropriate the funds. The current rate of pay is 2½ times the normal rate of pay. Mr. Jackson asked the Council to appropriate \$3,600 for the police department, \$900 for public works and \$900 for administration. Vice-Mayor Lewis made the Motion to amend the budget appropriate funds for holiday and emergency pay. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Ward. Discussion-Councilman Duer asked if the budget would now be out of balance. Mr. Jackson told him it will be and that they can take this issue up at a later date and see if there is somewhere else they want to make a cut. The Motion was passed unanimously.

CONSIDER A RESOLUTION ON COUNCIL COMPENSATION:

Councilman Duer stated that he is not comfortable giving himself a raise when as a group they have failed to support the Town Manager and we do not have current audits. He said that he cannot see paying the Council an extra dime for a job not done.

Councilman Ward stated that they have worked long and hard as Councilmen and made the Motion to adopt the Resolution. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Massey. Discussion-Councilman Metz asked how long it had been since the Council has had a raise. The Clerk told him they received a very small raise in 2008. Mr. Jackson said that the rate for the Council should be between \$8,000 and \$16,000 and they are very much below that. He explained that when the level of pay increases so does the level of participation. Mayor Greer noted that he is excited about what is going on in Exmore. He said this Council will be working harder than any other Council before and the raise is needed and feels it is the right thing to do. Mayor Greer stated that there is a Motion on the floor and a second. The Motion was passed by the vote of Councilman Ward-Aye; Councilman Massey-Aye; Councilman Doughty-Aye; Councilman Metz-Aye; Vice-Mayor Lewis-Aye; Councilman Duer-Nay.

CONSIDER AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED 2013-2014 BUDGET:

Mr. Jackson asked the Council to adopt the proposed 2013-2014 budget in the form of an ordinance so that it carries property rights in the force of the law locally. He noted that it is not a numbered ordinance as other ordinances. Vice-Mayor Lewis made the Motion to adopt the Ordinance to Enact Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Budget. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Ward. Discussion-Councilman Doughty stated that the public safety is down \$386,000 and last year was \$420,000. Mr. Jackson explained that he was looking at the appropriations budget and if he looked at the actual budget he could see it broken down by line item. Councilman Doughty asked Mr. Jackson if he was doing away with any part of public safety. Mr. Jackson said that one position has been eliminated, there is a savings on insurance and the locally budgeted overtime that was not grant funded has been cut. He said that the grant has increased from \$5,500 to \$8,400. He explained that they approved a match to the \$5,500 in previous budget discussions. There was no further discussion. The Motion was passed by the vote of Councilman Ward-Aye; Councilman Massey-Aye; Councilman Duer-Aye; Councilman Metz-Aye; Vice-Mayor Lewis-Aye; Councilman Doughty-Nay.

CONSIDER A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE 2013-2014 FISCAL YEAR:

Councilman Duer made the Motion to adopt the Resolution to Appropriate Funds for the 2013-2014 Fiscal Year. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz. The Motion was passed by the vote of Councilman Ward-Aye; Councilman Massey-Aye; Councilman Duer-Aye; Councilman Metz-Aye; Vice-Mayor Lewis-Aye; Councilman Doughty-Nay.

ADJOURN:

Councilman Massey made the Motion to adjourn.

Mr. Jackson stated that per the Charter he already has the authority to dispose of public assets but that someone has raised an issue in public about his and the staff's ability to do so. Mr. Jackson said that someone has sent a letter to his future employer claiming that he, the Chief of Police and Taylor Dukes have somehow pocketed money. He noted that the police department has a car that needs to be surplused out and it is in the budget and he is asking the Council's permission to surplus the car. Councilman Duer made the Motion to allow the Town Manager and the Chief of Police to dispose of the old police car. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz. The Motion was passed unanimously.

David Scanlan thanked the Council for their hard work on the budget. He noted that when he was on the Council the PDC had grant money available for bike lanes.

G.W. Adkins noted that the Council works hard and deserves a pay increase. He said that if any of the Council have a project that they are working on individually that they should work on it together as a team.

The Motion to adjourn was seconded by Councilman Ward. The Motion was passed unanimously.

Douglas Greer, Mayor

Ethel Parks, Town Clerk