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AUMSVILLE BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
May 12th, 2020
Via Zoom Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

2019-20 Budget Committee Chair Kim Ferguson opened the meeting at 7:08 PM.

Attendees: Gus Bedwell, Tammy Bennett, Laura Bridges (phoned in 7:25 PM), Nico Casarez, Angelica Ceja, Mayor Clevenger, Doug Cox, Amy Evans, Kim Ferguson, Ray Mandyck, Larry Purdy, Della Seney, Karla Willmschen. Staff: City Administrator Ron Harding, Finance Officer Josh Hoyer, and City Clerk Colleen Rogers.

2020-21 Chair Nominations

Kim Ferguson was nominated to continue as committee chair. A motion was made to appoint Kim Ferguson as the 2020 Aumsville Budget Committee Chair and it was seconded. A roll call vote was conducted. The motion passed 10-1. Voting in favor: Gus Bedwell, Tammy Bennett, Nico Casarez, Angelica Ceja, Mayor Clevenger, Doug Cox, Amy Evens, Ray Mandyck, Larry Purdy, Della Seney, Karla Willmschen. Not in favor: Kim Ferguson.

2020-21 Vice Chair Nominations

Karla Willmschen was nominated for the Vice Chair Position. Della Seney made a motion to appoint Karla Willmschen as the 2020 Aumsville Budget Committee Vice-Chair. Derek Clevenger seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted. The motion passed unanimously. 11-0 Voting in favor: Gus Bedwell, Tammy Bennett, Nico Casarez, Angelica Ceja, Mayor Clevenger, Doug Cox, Amy Evens, Kim Ferguson, Ray Mandyck, Larry Purdy, Della Seney, Karla Willmschen.

Chair Ferguson called for review of the budget committee meeting minutes from May 7, 2019. Della Seney made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Nico Casarez.

PUBLIC HEARING – BUDGET, STATE REVENUE SHARING

Chair Ferguson opened the Public Hearing for the budget at 7:20. With no comments, the hearing was closed. The State Revenue Sharing hearing was opened at 7:24 PM. There being no comments, Chair Ferguson closed the hearing, and moved on to the review of the proposed budget. Chair Ferguson turned the meeting over to CA Ron Harding and FO Josh Hoyer.

2020-21 Budget Message

The 2020-21 Fiscal Year Budget Message was received, and CA Harding delivered a presentation explaining the budget details in relation to the financial outlook of the city. In general, construction is

expected to slow, as remaining single family lots are running low. An apartment complex project is expected to start during the fiscal year. Permitting-related revenues will be reduced compared to recent years, with an offsetting reduction in expenses. Other revenue sources are estimated to be relatively unchanged, despite the recent COVID-19 outbreak. Some intergovernmental funding and franchise fee revenues may be impacted, but since it isn't certain what the impact could be, the city opted to leave revenue estimates alone and watch income closely each month. Should funding fall short, the city will in turn cut expenditures. Some projects, such as Main Street beautification and a proposed tiny business village at Mill Creek Park, which are grant funded would be postponed or abandoned if funding fails to materialize. CA Harding emphasized that the City's hard work to build 90-day reserves in operating funds will play an important role in sustaining operations in the event of a budget shortfall.

Of note, the City of Aumsville has decided to assume responsibility of the Corn Festival in general. As such, new revenue and expenditure lines have been added to the General Fund in relation to this change. The expectation is that the event will be budget neutral; new expenses will be paid directly from donations and vendor fees.

Committee Member Bennett inquired about the increase in costs related to the newsletter. CA Harding explained that since the city switched from printing and delivering newsletters in-house to an outside printing service, the difference in direct costs for printing is around \$150 to \$200 per issue. However, there are indirect expenses that the city will expect to see, such as a significant reduction in depreciation of the city's printer, reduced labor costs, and an increase in available labor time for staff to work on other projects.

Committee Member Willmschen asked about the new Consultant & Professional Service line in the operating funds. CA Harding clarified that there are often plans for projects that may or may not be pursued, the expenses for which were difficult to categorize with the available accounting codes. Such work includes development of a facilities plan for the wastewater system that is currently under a DEQ compliance agreement.

A hill mower used to maintain the grass along various drainage ditches across the city has broken down and needs to be replaced, which will take about \$60,000 of the capital outlay allocated in the Sewer Fund.

The City is applying for \$100,000 in grants from the ODOT Small City Allotment, which will be applied toward proposed street improvements on 3rd Street. The city also proposes renaming the "1st Street Improvements" to simply "Street Improvements" and add the "Street Overlay" allocation to this renamed line. This will help simplify the accounting details for the future and more accurately describe the expenses.

A \$75,000 park improvement grant is being pursued to help fund rehabilitation of the Tower Well Park next to City Hall.

With the Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Environmental Quality, the City is being required to explore treatment options to reduce contaminants which are present in the treated sewage that is discharged into streams. These improvements could range up to \$30 million over the next ten years. The Sewer Improvement Fund and Sewer System Development Charge Fund have some

resources available, but not near the levels needed to handle this level of expenditure. The City will need to determine the best method of financing for this project, which will add to the \$1.3 million in debt already impacting the sewer fund.

The water system needs an emergency generator, as well as recoating of the million-gallon reservoir. Since these are necessary to support current levels of service, only water revenues and improvement fund reserves can be used. System Development Charges cannot be used, as they are restricted to growth-related improvement projects. The city hopes to be able to pursue both projects, but it will depend heavily on the cost of each and availability of cost-effective financing.

There is potential for two major transportation improvement projects that could be undertaken, for which a large part could be paid for using some of the Transportation System Development Charge Fund resources currently available. The City was able to acquire right-of-way access along Del Mar Drive that would allow it to extend through to Bishop Rd, as well as to 11th St, as long as Aumsville Elementary is able to remove a shed that is stored on the related property.

As the city continues to receive Park System Development Charges, it will be paying down the purchase agreement for the 21 acres of park property located on the east side of Bishop Rd. Currently the city owes about \$124,000 and will need to begin paying interest on the agreement in August.

There were no further questions or comments. Chair Ferguson asked for a motion to approve the proposed agenda as discussed and amended. Ray Mandyck made a motion to approve the fiscal year 2020-21 budget as reviewed and amended, and to recommend the city levy taxes at the permanent rate of \$3.6327 per \$1,000 of assessed value. Seconded by Angelica Ceja. A roll call vote was taken: the motion passed unanimously 12-0. Voting in favor: Gus Bedwell, Tammy Bennett, Laura Bridges, Nico Casarez, Angelica Ceja, Mayor Clevenger, Doug Cox, Amy Evans, Kim Ferguson, Ray Mandyck, Larry Purdy, Della Seney, Karla Willmschen.

The meeting adjourned without prejudice at 8:54 PM