

The Washington City Council met in a regular session on Monday, April 23, 2018 at 3:00pm in the City Council Chambers at the Municipal Building. Present were: Mayor Mac Hodges, Mayor Pro tem Virginia Finnerty, Councilmember Doug Mercer, Councilmember Richard Brooks, Councilmember William Pitt and Councilmember Roland Wyman. Also present: Bobby Roberson, City Manager and Cynthia S. Bennett, City Clerk.

Mayor Hodges called the meeting to order and Councilmember Pitt delivered the invocation.

The City Manager and Finance Director provided an overview of the proposed budget.

Council discussed sports fees and noted they need to re-evaluate the fees charged for resident/non-residents. The Finance Director advised the fees were \$30 across the board until July 1, 2017, beginning July 1 the fees were reduced to \$15. Council suggested a \$20 resident fee (inside) and \$30 non-resident fee (outside). Council asked the Parks and Recreation Director to provide feedback regarding the proposed fee increase. The update will be provided during Tuesday's budget meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the need to review potential fee changes for Brown Library as well.

Discussion was held regarding funding of the streetscape plan.

By motion of Councilmember Mercer, seconded by Mayor Pro tem Finnerty, Council established a streetscape capital project fund and allocated \$200,000 in the current year budget as well as \$200,000 in the proposed FY 18-19 budget. This will increase the current year fund balance appropriation from \$307,000(+/-) to \$507,000 (+/-). Fund balance appropriation for FY18-19 will be increased from \$694,000 (+/-) to \$894,000(+/-) All in favor.

Discussion was held regarding the need to establish a capital project fund for the airport. No action.

Council discussed a recommendation from the Electric Advisory Board relating to the Electric Transfer Policy. The Finance Director discussed the procedure currently used and noted our procedure is approved by the Local Government Commission (LGC). A summary schedule of the transfers will be prepared.

Staff will review the American Public Power Association item listed under 10-00-4120-1400 (this could possibly be removed).

The Finance Director reviewed the General Fund Expenditure Summary spreadsheet and the Administrative Charge Schedule.

Council asked for and received clarification on various aspects of the proposed budget.
Recess

Council discussed the Highway 17 Association funding noting the funds we pay them are actually annual dues and should not fall under outside/support agency funding. The item should move from 10-00-4400-5707 to dues/subscriptions 10-00-4400-5300. By consensus, Council agreed to move Highway 17 Association to dues/subscriptions 10-00-4400-5300 and will no longer require the Highway 17 Association to make a presentation to Council for their dues request.

Council discussed funding for Arts of the Pamlico, Washington Harbor District Alliance and the North Carolina Estuarium. Council discussed a potential "Agency Funding Policy".

Council, by consensus, agreed to leave the funding under Economic Development (10-00-4650) as presented in the proposed budget: Arts of the Pamlico (\$10,369), Washington Harbor District Alliance (\$40,176), North Carolina Estuarium (\$12,960) as well as the Christmas Parade (\$972).

Council discussed the Wildlife Arts Festival and a request that was made to assist with funding. No action was taken.

Council, by consensus agreed to the following funding levels for the outside/support agencies listed below:

Boys and Girls Club - \$10,500

Zion Shelter - \$6100

Wright Flight - \$2250

The Blind Center - \$800

Eagles Wings - \$1000

Purpose of God - \$13,000

Cornerstone Worship Center (*requires additional review)

Special Olympics In Kind Rental - \$3024

Pamlico Pals In Kind Rental - \$3528

Sound Rivers In Kind Rental - \$24,024

PAL In Kind Rental - \$1260

*Council discussed the funding request from Cornerstone Worship Center. Council and staff will request additional information from Cornerstone regarding their program. No action taken at this time on the funding request for Cornerstone.

The City Manager noted there were three applications for funding that he did not include in the budget: Pamlico Rose, Daughters of Worth, Al Powell (PAL). He continued by stating Council has said not to add any new agencies to the outside/support agency funding request list. Council would have to instruct him to include additional agencies to the funding list which occurs early in the budget process.

ADJOURN:

By motion of Councilmember Pitt, seconded by Mayor Pro tem Finnerty, Council adjourned the meeting at 6:00pm until Tuesday, April 24th at 3:00pm for an additional budget workshop.

**Cynthia S. Bennett, MMC
City Clerk**