

TOWN COUNCIL
1ST BUDGET HEARING (FIRST READING)
MINUTES
September 7, 2022

PRESENT: Mayor Angie Gardner, Vice Mayor Rodney Daniels, Councilman Marlin Daniels, Councilwoman Wanda Randolph, and Councilman Theo Washington. **STAFF:** Cathlene Williams, **Interim Chief Administrative Officer**, Albert English, **Public Works Director**, Joseph Jenkins, **Deputy Chief**, and Katrina Gibson, **Finance Director**, Sherronda Thomas, **Recreation Coordinator**, Veronica King, **Town Clerk**. **Others:** Rachel McCoy

CALL TO ORDER & VERIFICATION OF QUORUM

Mayor Gardner called meeting to order at 5:30pm with a verification of quorum through Mrs. Veronica King

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATION

Jeff Templeton, presenting on the Eatonville Police Department (EPD) proposed pension; gave GRS handout from November 2019. Currently EPD has the Chapter Plan according to Chapter 185 of the Florida Statutes. Recommendation is for the attorney to review ordinance for possible updates. Another impact study would need to be done; previous study was good up to six months. The process can take up to a month and a possible cost of \$4,000 (including the study). EPD currently has the minimum and the officers do pay into the retirement; 5% required by statute. The desire is to enhance retirement to prevent loss of officers to other agencies, because of better benefits. Mr. Templeton will provide the cost to Chief Jenkins tomorrow (September 8) to bring back to town council.

THE MAYOR'S BUDGET MESSAGE

Mayor Gardner presented by PowerPoint the Mayor's Budget Message. A transmittal letter will be provided for posting on the town's website. The message will highlight enhancements to departments, improvements to a better government and services; to include financial performance, and amenities. (Education) Science Fair, Spelling Bee, Mayor's Math Challenge. (Community Safety) Jr. Cadet Program, Record's Clerk (EPD), New Police Radios, enhance Code Enforcement ordinances, programming; increase training of the officers. (Parks & Recreation) Repairing parks, equipment, and consistent senior citizen programs; (Summer Program) Stem Education, increasing Senior programs, and increase grant funding. (Family) Supporting events that attract families; community meet and greet. (Strengthening Finance Position) Internal Auditor, policy upgrades, funds for equipment for quicker response time during emergencies, focus on maintenance and prevention. \$5.9 million dollars to improve water system. (Upcoming Projects) Affordable housing, appropriations funds (From Congresswoman Val Demings) that allow for purchasing of land, leakage fees, senior living, civic development to track permits and get organized, track income streams, and conduct better analysis. Denton Johnson Civic Center-\$2.9 Million, Circuit Arts and Performance Grant-\$1 Million.

Resolution #2022-49 setting the tentative millage rate tax levy of ad valorem taxes for fiscal year beginning October 1, 2022 and ending September 30, 2023, and repealing Resolution # 2022-45 that adopted the Tentative Millage Rate.

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Angela Thomas – What is the proposed millage rate; 7.2938 (Mayor Gardner). Why has it not decreased? Mrs. Gibson gave input on the possibilities of adding to the tax bill per Ms. Thomas previous request over the years i.e., stormwater. Adding a non- ad valorem takes place in March.
2. Angela Johnson – Council responsibility to the citizens is to have basic financial literacy classes; to understand basic budgeting. There are monies and partnerships available.

Motion for Resolution #2022-49 setting the tentative millage rate tax levy of ad valorem taxes for fiscal year beginning October 1, 2022 and ending September 30, 2023, and repealing Resolution # 2022-45 that adopted the Tentative Millage Rate. Moved by Councilman Washington; second by Councilman M. Daniels; **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES.**

First reading of Ordinance 2022-11 an ordinance of the Town Council of The Town Of Eatonville, Orange County Florida, approving the first reading on the proposed Budget For The Fiscal Year 2022-2023

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Angela Thomas – Would like a copy of the budget. Will ensure it will be available on the website (Mrs. V. King)
2. Tameka Hudson – In relation to the \$20,000 for the Eatonville Police Department; should have some idea where the money is going. In considering the youth having nothing to do between 6-9 p.m., I propose again an arts center for the community. Need to re-evaluate what goes on with the students as far as the summertime.

MOTION for approval of the first reading of Ordinance 2022-11 an ordinance of the Town Council of The Town Of Eatonville, Orange County Florida, approving the first reading on the proposed Budget For The Fiscal Year 2022-2023; Moved by Councilman Washington; second by Councilman M. Daniels with discussion; **Discussion:** Request for Mayor to explain the process before voting. Mayor Gardner referenced the previous budget workshops where discussions took place on the proposed budget; prior to council deciding to approve and adopt the budget whether with or without changes; announced that this is the first reading of the proposed budget, and the second reading is scheduled for September 19. The budgets are for the general fund and the enterprise budget. Discussion on the \$500,000 grant: it is not reflected on the budget; was just received and currently in the reserve. The Arts Endowment grant (\$180,000) is also in the reserve. RWJF is in reserve. All monies received should be reflected in the budget; it is revenue. We should know what we have, and the expenditures should be broken down. (Councilman M. Daniels). There are monies not accounted for. Budget need to be updated and appropriate for council and should provide three years of actuals to include the grants (Councilwoman Randolph).

MOTION to remove Line Item 134 (Contractual Services – Internal Auditor); moved by Vice Mayor R. Daniels; second by Councilwoman Randolph; **AYE: Councilman M. Daniels, Vice Mayor R. Daniels, Councilwoman Randolph; NAYE: Mayor Gardner, Councilman Washington: MOTION PASSES**

Special Events is separate and not in the budget and is contribution/donation generated; not supported through the general fund (Mrs. Gibson). Line item 146-147 (Promotional Events/Community Events should be broken out (Councilman M. Daniels).

OPEN MOTION for budget changes continues; itemized below.

General Fund Budget

- Line item 146 (Promotional Activities) reduce to \$1000
- Line item 147 (Community Events) reduce to \$100
- Line item 157 reduce to \$4,000
- Line item 305 (New Technical Wi-Fi, computers/Conf. Systems) reduce to \$10,000

Salary Budget

- Line item 75 (Finance - Accounting Clerk - Page 3 of 11)– Error noted in the salary. Should read \$45,703 confirmed by Mrs. Gibson.
- Line item 78 (Finance Coordinator) reduced to \$25,000 to reflect the town’s obligation based upon the Interlocal Agreement.
- Item 342 (Contractual Services) reduced to \$75,000

Staff (Mrs. Gibson) is recommending a recess/continuation of the first reading of the budget; must not conflict with Orange County and has to be advertised. Departments left in the general fund budget for review are Public Work, Recreation, and the Post Office.

Motion to recess the first budget hearing to continue on Monday, September 12, 2022 at 5:15 p.m.; Moved by Councilman Washington; second by Councilman M. Daniels; **AYE: ALL, MOTION PASSES. Meeting Recessed at 8:27 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted by:


Veronica L King, Town Clerk

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APPROVED

Angie Gardner, Mayor