



C O U N C I L M I N U T E S *MARCH 22, 2022, 6:30PM, SFD TOWN HALL*

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Tim Sessoms.

The following were present:

Council

Tim Sessoms, Mayor
 Lynne Williams DeVaney, Mayor Pro-tem
 John Doggett
 John O'Day
 Janelle Robinson
 Reece Walker

Staff

Scott Whitaker, Town Manager
 Dee Hall, Finance Officer
 Lance Heater, Town Clerk

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon motion by O'Day, seconded by DeVaney and carried unanimously, the meeting agenda was approved.

FY22-23 BUDGET PLANNING SESSION

Whitaker reviewed notes from the Council retreat held on 1/29 and noted items affecting the upcoming draft budget as follows: 1) an update of the Town's Comprehensive Plan would be budgeted; 2) funds would be included for land acquisition (non-specific but with flexibility to respond to opportunities); 3) funding for establishment of a dog park; and, 4) purchase of a new town vehicle. It was noted that the current truck would be retained and certain maintenance issues regarding it were being addressed. In response to an inquiry for additional items, O'Day reported that there was interest in establishing a bicycle pump track.

Whitaker reported that the inflation rate had experienced an increase of 7.9% from 2/21 to 2/22 and that staff would be taking into consideration the latest figures when reviewing recommendations for salary/wage adjustments. Whitaker reported on a survey of local area managers in which it was noted that most would be proposing some combination of cost-of-living-adjustment (COLA) and/or merit increases in the upcoming year. The general consensus of Council was to accept that approach.

Hall noted that real property valuation had increased from \$1.63 billion to \$1.667 billion in the Town during the most recent reassessment.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – *None.*

COUNCIL, MANAGER, AND/OR ATTORNEY RESPONSE TO COMMENTS – *None.*

FINANCING RE: TOWN HALL DEVELOPMENT

Hall reported that the Local Government Commission (LGC) would have to approve any financing by the Town for the new town hall. Prior to seeking LGC approval, the Town would need to receive a letter from the Town's Construction-Manager-at-Risk (Samet Corp.) with a guaranteed maximum



Town Hall: POB 970, 4117 Oak Ridge Road, Summerfield, NC 27358
 ph: 336-643-8655 / fax: 336-643-8654 / www.summerfieldnc.gov

price. Therefore, new quotes for financing would need to be sought after this price is received and then presented to the LGC for approval. In response to a request for comment, Mildred Hoffler-Foushee, chair of the Finance Committee, stated that the Committee members appreciated being consulted for input on major projects.

FY21-22 COUNCIL BUDGET AMENDMENT #2

Upon motion by Robinson, seconded by DeVaney and carried by a vote of 4-1 (Walker opposed), Council budget amendment #2 was approved. It increased funding for legal fees by \$90,000, from \$100,000 to \$190,000; increased Parks & Rec. vehicle maintenance by \$5,000, from \$2,500 to \$7,500; and decreased Capital Outlay/Construction services by \$95,000. Hall explained that the increase to legal fees was to fund payment of opposing attorney's fees in the Dunham public records lawsuit (as ordered by the Court) as well as ongoing fees in the Perryman/Nelson quo warranto suit. The increase in vehicle maintenance was for various issues related to the Town truck.

It was the consensus of Council to seek input from the Finance Committee regarding revenues received from the Federal government for COVID relief.

Upon motion by DeVaney, seconded by Walker and carried by a unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 7:21pm.

Tim Sessoms, Mayor

Lance G. Heater, Town Clerk