

**MAY 10 2022
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MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL WORK SESSION
VERSAILLES MUNICIPAL BUILDING/4:30 P.M.**

ROLL CALL: MAYOR BRIAN TRAUOGOTT PRESIDED OVER THE MEETING. ALSO PRESENT WERE COUNCIL MEMBERS LAURA DAKE, LISA JOHNSON, FRED SIEGELMAN, AND AARON SMITHER. ALSO PRESENT WAS CITY ATTORNEY BILL MOORE.

DEPT. HEADS: BART MILLER, MIKE MURRAY, T.A. RANKIN, AND ELIZABETH REYNOLDS WERE PRESENT REPRESENTING THEIR RESPECTIVE DEPARTMENTS.

Council member Siegelman arrived at 4:36pm.

Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget

City Clerk Elizabeth Reynolds noted that the most updated draft had been distributed to the Council and Department Directors. She stated that this draft only has one change from the one disbursed at the council meeting, a corrected a typo in the Fire Department expenses.

Mayor Traugott began the discussion with the budgeted revenues. He noted that the draft shows \$300,000 budgeted for Net Profits, but based on the current year being at a record high of already over \$780,000, he recommends increasing the budget to \$500,000. Mayor Traugott stated that he is still recommending that the City move forward with a Gross Receipts Tax instead of a Net Profits Tax. He stated that it is a more consistent and fair approach especially for the chain businesses. The Council agreed with his recommendation to zero out the occupational license fee line-item and have businesses register with the City rather than pay a business license.

Fire Chief T.A. Rankin and City Clerk Reynolds noted that the KLEFPF has increased from \$4,000 to \$4,300 per year per trained officer or firefighter.

Mayor Traugott stated that the final health insurance numbers had come in and the increase is 9.7%.

The Mayor and Council discussed the council department expenses which include funding non-profits and other governmental agencies such as Falling Springs and Emergency Management. Council member Johnson expressed her support to use the Opioid Settlement funding to pay for the City's portion of the prevention program Planet Youth. Mayor Traugott noted that the settlement statute is strict on the uses for the funds and states that it must be geared toward opioid abatement and rehabilitation. He stated that he would like to fund Planet Youth either way – if not through settlement funds than through the general fund. He recommended increasing the Professional/Technical Line Item to \$105,000 to include the funding for Planet Youth as well as funding for the newly implemented Woodford Wheels. He stated that the Grant Software/Expenditures line-item could be reduced by half because Kentucky League of Cities has purchased a subscription for every City to Grant Station.

City Clerk Reynolds presented the Clerk department expenses which had minimal changes from the prior year. She noted that the majority of the increase was in salaries and benefits, with the COLA raise for all employees, and she also noted that Travel/Training was increased in hopes of being able to send employees to more in-person training opportunities.

Mayor Traugott noted that that Mayor's department expenses decreased overall. The Mayor's salary line-item includes a COLA raise as well as a reduction budgeted amount for the Minority Empowerment Liaison because she is averaging less hours weekly than was budgeted in prior years. Council member Johnson asked if the Liaison would be providing updates to the Council regarding her work. Mayor Traugott stated that the Liaison was originally tasked with working with Bridge the Gap, which is no longer active. He noted that she spends approximately 90% of her time assisting with employment.

Police Chief Mike Murray presented the Police department expenses. He noted that compared to the prior year there were increases in salaries and benefits, including funding five vacant positions, increased Computer Network Maintenance, increased Firearms/Defense line-item due to the increase in ammunition prices, increase in fuel prices, and an increase in Repairs/Maintenance General.

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Chief Rankin discussed the Fire department expenses, noting little change from the prior year. He stated that the department is fully staffed and that the budget reflects an increase in Repairs/Maintenance General as they begin work on Station 1.

Public Works Director Bart Miller went over the Street and Cemetery operating budgets. He noted that the Street department had a decrease in salaries and benefits due to the retirement of tenured employees. He also mentioned an increase in the Road Salt line-item. In the Cemetery department he stated that there is a decrease in salaries due to the privatization of the mowing. He also mentioned the unpredictable nature of fuel costs. Mr. Miller went over the budgeted capital items for the Street and Cemetery departments. He noted that Marybeth Robson, previously employed by GRW Engineers, has worked with the City for the last several years on stormwater projects. He stated that the City is hoping to enter into a contract with Planning & Zoning to continue using Ms. Robson, as a P&Z employee, on a regular basis.

Mayor Traugott and the Council discussed the budgeted capital projects for the other general fund departments with City Clerk Reynolds noting that she is hoping to move forward on a software upgrade, Chief Murray explaining the purchase of five cruisers as well as the new Flock license plate readers, and Chief Rankin discussing the extrication package and new fire hydrant installation.

Police Chief Murray stated that 911 Director Crystal Campbell had presented the proposed 911 Fund Budget to the 911 Board and they approved it as presented.

Public Works Director Miller went over the enterprise fund portion of the proposed budget noting the minimal increases in water and sewer operations, with the majority of increases being related to salaries and benefits. Mr. Miller stated that the Meter Replacement Project is on schedule to be completed in FY2023 as well as several other capital projects.

Mayor Traugott stated that due to time constraints, the Council would not discuss the other two agenda items – Local Preference Ordinance and Harassment Policy Ordinance. He stated that both items will be on the agenda for first reading next week and the Council can discuss further then. He reiterated that the Harassment Policy Ordinance was not a result of any issues of harassment. It is simply a good policy that needs to be on the books.

Mayor Traugott adjourned the meeting without objections.

APPROVED:

BRIAN TRAUGOTT, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ELIZABETH C. REYNOLDS, CITY CLERK