CITY COMMISSION MEETING - BUDGET WORKSHOP

MINUTES

AUGUST 11, 2014

2:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

PRESENT:

Maria Lowe, Mayor
Melinda Pletcher, Vice Mayor
Terri Finnerty, Commissioner
Rick Falkenstein, Commissioner
Gregory Premer, Commissioner

ALSO PRESENT:

Elaine Edmunds, Interim City Manager/Administrative Services Director
Steve Hallock, Public Services Director
Jennifer McMahon, Recreation Director
Jenine Thornley, Recording Secretary

1. Items for Discussion

a. Review of Proposed FY2015 Budget

Elaine Edmunds, Interim City Manager, stated the Recreation Department personnel increased slightly with the addition of part-time staff to cover before and after-school care. The increase is offset by the additional revenue generated from the new program.

Jennifer McMahon, Recreation Director, presented highlights of the department's events and the new permitting process that requires annual applications and Commission approval.

Ms. Edmunds provided background information on the newly developed Vehicle Replacement Plan.

Ms. Edmunds, Steve Hallock, Public Services Director, and Jeff Larson, Financial Consultant, discussed the FY2015-2019 Capital Improvement Project Proposals with the City Commission, as follows: General Fund, Fire Mini-Pumper Vehicle, Street Rehabilitation, Seawall Repairs, Pass-A-Grille Way Reconstruction, Stormwater Fund and Capital Projects. (Attached to the August 11, 2014 minutes are the following documents: Reconciliation to Budget Submittal, Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Submittals, General Fund; Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Summary, Capital Projects; and Reconciliation of Budget Submittal, Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Submittals, Stormwater Fund.)

Ms. Edmunds briefly discussed undergrounding utilities along Gulf Boulevard that are not included in the current CIP. In the Interlocal Agreement with Pinellas County there is a balance of approximately 5.6 million dollars that will be paid out over a period of time and the funds have to be used on Gulf Boulevard for beautification. The Interlocal Agreement was signed 7/10/2012 and expires 7/31/2019. Mr. Larson suggested putting this project into the budget while interest rates are low. Ms. Edmunds stated she would add under-grounding to the five-year CIP.

Commissioner Finnerty posed a question about obtaining an estimate for saving the existing trees in the Pass-A-Grille Way project. Mr. Hallock said there will be additional costs to save existing trees when doing a complete new reconstruction but will try to save the trees, unless instructed otherwise, and would obtain a number for the Commission. Mr. Hallock suggested planting new trees to replace the existing trees.

There was discussion amongst the Commission regarding the following: FDOT landscaping is all grant funded, and the majority of Bayway landscaping is grant funded as well. Blind Pass Road is another large project for next year and it does have SWFMD funding. Gulf Way sand wall, Upham Beach concession's deck replacement, Jetty platform and sidewalk repairs are slated for 2016. Egan Park - discussion about the new location of the boat ramp; light replacement was budgeted for 2015 and netting for 2016. Playground equipment replacement – Vina Del Mar Park, 2017; McKenney Park, 2018. McKenney Park is scheduled to have resurfacing in 2015. Hurley field, FRDAP grant for playground equipment scheduled for 2016. Discussion about the 10 million dollar bond which will have a 20-year note payment period and the Community Center note payment to be paid off in FY2018. The Community Center dock was recommended to be removed from the CIP, but after Commission discussion, the use of pay stations for the dock and the dock to be leased out will be reviewed by the Commission at a later date.

There was a discussion about renovating the prior police station building for City Hall and renovating the current City Hall for the library. The study is progressing and seems to be feasible but there are no numbers as of today's date. Phyllis Ruscella, Library Administrator, spoke positively about the possible renovation.

Tindale-Oliver & Associates submitted a proposal for approximately $141,303 for a planning project for Pass-A-Grille in creating design standards and a master plan.

Pass-A-Grille, there was a discussion regarding ADA compliance and specifications that need to be met. The estimated cost for an engineer to perform a study is $29,000 and $200,000 for construction.

Ms. Edmunds stated there is a need for the Records Retention Document Imaging system for the Community Development Department records which would approximately be $50,000 for 2015.

Waste Water Fund: Ms. Edmunds stated Pump Station 3 and Force Main 3 will be paid from loans. Mr. Hallock stated this was the last piece of waste water collection system and needs to be done. Also, there was general discussion regarding: budgeting for a replacement plan for the lift stations, setting aside $750,000 for sewer and replacement of four pipes in crossovers.

Reclaimed Water Fund: this year $97,000 will be available to be used toward capital projects because the debt service will be paid.

Ms. Edmunds gave a recap of what was added back to the General Fund budget:

Increase in extra legal	$150,000
Addition to Planning Department, Professional Contractual	$ 8,000
3 Firefighter paramedic positions	$220,000
Public Service, Administration Planning & Engineering	$ 17,000
Parks Facility Maintenance	$ 25,000
ADA study/work	$229,000
Tindale-Oliver	$141,303
Records Retention Document Scanning	$ 50,000
Blind Pass Road	$200,000

Ms. Edmunds will present the Commission a summary for the budget meeting on August 12, 2014.

2. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Attest:

Rebecca C. Haynes, City Clerk

Maria Lowe, Mayor

Minutes approved on: 9/24/2014