

FEBRUARY 20, 2018

The Clarksburg City Council met in CONFERENCE (Work) SESSION on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at 4:00 P.M. at the Clarksburg Municipal Building – Council Chambers, 222 West Main Street, Clarksburg, West Virginia.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gary Bowden
Frank Ferrari
Marshall Goff
Ryan Kennedy
Chad Sigmon
Vice Mayor Malfregeot
Mayor Catherine Goings

ALSO PRESENT:

Martin Howe, City Manager
Anthony Bellotte, Asst. City Manager
Kim Karakiozis, Finance Director
Robert Hilliard, Police Chief
Paula Hardman, Recording Secretary

Following roll call, Council proceeded with the following agenda:

Discussion –Proposed Budget- Fiscal Year 2018-2019 – Mr. Howe referenced the budget document previously provided to Council. The proposed budget includes the General Fund Budget which totals \$18,245,950, which is \$320,684 less than the current General Fund Budget for fiscal year 2017-2018 in the amount of \$18,566,634. Also included are the proposed budgets for the Coal Severance Tax Fund (\$48,190), Capital improvement (Excess Property Tax) Levy Fund (\$1,436,900), the Police Fine Escrow Fund (\$205,500), the Rainy Day Fund (\$1,715,000), the Sales & Use Tax Fund (\$4,141,000) and the new Robinson Grand Performing Arts Center Fund (\$714,992).

Some of the highlights of the proposed 2018-2019 Budget are as follows:

1. \$4,141,000 for the Sales & Use Tax revenues.
2. No increase in any other taxes and fire service fees. Fire service fees were last increased sixteen (16) years ago on July 1, 2002.
3. 2% COLA pay adjustment for City employees –Cost: \$144,130.
4. 2% increase in PEIA insurance premiums- Total budgeted for Premium Cost: \$1,507,140.90.
5. A \$200,000 contribution by the General Fund to the Rainy Day Fund.
6. An additional contribution of \$500,000 to each of the pension funds from proceeds of the Sales & Use Tax.
7. \$450,000 for Street-Alley Milling & Paving program budgeted in the Capital Improvement Levy Fund.
8. \$30,000 for continuation of City-wide neighborhood sidewalk program in the Capital Improvement Levy Fund.
9. \$6,000 funding for continuation of the URA building exterior improvement grant program for the downtown and Glen Elk.
10. An 8% increase in funding for the Fire and Police Pension Funds to assist with the unfunded actuarial liability at an additional budget cost of \$174,127.
11. A 2% increase from \$166,464 to \$169,794 for funding of the Clarksburg Harrison Public Library which is mandated under a statute passed by State Legislature.
12. The addition of a new fund and budget for the Robinson Grand Performing Arts Center in the amount of \$714,992.

Mr. Howe informed of various infrastructure summaries he wanted to direct to Councils attention were discussed at this time addressing any area of concern. He informed of Milling and paving, bridge repairs and maintenance, sidewalks and several large retaining wall projects throughout the city.

Mr. Howe then informed of the continuing gear replacement program for the Fire Department including future replacement of breathing cylinders and also looking into the future purchase and funding of a new ladder truck explaining the same as such.

He also spoke of purchasing 22 new tasers for the police department including a 5 year program for the purchase of new tasers for the entire police department.

At this time he informed of City Hall improvements starting with a new HVAC system that will alleviate issues with temperature control throughout City Hall. The new system will correct all temperatures zones throughout the entire building. He then discussed IT, new emails throughout the city and three new rubber roofs, one for the East End Fire Station, one for Public Works and lastly, the Stealey Rec Center.

Mr. Howe then discussed contributions and funding as such for the Library and the Waldomore to include landscaping, parking and roadway etc. informing of a master plan to be considered to cover everything needed. A detailed discussion ensued.

Councilmember Sigmon inquired as to cost of videotaping meetings being too expensive as for the amount of views. If eliminated, an approximate balance of \$12k could be factored back into said budget to be considered for better use in another area. A detailed discussion took place at this time as such addressing any area of concerns.

Discussion took place at this time in regards to PEIA, Murals, new banners and cost to replace Christmas decorations addressing any area of concern. Phone service, webpage maintenance, security issues and network support was also discussed.

Detailed discussions was also held on funding for PRO officers, Visitors Bureau, exterminators, Liability premiums and cemetery maintenance, also addressing any area of concern.

Funding criteria for donations were discussed at this time along with Senior Citizens funding, in the future being designated to the food program only. For future reference, it was decided at this time to consider stricter guidelines for any and all such donations.

Mayor Goings and council commended the City Manager for presenting a solid, tight budget, also drawing attention to some problem areas located at Eastpointe, extra security for future city council meetings and making sure the back door at city hall is fixed as to stay closed when closed.

Councilmember Ferrari along with Vice Mayor Malfregeot discussed a higher cost of living increase for employees with said request for 3% being discussed in detail for consideration.

Councilmember Kennedy voiced concerns at this time this traffic issues at the exit of the YMCA. Concluding discussion, it was decided that it needed to be made safer and that this would be discussed as to remedy in the near future.

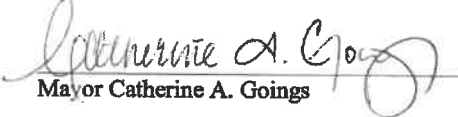
Discussion of Joseph Paul (Whistling Pete) Swanwich Memorial Park and Harrison County WV Historical Society were also discussed at this time. Concluding detailed discussions, it was decided to consider donations to be divided between said request, the Library and Mike Spatafore contingent upon amount of donation given by the Harrison County Commission.

Vice Mayor Malfregeot also provided a handout regarding the Memorial Survivor Tree Seedling Program. He excitedly informed the City had been approved for said program explaining the same as such also discussing a place with regard to a proper location for placement. He informed that plants and landscape, etc...were being donated and that several Banks, etc...were lined up for monetary donations and it would be of minimal to no cost to the city.

A possible City New Years Eve party was discussed at this time. Details forthcoming.

Vice Mayor Malfregeot directed the City Manager to check into the speaker system in the Council Chambers.

Meeting adjourned.


Mayor Catherine A. Goings

March 1, 2018
Approved


Paula Hardman, Recording Clerk