

FINANCE & UTILITY COMMISSION MEETING
Wednesday, March 31, 2021, 5:00 PM

The Committee meeting was convened at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Nathan Brown. This was a Zoom meeting. Those present included: Mayor Nathan Brown, Council Members John Dayton and Vaughn Ripley, Commission Members Syree Williams, Tom Smith, and Brian Keller, and staff members Dave Dunn, Carrie Myers, John Gerstner, Matt Campbell, Jeremy Mose, and Rikki Bruchey.

FY22 Budget Donation Requests

Requests for FY22 donations were made by the following:

- Food Bank – Jennifer Effler
- BEACON/Emergency Relief Fund – Shirley Shores
- Park Heights Cemetery – Jim Cox

Dave mentioned these donations are currently in the proposed budget.

FY22 Council Member Budget Requests

Requests for FY22 budgeted funds were made by the following:

- WB Tower – Andy St. John
 - St. John believes this project could be completed in FY2021, however can't promise that. Would just like to ensure funds are available in FY22 if needed. This is just for the move of the tower, no rehab costs included. Approximate funds needed for the move total around \$142,000.
- City Park Building Rehab – Angel White
 - White states the interior paint, ceiling tiles, ceiling fans, kitchen rehab with appliances, bathroom heaters and bathroom stall partitions all need work. She estimates the total cost at \$36,000 and states some of the work could be completed by Public Works.
- Economic Development – John Dayton
 - Dayton states this request for \$125,000 includes a dedicated staff member for Economic Development, as well as to partially fund a business center with Brunswick Main Street.

The Mayor mentioned these funds were not currently in the proposed budget, but that they'd be considered when the budget numbers were a bit more firm.

FY22 Property Tax Rate/Constant Yield

Dave states the current rate is \$0.41. The estimated revenue if we kept this rate for FY22 would be \$2.9 million. The rate would need to be lowered to \$0.39 to match constant yield.

The recommendation of the Commission is to keep the rate at \$0.41, and send to Council for approval.

FY22 Budget

Dave discusses the current budget proposal. Topics of discussion included the addition of a WWTP operator, potential water and sewer rate increases, property tax revenue, etc.

FY21 Budget Amendment

Rikki states that \$500,000 for the purchase of the Newberry Building should have been included in the capital fund instead of general fund, so this budget amendment is to fix that.

The Commission consented to approve the budget amendment and send to Council for approval.

Federal Funding Brainstorming

Mayor Brown states this discussion is pretty premature since many details still aren't clear.

WB Tower

Dave says extra money was necessary for the foundation of the tower, as the soil composition is poor in certain areas. The initial estimate for the extra work was about \$16,000. Gabe's Services provided a bid of \$5,200 for this work.

The Commission consented to approve Gabe's Services for this work.

The next Commission meetings were set for April 14 & 28 at 5pm at City Hall.