

FINANCE & UTILITY COMMISSION MEETING
Wednesday, January 15, 2025, 5:00 PM

Mayor Nathan Brown convened the Commission meeting at 5:00 p.m. Those present included Commission Members Jerry Bonanno, Julie Gourley, David Meeske, and Donovan Fox. Council Member Liaisons present were John Caves and Daniel Yochelson. Staff Members present included Julie Martorana, Jeremy Mose, Carrie Myers, and Matt Campbell.

Procurement Policy Updates – Ms. Myers discussed proposed changes, most of which updated allowing Deputy Directors to have procurement authority and clarifying that procurement authority and legally-binding signature authority were not one in the same. The Commission recommended approval to the Mayor and Council.

Leak Forgiveness Policy Updates – Ms. Myers discussed adding commercial customers with meters up to 2” and qualifying as a small business (defined as only one location and fewer than 15 employees) to the ServLine program. She stated the total cost to customers would be \$38.40 per year. The Commission recommended approval to the Mayor and Council.

FY2026 Draft CIP – Ms. Martorana discussed development of the City’s five-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). She stated staff reviewed vehicles, infrastructure, and projects for inclusion. During this process an asset inventory was developed with status and replacement plans. Grants and projects were reviewed for timelines and cash match requirements. The main objective of the program was to be forecasting funding through future fiscal years and understanding trends in spending. Ms. Martorana stated the CIP plan would be developed and brought back during budget season.

Trash Options Discussion – Mr. Mose reviewed options presented at the last meeting. He presented further data for consideration, including projected future fiscal year fees and revenue. Commissioners expressed interest in establishing a deficit cap, which would allow the deficit to decrease a little each year. They also expressed interest in developing reduced rates for senior citizens.

FY2025 Budget Amendments – Ms. Myers presented budget amendments #2 and #3. The Commission recommended approval to the Mayor and Council.

FY2025 Finance Reports – Ms. Myers stated the current reports included several high-dollar annual payments for items such as workers compensation and liability insurances. She also stated the second half of FY2025 property taxes would be added in January, so revenues would increase by the next set of reports.

Spending Plan Proposal – Ms. Myers stated the City received a rebate from LGIT due to an internal audit identifying years of over billing to the City. That combined with the sale of vehicles and a bit of funding from the FY25 asphalt budget totaled \$248,000. Staff presented a plan to spend this funding on several projects including renovations of the City Hall lobby, replacement of the key-card access system at City Hall, replacement of a City-wide phone system, two EV vehicles for Utilities and Public Works, and a new SUV for the Police Department. The Commission recommended approval to the Mayor and Council.

The meeting adjourned at 6:48pm.

Report prepared by Carrie Myers