

Council Work Session
January 18, 2022

Meeting called to order by Mayor Harley at 5:00pm.

Invocation given by Councilman Bird.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Armijo.

Welcome extended to all by Mayor Harley

Present were Mayor John R. Harley, Councilman Robert D. Bird, Jr., Councilman Justin Wright, Councilman J. Micheal Evans and Councilman Edward Armijo. City Attorney Rebecca Tydings absent – out of town.

Public Comments

None

Old Business

Discussion Police Patrol Units: Councilman Evans recognized Chief Duncan. Chief Duncan reminded everyone that three options were discussed at the last meeting. Recently spoke with Mrs. Carol about different proposals and she has provided a schedule for review. A copy was provided to Mayor and Council. First option was to buy 3 vehicles and trade in 4. Second option was to lease 6 vehicles, trade in 7. Mayor recapped discussion from last council meeting. Mrs. Harrison informed all the Mayor and Council could amend budget to include \$36,000 from insurance proceeds received from Tahoe that was totaled and SPLOST Funds to purchase 3 vehicles.

Chief Duncan stated after the questions came about on the leasing, informed all this was a straight lease no money down. He stated that he has discussed with City Attorney Tydings and this is a standard lease.

Councilman Evans asked based on the proposals we have, which one cost less? Saving \$12,000 in interest by buying vs leases does this save money. Chief Duncan responded, option 1 does save money. However, concerned that if the 6 vehicles are not traded in the value will go down. The budget plan for this fiscal year was to buy 3 vehicles now and then purchase 3 next fiscal year.

Mayor Harley called for vote. Motion made by Councilman Evans to approve Option 1 as presented; seconded by Councilman Armijo. After this will approve resolution to dispose of the 4 vehicles-declare as surplus property. Motion carried.

Resolution to Declare Surplus Property; Motion to approve resolution made by Councilman Evans; seconded by Councilman Bird. Motion carried. See Resolution 2022-1.

New Business

FY 2021 Audit Presentation- Mauldin & Jenkins, CPA's and Advisors: Mr. David Irwin is the partner who oversaw this year's audit statement. Mr. Irwin is here tonight for presentation. Mr. Irwin stated he appreciates the time to provide overview of audit report and hit a few of the highlights, discuss auditing standards and answer questions. Provided two documents to Mayor and Council (1) Annual financial report FY ended June 30, 2021 (2) Auditor's discussion and analysis. Mr. Irwin reported a clean and unmodified opinion, the highest you can get as a

report. Pleased to report there are no significant deficiencies and audit controls; no findings. More impressive to issue a clean audit opinion. Recognized City Accountant Harrison, she provided all the necessary information, smooth as a first year audit he has ever been involved in, she did a great job. Pointed out section Management Discussion and Analysis pg. 4 financial report, encouraged all to read this section. Provided auditors analysis, Fund financial statements and government- wide financial statements. Charts on pg. 8, breakdown of revenues and expenditures comparison from prior years. Special and Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds- used for account as a private business, generates operating revenue to cover expenses. Third and final component – information auditing standards to communicate, no difficulties with mismanagement.

Mayor Harley stated that he appreciates comments about Mrs. Harrison, stating she does a great job.

Discussion Council over Department: Mayor Harley stated that Councilman Bird has not been over any departments, since serving on the Council. Thought it would be a great opportunity to appoint him over Administration Department. Councilman Wright stated he supports this idea. Motion made to appoint Councilman Bird over Administration Department for the remaining fiscal year; seconded by Councilman Evan. Motion carried.

Comments from Council

Post 1 Councilman Bird, thanked everyone for helping him and supporting him while learning new responsibilities. Looking forward to it.

Post 2 Councilman Wright, referenced reports from Mauldin Jenkins FY 2021 Audit. This is a testament for all of city department heads and for doing all their hard work.

Post 3 Councilman Evans, thanked everyone for their hard work.

Post 4 Councilman Armijo, the whole year starts with the budget committee, discussing requests, all are prepared to develop and execute budget. Clean opinion, highest level of insurance, and no level of audit findings. Thanked staff and Mayor and Council. Proud to be a part of it.

Mayor Harley, all departments working with Mrs. Carol and doing a great job. Citizens can be proud of the administration of the city, a great audit process. Enjoyed reading this and this information is available for public review.

City Accountant Harrison informed everyone that the audit is posted on city website and Carl Vinson Institute’s website.

In closing, Mayor encouraged all to be careful due to Corona Virus.

Mayor Harley adjourned meeting at 5:32pm.

Mayor John R. Harley

Date

Attest by City Clerk Krista Bedingfield