

**City Council of the City of Greenville
Special Called Work Session**

**Monday, April 17, 2023
12:00 p.m.**

**Meeting Location:
Greenville City Hall, 206 S. Main Street**

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL: Mayor Knox White and Councilmembers John M. DeWorken, Lillian B. Flemming, Kenneth C. Gibson, L Wil Brasington, Russell H. Stall, and Dorothy H. Dowe

CITY STAFF: City Manager John F. McDonough; City Attorney Leigh B. Paoletti; City Clerk Camilla G. Pitman

Mayor White called the meeting to order for the purpose of discussing the following matters.

Budget Workshop #2

City Manager John McDonough introduced the discussion by providing an overview of the proposed budget and the recommendation of achieving a balanced budget. Mr. McDonough also provided an overview of assumptions and enhancements for FY2024. Councilmember DeWorken referred to the City maintaining an AAA rating.

Interim Office of Management and Budget Director Karen Crawford shared the goals of the workshop and presented an overview of the following as provided in the presentation:

- General Fund Revenues and Expenditures
- Tourism Fund including Local and State A-Tax assumptions
- Enterprise Funds (including Stormwater, Wastewater, Parking, Zoo, and Solid Waste)
- Special Revenue Funds (including Solid Waste)
- Capital Improvement Projects (CIP)

Ms. Crawford referred to the projected unassigned fund balance for FY2024 and provided an overview of the revenue comparison and expenditure comparison.

Ms. Crawford advised that the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee would provide recommendations for consideration to City Council on April 24. Councilmember Dowe asked about the use of local and state ATAX funding. Ms. Crawford responded that both funds must be kept separate and that they are flexible.

Councilmember Dowe questioned using stormwater funds to cover the Cleveland Park maintenance crew and expressed concerns with proper use of funds. Councilmember Gibson stated he trusts the decision as long as the City pulls from the general fund to address the matter if there is a stormwater emergency. Mr. McDonough responded stating there is flexibility to address the concern if it occurs.

Regarding parking, Mr. McDonough referred to additional parking opportunities to add to the City's capacity and stated he anticipates absorbing approximately 1,300 to 1,500 spaces in the parking

fund. Councilmember DeWorken spoke positively on the City being one of the only cities to not have parking meters on the streets.

Councilmember Dowe asked about information regarding the commercial corridors, and Ms. Crawford responded that corridors will be addressed in Budget Workshop #3, Capital Improvement Projects (CIP), on May 8. Councilmember Dowe expressed her concern in setting aside funds for a potential Swamp Rabbit Trail bridge over Verdae Boulevard. Councilmember Brasington stated his surprise when the area opened as an at grade crossing. Councilmember Brasington referred to funding for the Cancer Survivors Park Boardwalk.

Councilmember Dowe inquired about Stormwater Management Asset Data Collection not being listed on the CIP. Engineering Services Director Clint Link responded by providing an update and advising that staff is still in the process of collecting the data for this year. Mr. Link stated they have three more years of surveying and data collection of the stormwater system. Ms. Crawford advised that staff has the ability to transfer funding as necessary.

Regarding Neighborhood Infrastructure Bond, Mr. Link stated the City is seeing an increase in costs on sidewalk construction and that asphalt pavement continues to escalate. Councilmember Gibson asked if the City will be able to complete all of the projects allocated for this year, and Mr. Link responded that there may not be sufficient funding.

Ms. Crawford provided a total FY2024 CIP of \$55,772,087, which is the highest ever. Councilmember Dowe recommended preparing a comparison view of the CIP over the past 10 years to show Council's commitment.

Ms. Crawford referred to other funds not included in the presentation and to the additional budget meetings scheduled for the year, including Budget Workshop #3 on May 8, public hearing and first reading on May 22, and adoption and annual operating budget on June 12.

Councilmember Dowe asked if the increase in property tax revenue is a combination of growth and assessment. Ms. Crawford responded it is affected by both as properties are bought and sold. Ms. Crawford stated the last assessment was performed in 2021. Councilmember Gibson asked if the annexations are included in the millage increase, and Ms. Crawford responded she is not sure, however, it will eventually affect it as well.

Under General Fund Operating Expenditure Enhancements, Councilmember Dowe questioned the purpose of the \$450,000 Development Code Adoption line item. Ms. Crawford responded the item is for consulting fees and downtown design guidelines.

Councilmember Dowe asked if the business license fee is waived in annexations. Assistant City Manager Shannon Lavrin responded if the annexation is voluntary, then yes, and if it is through the water covenant, then no.

Councilmember Flemming requested an annexation update be presented to Council in August or September. Councilmember Gibson asked about the status of the doughnut hole bill in the statehouse. Councilmember DeWorken responded it is dead, however, there is some work still taking place.

Motion - Executive Session

During the open Work Session, Mayor White asked for a motion to go into Executive Session. City Attorney Leigh Paoletti recommended going into executive session under S.C. Code §30-4-

70 (a)(1) to discuss appointments to the City's boards and commissions or employment related matters.

Councilmember Gibson moved, seconded by Councilmember Dowe, to go into Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

(Executive Session)

There being no further discussions, Councilmember Stall moved, seconded by Councilmember Gibson, to go out of Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously. No action was taken.

With no further discussions, the meeting adjourned at 5:14 p.m.

Camilla G. Pitman, MMC, Certified PLS
City Clerk

Meeting notice posted on Friday, April 14, 2023