

**SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 8, 2014
*CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM
7:00 P.M.**

Mayor Connie George presiding.

Purpose: Special meeting is held to establish the 2015 budget and regular business.

Council members present: Don Dillman, John Parker, Joy Thompson and Greg Wilson. Mayor Connie George, City Administrator Bruce Lundy, City Attorney Emily Bauman, Chief of Police David Vincent, Director of Public Works Kenny Lance, and City Clerk/Treasurer Beth Kar were also present along with the Department Supervisors. The meeting notice was posted at City Hall on September 05, 2014. The meeting was audio recorded.

BILLS FOR CONSIDERATION:

BILL NO. 2014-21 Lead Ban in Public and Private Drinking Water Plumbing was read for first and second readings. Water Superintendent Dale Watson described that the cities have to pass the updated lead ban policy before October 1st. This policy will replace the previous one.

ORDINANCE: 2648

Greg Wilson motioned to approve ordinance no. 2648. John Parker seconded. Vote: Dillman: aye; Wilson: aye; Parker: aye; Thompson: aye. Motion carried.

BUDGET DISCUSSION:

Capital Requests -- Each department supervisor described his requests.

Administration – City Administrator Bruce Lundy reviewed the requests including repairing City Hall (carpeting), security (staff building cage) alarm on doors and panic button, and notification (possibly Apple Market). John Parker asked if there was a MIRMA grant on security cameras.

Police – Police Chief Vincent described requests including: part time office assistant – share with City Hall as a backup and Computer Aided Dispatch: allows officers to collect data and offsite storage for reporting. The Village of Country Club uses it. **Sales Tax** for used police vehicle (used Charger), car radio, radar unit and other equipment. He found a good deal on a radio so change “radio/police car” to “misc. equipment.”

Fire – Fire Chief Tommy George described: annual pump tests, pump services, SCBA bottles, flashhoods, gloves, surefoot safety step (if on top of roof – extends ladder platform if have to cut a hole in roof), leather boots. Set aside \$30,000 for future fire truck purchase. SCBA bottles have a limited shelf life. Purchase a few each year.

Street – Director of Public Works Kenny Lance read requests and added a \$1500 cutting edge for skid loader.

Parks – Parks Manager Donnie Knorr described requests including: Agreement with school to repair tennis courts, \$12,000 is the city's share. Messick Bathroom repairs.

Water – Water Superintendent Dale Watson reported: 1 lime lagoon clean out; pressure washer like what Public Works has; treat one well each year. On the Administrative side, Director of Public Works Kenny Lance listed 1/3 share of mini excavator; chainsaw pipe cutter for water leaks; waterline replacement program. Could set aside the amount each year until it builds up enough to do waterline project.

Wastewater – Wastewater Superintendent Jason Long described: replace pickup; professional services on infrastructure and other items; blower for oxidation ditches; flow meter for effluent; new mower; sludge hauling; 2 rotating assemblies for R & R pumps; submersible motive pump (spare); 4 new starters for control panel; replacement lap top; replace 3 VFD main influent pumps; set aside inflow & infiltration (fix current problems and find other problems). Possibility of moving the current (old) truck to Golf Maintenance department which does not have a truck so use employee's personal vehicles. Greg Wilson mentioned looking at bulk purchase if need multiple lap tops (Parks, Wastewater, Police). Lance described 1/3 share of mini excavator.

Cemetery – Lance listed 3 weed eaters. Skip a year on lawn mowers.

No major Golf Course requests.

Clasbey – City Administrator Bruce Lundy detailed the renovation items: replacement tables, renovations, strip and seal the floors. Would convert the single bathroom to multiple stalls. Don Dillman asked if it becomes a professional building, what about moving City Hall there. Year's back the City looked at that but could not due to provisions of Clasbey sisters who donated money for the building. Deputy Clerk Brooke Bell mentioned Clasbey was a tight fund. A lot less revenue since new renter only is renting only one room. Clasbey may need to borrow money from the General Fund. Greg Wilson asked about the mural. Gary Swanson would like the City to keep it. Bell described the many people who cover the mural for events. Lundy will send a letter of thanks for the mural and mention that if he wants to arrange for someone to take it out, the city will be removing it.

Joy Thompson was concerned about putting enough money aside to deal with sewer issues. The City is following the smoke testing and other studies. Council agreed to change the amount for inflow and infiltration problems to \$75,000 for the year.

Greg Wilson motioned to approve the Capital Requests with the mentioned changes. John Parker seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Street Requests – Director of Public Works Kenny Lance detailed the Fiscal Year 2015 street program. The City has sent in the paperwork and other items to MPO for the 6th Street

Construction. City's share: \$127,000. The former contact person at MPO has changed. MPO contributes the rest; Total project cost \$600,000. Joy Thompson wondered if the money for the 6th Street project would be better used on other streets. Police Chief David Vincent mentioned that 6th is one of main arteries of City traffic. Lance's only concern was if that figure is high enough. Don Dillman motioned to approve the Street Program requests. Greg Wilson seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes; 1 no: Thompson.

Personnel – The City will be hiring another person in the Street department. Lance thought it would be more helpful to have someone with operating skills (ski loader, backhoe, excavator) more than a mechanic.

City Administrator Bruce Lundy described the two different approaches for pay increases. 5% straight across the board or even it out by total up 5% for all regular employees, and then add in average increase. Don Dillman felt it would be better to separate by department and achieve increases by steps and grades. Council discussed different options and how to compare pay rates. Council agreed that the only way during the year employee will receive a raise is through earning certifications. Rates will be set with the approval of the budget. John Parker wanted added to the budget ordinance that rates are set for the year unless an employee earns new certification. John Parker motioned to approve option 2 with the 5% average with the stipulation that rates are set for the fiscal year. Greg Wilson seconded. Vote: 3 yes; 1 no (Dillman). Motion carried.

Joy Thompson asked for next year each payroll to be listed by department. Police Chief David Vincent mentioned that the Sergeant's responsibilities had increased without an increase of pay. No decisions were made.

After talking with Financial Advisor Tionna Pooler on her availability schedule, the next budget meeting to go over water and sewer rates will be set.

Adjournment

No further business. Meeting at adjourned at 9:02 p.m. on a motion by Greg Wilson and seconded by John Parker. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Connie George, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Beth Kar, City Clerk