

BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

PUBLIC HEARING

AUGUST 22, 2022

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BMA) met in a Public Hearing on Monday, August 22, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall, 123 Boone Street, Jonesborough, TN.

The first item on the Public Hearing agenda was an Ordinance adopting the annual General Fund, Solid Waste Fund and Drug Fund budgets and setting the property tax rate for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023. There were no comments.

The next item on the Public Hearing agenda was an Ordinance establishing Garbage and Refuse Collection Fees for FY2022-23. There were no comments.

The next item on the Public Hearing agenda was an Ordinance establishing Water/Sewer Rates for FY2022-23. There were no comments.

The Public Hearing was closed.

GLENN ROSENOFF, RECORDER

CHUCK VEST, MAYOR

BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

CALLED MEETING

AUGUST 22, 2022

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BMA) met in a Called Session on Monday, August 22, 2022, at 7:00 p.m., at Town Hall, 123 Boone Street, Jonesborough, TN.

Mayor Chuck Vest called the meeting to order. Alderman Dickson led the group in an opening Prayer, and Ruth Verhegge led the pledge to the Flag.

Upon call of the roll those present were: Mayor Chuck Vest, Alderman Virginia Causey, Alderman Terry Countermine, Alderman Adam Dickson, and Alderman Kelly Wolfe. Also present were: Town Administrator Glenn Rosenoff, Operations Manager Craig Ford, and Executive Assistant Donna Freeman. Town Attorney Jim Wheeler was absent due to an obligation, and Matthew Musgrove, associate of Attorney Wheeler, was available to answer questions via phone.

The first item on the agenda was second and final reading of an Ordinance of the Town of Jonesborough, Tennessee, adopting the annual General Fund, Solid Waste Fund and Drug Fund budgets and Setting the Property Tax Rate for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2022 and Ending June 30, 2023. Mayor Vest said the tax rate will remain the same and one of the lowest in the region at \$1.20, and that is due to the

great work of our staff. Mayor Vest asked if there were questions or comments. Alderman Wolfe said any time you have a budget document it reflects goals and priorities of your Board and of your Town. Alderman Wolfe said he is very proud of this budget document because it does a lot of things that are of great interest and great concern to a lot of people here in Jonesborough. He said we look to the future with our new school and continuing funding of the much needed school for the children of Jonesborough. He said we are taking steps to continue to improve the amenities for residents with Park and Recreation facilities and quality of life options, as far as walking trails and sidewalks. Alderman Wolfe said he thinks simple things like paving are represented in this budget in a very appropriate manner, because there are more cars on the road so it is important that we keep up with those types of priorities. Alderman Wolfe said he is also particularly very proud of our efforts on behalf of employees of the Town of Jonesborough. Alderman Wolfe said the cruel reality of today's world is that inflation has taken a bite out of just everybody's pay checks, and we are a family in the truest sense of the word in terms of caring about each other, helping each other, we can't do it by ourselves and certainly our employees are front and center number one for this Board and the Town of Jonesborough to be able move forward. Alderman Wolfe said he feels that statement we are making in this budget is very appropriate, very well deserved and very much to be applauded. He said we are talking about future needs with sewer and water projects that should show people that we are looking toward to the future for its future infrastructure needs for the Town and that we are being good stewards of the trust that have been given to us. Mayor Vest said one of the greatest things that this Board and staff did, and probably will never happen again, is that every full-time member of our staff will receive over a \$6,200 pay increase and that is going to go a long-ways. Mayor Vest said this is one of the first times he has looked through the compensation plan and not seen some positions that he felt was woefully under paid, and this is a huge step in helping at the entry level positions, and he is proud to be part of that with this Board, and appreciates the staff for their hard work, and thanked the community for allowing the Town to generate the revenue to accomplish that. Mayor Vest called for a motion if there were no further comments. There being no further comment's, Alderman Countermine made the motion, seconded by Alderman Cause and duly passed, to approve on second and final reading Ordinance No. B-22-01 adopting the annual budget for the General Fund, Solid Waste Fund and Drug Fund and setting the property tax rate at \$1.20 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023.

INSERT ORDINANCE

The next item on the agenda was second and final reading of an Ordinance Setting the Garbage and Refuse Collection Fees for FY2022-23 within the Town of Jonesborough. Mayor Vest said there was no increase in the fees and asked if there were any comments or questions. There being none, Alderman Wolfe made the motion to approve on second and final reading Ordinance No. B-22-02 setting the garbage collection fees for FY2022-23, as presented. Alderman Dickson seconded the motion and it was duly passed.

INSERT ORDINANCE

The next item on the agenda was second and final reading of an Ordinance Establishing Water/Sewer Rates for FY2022-23. Mayor Vest asked if the Aldermen if they had questions or comments. There being none, Alderman Countermine made the motion to approve on second and final reading Ordinance No. B-22-03 establishing Water/Sewer Rates for FY2022-23, as presented. Alderman Wolfe seconded the motion and it was duly passed.

INSERT ORDINANCE

The next item on the agenda was approval of a Resolution Establishing a Budget for the Water/Sewer Fund for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023. Mayor Vest asked if the Aldermen if they had questions or comments. Alderman Wolfe said we are looking to establishing a new portion to our water plant and there is some engineering work and some very important preparation being done for that. Alderman Wolfe said it will not be a small project, but it is much needed especially considering the growth of water lines in the county, and he understands that existing funding is being used to get this planned and he is very grateful for that, and certainly appreciates our Utility Manager for getting this plant expansion underway. Town Administrator Glenn Rosenoff said there are capital expenses that are carryovers from FY21-22 for five vehicles that were ordered last fiscal year but due to the lead time we expect to receive and pay for them this fiscal year. Glenn Rosenoff said the vehicles are (1) F-450 Service Truck for Water Distribution - \$65,000, (2) F-250 Truck for Water Distribution - \$40,000, (3) F-250 Truck for Water Distribution - \$40,000, (4) F-250 Truck for Water Distribution - \$40,000, and (5) F-250 Truck for Water Treatment - \$40,000, which totals to an amount of \$225,000; and the water plant power upgrade which is being conducted and that is an additional

\$135,350, and that brings the total to \$360,350. Alderman Wolfe asked if this would stand as an amendment to the budget as presented. Glenn Rosenoff said that is correct under Capital Expenses. Alderman Causey asked if that is all that we are doing for now, and the rest of the “want list” is for a later date. Glenn Rosenoff said that is correct, and we will wait until we get balance and hopefully come back in the next 60 days with the remainder of the priorities. Alderman Causey asked if it was possible to get a copy of the current vehicles in each of these departments to see how many vehicles they have and what they are replacing and all the new vehicles they are asking for. Glenn Rosenoff said yes. Mayor Vest asked the Aldermen if they had any further comments. There being none, Alderman Wolfe made the motion to approve Resolution No. B-22-01 establishing the necessary funds for the operation, maintenance and the debt service of the Jonesborough Water and Sewer systems as amended including the capital expenses for the five vehicles and water plant power upgrade, as presented. Alderman Countermine seconded the motion and it was duly passed.

INSERT RESOLUTION

The next item on the agenda was the FY2022-23 Employee Compensation Plan. Mayor Vest asked if the Aldermen if they had questions or comments. Alderman Causey said she feels we need to give a very hearty thank you to Glenn Rosenoff and Craig Ford for their hard that they put into this compensation plan, and the Board agreeing to give the employees this amount of money; and that it is a very, very good project. Mayor Vest agreed. Mayor Vest asked the Aldermen if they had any further comments. There being none, Alderman Causey made the motion to approve the FY2022-23 Employee Compensation Plan, as presented. Alderman Dickson seconded the motion and it was duly passed.

INSERT COMPENSATION PLAN

The next item on the agenda was Temporary Construction Easements and Agreements as part of the East Main Street Sidewalk Project and to authorize the Mayor and the Town Administrator to sign the easements and agreements. Mayor Vest asked Glenn Rosenoff if he had any comments. Glenn Rosenoff said it is just a legal formality that we need to do. Mr. Rosenoff said most of the area that we will be working in is the right-of-way, and then where we are also crossing driveways and there are

some cases where there is no driveway. Mr. Rosenoff said there is 27 separate properties and we are going as fast as we can with these legal documents, and Rachel Conger is doing a great job to contact the property owners and explain the project and the majority is going very well. Mr. Rosenoff said before the next Board meeting, he hopes to have more of an update on how many other easements have been signed or if there are any issues along way. Mr. Rosenoff said it is a great project connecting our assets, which is the town, to each other is one of those goals that we have for this year and for years to come, and connectivity is priority and it is urgent and important. Alderman Wolfe said he thinks it is awesome and glad to see it moving and thanked everybody that has a part in it and we will get it done. Alderman Countermine made the motion to authorize the Mayor and Town Administrator to sign the Temporary Construction Easements and Agreements and authorize the Town to conduct work on private property, subject to the review and approval by the Town Attorney. Alderman Wolfe seconded the motion and it was duly passed.

The next item on the agenda was the appointment of a Finance Director/Town Recorder. Mayor Vest said he appreciates Robert Anderson and his wife, Megan, being present at the meeting tonight and welcomed them in joining the family here at Town Hall. Mayor Vest asked Town Administrator Glenn Rosenoff for comments. Glenn Rosenoff said we are excited to have Robert Anderson on board. Mr. Rosenoff said Mr. Anderson comes to us from the State of Tennessee Comptroller's Office, CPA, great skill set in that regard in accounting, but also in auditing and there is a lot of work that gets conducted here on a weekly and monthly basis. Mr. Rosenoff said we are a family and that is how we are going to treat Robert. He said we are going to hit the ground running, and that is not really what we like to do, but the nice thing about it is that we have Abbey Miller here for another three and half months to help with the transition and that is a value that is probably hard to really talk about as you have someone whose been there done that and has helped us tremendously the last few months, to basically pass over the reigns to Mr. Anderson. Mayor Vest said we are making a strong staff here even stronger, and Board is happy to have him here with the Town. Mayor Vest said if there were no further comments, he will call for a motion. Alderman Wolfe made of the motion to approve the appointment of Robert Anderson as the new Finance Director/Town Recorder, and the Employment Agreement, as presented. Alderman Countermine seconded the motion and it was duly passed.

INSERT AGREEMENT

Mayor Vest said Bob Browning, Project Manager, is asking for a consensus and assurance from the Board for support of the submittal of a Blue Cross Healthy Place Grant for playground equipment and recreation facilities involved with the new school project; the application will be for costs over \$1 million, if awarded, will be 100% funding, and the application has to be submitted this month. Alderman Causey said she thinks that the grant is a great and she is not against it, but she feels the Board needs to be informed of these grants before they are ready for submittal especially if the Town will be financially responsible. The consensus of the Board was for support of the Blue Cross Healthy Place Grant as requested.

There being no further business the meeting was duly adjourned.

GLENN ROSENOFF, RECORDER

CHUCK VEST, MAYOR