

**MINUTES  
BREVARD CITY COUNCIL  
Budget Work Session  
June 7, 2021 – 5:30 P.M.**

The Brevard City Council met on Monday, June 7, 2021, for a budget work session. The scheduled budget work session was held in City Council Chambers to discuss the proposed FY21-22 budget. Mayor Pro Tem Morrow called the work session to order at 5:30 P.M.

**Present:** Mayor Pro Tem Mac Morrow, Council Members Maureen Copelof, Maurice Jones, Gary Daniel and Geraldine Dinkins.

**Absent:** Mayor Jimmy Harris and WWTP ORC Emory Owen

**Staff Present:** City Manager and Finance Director Jim Fatland, Assistant Finance Director Tom Whitlock, City Clerk Jill Murray, Planning Director Paul Ray, Police Chief Phil Harris, Deputy Police Chief Tom Jordan, HR Director Kelley Craig, Fire Chief Bobby Cooper, Water Plant ORC Dennis Richardson, Public Works Director David Lutz, and Public Works Administrative Assistant Letha Cox.

**Press:** Matt McGregor, Transylvania Times  
Dan DeWitt, Brevard NewsBeat

**A. Welcome** – Mayor Pro Tem Morrow called the meeting to order and welcomed those present to the regular scheduled budget work session.

**B. Quorum** – City Clerk certified a quorum present.

**C. Agenda** – Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Daniel the Agenda be accepted as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**D. Close Out Public Hearing from May 17, 2021 City Council Meeting** – Mayor Pro Tem Morrow closed out the public hearing on the Proposed Amendments to Unified Development Ordinance Chapter 6-Environmental Protection.

**E. Steep Slopes** – After some more discussion of Planning's suggestions of establishing a formula, a trigger point, a new table and over 50% average slope to just the area of disturbance, Ms. Dinkins motioned, seconded by Ms. Copelof to table steep slopes and send it back before the Planning Board since they have not seen it since 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

**F. Proposed FY 2021-2022 Budget Review**

The proposed budget was presented to Council members at their May 17<sup>th</sup> regular meeting. The agenda and budget was given to each Council member and Department Directors prior to this meeting. Mr. Fatland offered in an effort to cover most, if not all, of the items listed upon the Agenda, he would like for Council to review each item as listed. Department Directors are in attendance to answer any questions specific to their Departments. Upon review and discussion, if there are no questions or requested changes they will move on to the next item. Council agreed.

Mayor Pro Tem Morrow opened by welcoming everyone to the meeting.

City Manager, Council and Department Directors reviewed all items as described on the agenda and the following was discussed:

Below are discussion/action items and/or changes to the proposed budget that resulted from the budget work session:

**1. General Fund Revenue (Tab 6)** – Assistant Finance Director Tom Whitlock presented a \$35.2 million dollar proposed budget for FY2021-2022. He said the total general fund revenue is \$9,887,900. Out of that, 54% is property tax and 16% is sales tax, which makes up 70% of the revenue in the general fund. \$200,000 from the ABC Board and a \$1,200,000 reimbursement from the Utility Fund for County vehicle maintenance. The Franchise Tax and Powell Bill are included in the State Collected Taxes.

Ms. Dinkins asked where the monies for the big lawsuit are coming from and Mr. Fatland said the Utility Fund.

Mr. Jones asked if he could get a list from each committee on what vehicles need replacing and which ones are new. Mr. Lutz said he would get that to him.

Ms. Copelof asked if there's a way to get a list of what streets the Powell Bill will cover with the \$141,000. Mr. Lutz said he would get that list to her.

**2. Non-Departmental (Tab 19)** - Mr. Whitlock explained that the debt service for the upcoming year is only \$86,765.00 which has been decreasing from this current year and is at a really low number.

**3. Community Development (Tab 20)** – Mr. Whitlock explained that we are proposing the following to the non-profits.

- Bread of Life - \$5,000
- Farmer's Market - \$20,000
- Boys/Girls Club - \$5,000
- Rise & Shine - \$5,000
- Sharing House - \$12,000
- TC Arts Council - \$10,000
- Heart of Brevard - \$19,000
- Fireworks Participation - \$20,000
- Chamber of Commerce - \$3,685

**4. Salary Adjustments for City Employees** - The City Manager is recommending that COLA be at 2.5% and merit be at 1.5% for full time employees for a total compensation plan of 4% for full time employees. He is also recommending that the City do a 1% match for employees who participate in the 401K program.

**5. Public Safety Committee: Fire Department (Tab 32)** - Chief Cooper said that they are finally replacing their 1997 service truck at an estimated cost of \$675,000 which will have a ten year loan. They are also replacing their 2000 brush truck at an estimated cost of \$120,000 which they are paying cash for. They discussed replacing their 1995 engine in FY23.

**6. Finance and Human Resources Committee: Health Insurance Fund Budget (Tab 34)** Human Resources Director Kelley Craig said that the City has been in the black for the last two year and we're projecting a slight increase in the health insurance and we have decided to increase that budget but not increase employee's premiums.

**7. Parks, Trails & Recreation Committee: Multi-Use Paths Fund Budget (Tab 36)** Mr. Fatland said that he is recommending \$1,000,000 go to extending the Estatoe Trail from the Depot to the Mary C. Jenkins Community Center and Silversteen Park, as well as, \$1,000,000 to the Railroad Avenue Vehicle Bridge Construction and \$10,000 to the Community Garden at Tannery Park.

Ms. Dinkins suggested that the community garden go into next year's budget as we have plenty of churches that are giving away food because the Bread of Life can't take it all. She added that if Pisgah Health wants to give us money, then give us money for something we need now. Mr. Fatland added that Pisgah Health Foundation came up with the community garden specifically.

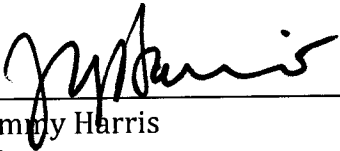
Ms. Copelof said that it's not like we're taking money away from a specific project and the Pisgah Health Foundation specifically wanted to give a grant for the community garden. She also has a woman who is ready to donate a greenhouse and she has been working with the extension service and groups around town that are into gardening.

Mayor Pro Tem and Council Members thanked Mr. Fatland, Mr. Whitlock and staff for their hard work on the budget.

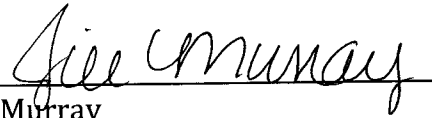
Mr. Fatland thanked Mr. Whitlock for all of his hard work on this year's budget. Chief Harris and Ms. Copelof also added their thanks to Mr. Whitlock.

**Budget Work Sessions #2 Cancelled** – Mayor Pro Tem Morrow suggested since Council has completed review of the proposed budget that the Budget Work Session scheduled for June 14<sup>th</sup> will be cancelled.

**E. Adjourn** – There being no further business or discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Ms. Copelof the meeting be adjourned. Work Session was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.



Jimmy Harris  
Mayor



Jill Murray  
City Clerk

Minutes Approved: June 21, 2021