



City of Fairburn
Mayor and Council Meeting- Zoom
September 13, 2021
7:00 pm

- I. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by the Honorable Mayor Elizabeth Carr-Hurst.
- II. Roll Call was taken by City Clerk, Deannia Ray with the following members present:

The Honorable Mayor Elizabeth Carr-Hurst
The Honorable Mayor Pro Tem Alex Heath The Honorable James Whitmore
The Honorable Pat Pallend The Honorable Hattie Portis-Jones
The Honorable Ulysses J. Smallwood

The attendance of Council constituted a quorum and the meeting proceeded.

City Attorney Randy Turner was also in attendance.

The following member was absent: Councilwoman Linda J. Davis

- III. The invocation was led by Councilman James Whitmore.
- IV. Adoption of City Council Minutes:
Motion to approve the August 23, 2021, City Council Minutes (Zoom) was made by Mayor Pro Tem Heath and the second was provided by Councilman Whitmore.
Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried.
- V. Adoption of the Council Agenda:
Motion to approve the Council agenda was made by Councilman Whitmore and the second was provided by Councilman Smallwood.
Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried.
- VI. **Public Hearing:**
 1. **Finance Department** **Mr. Rodrique Taylor**
Fiscal Year 2021 – 2022 Proposed Budget
Motion to open the public hearing was made by Mayor Pro Tem Heath and the second was provided by Councilwoman Portis-Jones.
Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried.

Mr. Taylor stated that the City of Fairburn's Finance Department has officially completed the proposed budget for fiscal year 2021-2022. The fiscal year 2021 proposed budget totals \$59,151,816 which represents an overall increase of \$2,114,111 or 3% over the fiscal year 2020 adopted budget. The general fund has a proposed budget of \$20,806,057 which represents an overall \$3,043,492 or 14% increase from the prior year. Budgeted funds include General Fund, Confiscated Drugs Fund, American Rescue Plan Act5 Fund, Grants Fund, Technology Fee Fund, Hotel/Motel Tax Fund, Capital Projects Fund, Go Bond Fund, TSPLOST Fund, Water and Sewer Fund, Storm Water Fund, Water and Sewer Bond Fund, Electric Fund, Sanitation Fund and Educational Complex Fund.

After discussion from Council on the City Administrator's fund budget, the Non-Departmental fund budget increases, Councilwoman Portis-Jones asked about the marketing contract with Jeff Dickerson. Mr. Taylor stated that his marketing contract gets paid out of the City Administrator's fund budget and the amount has remained the same. Councilwoman Portis-Jones stated she hasn't received Mr. Dickerson's August monthly report and asked he be more proactive with a deadline on his reports. Mayor Carr-Hurst explained that he gets paid in arrears, that we do not pay him until he submits an invoice.

Mr. Taylor stated that they have paid off the educational fund bond in July with an annual savings of \$1,000,000. A GO bond will be paid off in December with a savings of \$800,000. Councilwoman Portis-Jones asked if the complex was completely paid off and if we had explored refinancing to save more money? Mr. Taylor stated that there are another series of bonds for 2017 for the educational complex. Mayor Carr-Hurst explained that we have a financial advisor that would assist us in bond refinancing and would ask him to attend a future meeting.

Councilwoman Portis-Jones stated that currently Council receives \$500 for Community Outreach where they can give out to non-profits and requested this amount be increased to \$2500 a year to each council member. Mr. Taylor stated that only three (3) council members use this line item every year. The Mayor asked council members if they agreed to this increase, and they confirmed yes.

Councilwoman Portis-Jones stated that last year, employees did not get a bonus and this year the new budget contains a 6% increase across the board for all employees. She stated that this would be a permanent jump as well as the employees getting another paid holiday, Juneteenth. She doesn't want to see employees getting laid off when the budget is not so good. She does agree with a raise, and a Christmas bonus with the City paying the taxes in addition to a new holiday, just wants to be more conservative with a 3% increase.

The Mayor explained that the last across the board increase was in year 2018. The employees did not get a raise in 2019, 2020 or 2021 nor a Christmas bonus last year. We did give all first responders \$500 a month for a whole year.

Councilman Whitmore stated that after talking with department heads, we have lost police officers and firefighters because we haven't had a pay raise in several years. We need to be competitive to keep our superstars.

Mayor Pro Tem Heath agreed with the 6% increase as well as the Christmas bonus.

Councilman Pallend stated he wanted to take care of who takes care of us and agreed with the 6% raise and bonus.

Councilman Smallwood also agreed that the City is in a good position, and we need to do the right thing, he agreed with the raise and bonus.

Councilwoman Portis-Jones wanted to make it clear she is in support of an increase; she was only concerned about the tax payer and the long-term impact. She requested a three-year projection with the 6% increase and the Juneteenth holiday.

Mayor Carr-Hurst stated that the 6% increase and the extra holiday is included in this budget. However, the Christmas bonus is not in this budget. Not everyone gets a \$600 Christmas bonus. There is a chart we follow that determines the amount of bonus and it depends on your length of service, and she will provide council with the previous payout schedule.

Mayor Carr-Hurst asked for any questions or comments. There were none.

Motion to close the public hearing was made by Mayor Pro Tem Heath and the second was provided by Councilman Whitmore. Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried.

VII. Presentation

City Clerk, Deannia Ray read the Proclamation that Mayor and Council recognizes September 11th as a National Day of Service and Remembrance in the City of Fairburn on September 13th, 2021.

VIII. Public Comment: There were no public comments.

IX. Agenda Items

1. Fire Department

Mr. Cornelius Robinson

For Mayor and Council to discuss and approve donating the old 1992 Fire Engine to A Plus Towing of Fairburn.

Mr. Robinson stated that the Fairburn Fire Department received a grant in 2019 for the purchase of a new fire engine to replace the 1992 fire engine. As part of the rules of the grant, once the fire department was awarded the grant, the truck that it would replace could never be used as a fire truck again. Since that time, the fire pump went out of service and could not be replaced because of its age.

Mr. Robinson stated that in 15 years, A Plus Towing has never charged the City of Fairburn a tow fee and they plan to convert the old fire engine to a wrecker. He recommended that Mayor and Council approve the donation of the old 1992 fire engine to A Plus Towing of Fairburn.

Motion to approve the donation of the 1992 fire engine to A Plus Towing of Fairburn was made by Councilman Smallwood and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Heath.

Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried.

2. Utilities (Stormwater)

Mr. John Martin

For Mayor and Council to approve the bid award recommendation for IPR Southeast, LLC, in the amount of \$416,954.75 for the storm drain lining project.

Mr. Martin stated that on July 23, 2020, the City of Fairburn requested ISE to identify a few severe stormwater pipes distributed throughout the city for possible pipe re-lining. Recent MS4 inspections were reviewed and from that review, six stormwater conveyance systems were immediately suitable for stormwater improvements. They had "severe" corrosion and "need repair" to structure conditions.

Dana Johns, with Integrated Science & Engineering (ISE) assisted City staff during the competitive bidding process. This included responding to bid phase RFIs, issuing the addenda, attending the bid opening, and making the contractor award recommendation. The bid closed on August 12, 2021. On August 18, 2021, IPR Southeast, LLC, was awarded the

bid award recommendation as the lowest bidder.

Mr. Martin recommended that Mayor and Council approve the bid award recommendation for IPR Southeast, LLC, in the amount of \$416,954.75 for the storm drain lining project.

Councilman Whitmore made a motion to approve the bid award recommendation for IPR Southeast, LLC, in the amount of \$416,954.75 for the storm drain lining project. The second was provided by Councilwoman Portis-Jones. Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried.

3. Community Development

Mr. Lester Thompson

For Mayor and Council to approve Task Order # 10 with Atlas Technical Consultants (Moreland Altobelli) for Construction Engineering and Inspection (CEI) Services on the Rivertown Road Pedestrian Improvements Project (21-002).

Mr. Thompson stated that the City of Fairburn entered into a Master Services Agreement with Moreland Altobelli Associates, LLC on July 22, 2019, for On-Call Construction Management Services. The firm subsequently changed its name to Atlas Technical Consultants, LLC on January 1, 2020.

The agreement with Moreland Altobelli (Atlas) was approved with the understanding that task orders associated with Construction Management Services would be issued on an as need basis. As such, Task Order # 10 for said services has been submitted for review and approval.

Mr. Thompson recommended that Council approve Task Order # 10 with Atlas Technical Consultants for Construction Engineering and Inspection Services on the Rivertown Road Pedestrian Improvements Project (21-002) and authorize the Mayor to sign the Task Order for an amount not to exceed \$50,000.

Councilwoman Portis-Jones made a motion to approve Task Order #10 with Atlas Technical Consultants for Construction Engineering and Inspection Services on the Rivertown Road Pedestrian Improvements Project (21-002) and authorized the Mayor to sign the Task Order for an amount not to exceed \$50,000. The second was provided by Mayor Pro Tem Heath.

Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried.

X. Council Comments:

Councilman Whitmore had no comment.

Councilman Smallwood had no comment.

Councilwoman Portis-Jones had no comment.

Mayor Pro Tem Heath had no comment.

Councilman Pallend had no comment.

XI. Executive Session

At 8:30 pm a motion to enter Executive Session for Real Estate from the regular meeting was made by Mayor Pro Tem Heath with the second provided by Councilman Whitmore.

Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried.

Motion to exit and re-enter into open session was made by Councilwoman Portis-Jones and the second was provided by Councilman Whitmore.

Mayors Comments:

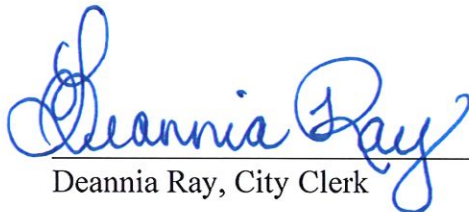
Mayor Carr-Hurst stated she received an email from Clarence Anthony with the National League of Cities (NLC) about the conference in Salt Lake City, Utah. The conference was cancelled because of the Delta variant. Anyone that has registered will get a full refund. The conference will now be 100% virtual.

Mayor Carr-Hurst announced that on Friday, September 17, 2021, COVID vaccines will be administered from 4 pm to 8 pm in the parking lot at municipal court. They will be vaccinating kids 12 years of age and up. We will advertise this on Facebook.

Councilwoman Portis-Jones has requested we offer testing on this date as well.

- XII. **Adjournment:** At 9:04 pm, with no further business of the City of Fairburn, the motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Whitmore and the second was provided by Councilwoman Portis Jones.

Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried.


Deannia Ray, City Clerk


Elizabeth Carr-Hurst, Mayor

