

BUDGET WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE
MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2022 5:30 P.M.
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MEMBERS PRESENT: Alan Snow, Ed Barlow, and Ceri Otero. Juan Topete was absent.

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: David Armstrong

OTHERS STAFF PRESENT: City Administrator Tom Short, Assistant City Administrator Greg Dagnan, City Clerk Traci Cox and Parks & Recreation Director Mark Peterson

Mr. Snow called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Approval of minutes from previous meeting:

Mr. Barlow made a motion to approve the minutes for the December 12 Budget Meeting. Motion carried 3-0.

2. Consider and discuss ARPA project budgeting (Baker Tilley)

Mr. Short and Mr. Kaleko with Baker Tilly discussed final rules recently that allow cities to use up to \$10 million in ARPA funds as revenue replacement which would ease spending requirements. Baker Tilly will continue to research the final rules and report to the City.

3. Consider and discuss Bond financing alternatives for various City projects (Baker Tilley)

Mr. Kaleko discussed different options for funding Garrison Street bridges and Baker Street Improvements. A \$20 million dollar project would need a 1% sales tax to finance. General sales tax could be increased from 1% to 2% based on 20-year financing. Mr. Kaleko cautioned starting a major construction project at this time due to escalating construction costs. No action was taken.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Consider and discuss Fiscal 2022 Mid-Year Budget Status Report

Mr. Short reviewed the Fiscal 2022 Mid-Year Budget Status Report. No major issues were noted. It was also noted that costs for the 3.5% COLA can be absorbed in the current budget.

2. Consider and discuss budget calendar for Fiscal Year 2023

Mr. Short proposed the budget calendar for Fiscal Year 2023. Mr. Barlow made a motion to amend the calendar by moving the date for distribution of electronic budgets to Departments and requests to Agencies from February 28 to February 21. Motion carried. Ms. Otero made a motion to accept the Fiscal Year 2023 budget calendar as amended. Motion carried.

3. Consider and discuss an Ordinance amending the 2021-2022 Annual Operating and Capital Budget for the City of Carthage

Mr. Short discussed the need for a budget amendment in the Civic Enhancement Fund, Myers Park Fund and Public Facilities Bond Fund. Mr. Barlow moved to forward the budget adjustment Ordinance to Council for approval. Motion carried.

4. Consider and discuss a request from Vision Carthage for funds providing for mutual undertakings and benefits from the services of providing: Carthage In-Bloom; Restoration Carthage; Sidewalk Project; Downtown Christmas; and a Main Street Program; for the residents of the City of Carthage

Abi Almandinger, Vision Carthage Executive Director, and Ashley Majia, Vision Carthage Treasurer, reported on project management hours for the third and fourth quarter of 2021. Additional funding of \$39,400 was requested for the first and second quarter of 2022, but no action was taken.

5. Staff Reports.

Mr. Short reported on an increase in workers compensation rates for the next fiscal year, sales and use tax revenue, a 3.5% COLA that went into effect on January 1, 2021 and a minimum of 3.0% to be included in the budget for the next fiscal year, and the delay in launching Civic Plus. Ms. Cox reported a CD will be coming due at Guaranty Bank and will be reinvested based on whoever can provide the highest interest rate.

6. Other Business.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM on motion by Ms. Otero.

Respectfully submitted,
Traci Cox