

## BUDGET WORKSHOP SESSION

JUNE 19, 2017

The City Council of the City of Athens met in a Budget Workshop Session on Monday, June 19, 2017, 10:00 a.m. in the Conference Room of the Development Services Center, 622 S. Prairieville St., Athens, Texas with the following members present, to-wit:

Monte Montgomery, Mayor  
Tres Winn, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Joe Whatley  
Ed McCain  
Toni Clay

Philip Rodriguez, City Manager  
Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary

others present: Ryan Adams, Thanasis Kombos, Barbara Holly, Gary Whittle, Marty Coursey and Mandie Quigg

constituting a quorum at which time the following proceedings were enacted, to-wit:

### INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Mayor Monte Montgomery.

### DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No action was taken.

### DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ALL MATTERS RELATED TO FISCAL YEAR 2018 BUDGETS AND PROGRAM, STRATEGIES, VISION AND GOALS

Philip Rodriguez, City Manager thanked the City Council for attending the Budget Workshop Session. He stated Staff is presenting proposals earlier this year versus last year. Mr. Rodriguez stated last year the City faced declining values on property and this will be the second year in a row to face those same declining property values.

Mr. Rodriguez provided updates on the following:

- Overview of City Budgeting
- Current Year Update
- Next Year Objectives
- Revenue Outlook
- Expenditure Outlook
- Future Planning Items

Mr. Rodriguez informed Council that Staff is presenting a priority based budget and he presented highlights of the following departments and initial budget submissions:

Mayor/Council, City Manager, Legal, City Secretary, Finance and Technology, Human Resources, Municipal Court, Community Services, Streets, Parks, Fleet Services, Facilities, Development Services, Code Enforcement, Fire and Rescue, Police Administration, Police Investigation, Police Patrol, Police Support Service, Airport, Tourism, Utility Fund, Utility Administration, Water Utility , Distribution and Collection , Wastewater Utility, and Utility Billing.

Further discussion on many of the items listed were held between Council and Staff.

Mr. Rodriguez presented Capital Needs and Supplemental Requests from each department.

He asked the City Council to participate in an exercise to prioritize capital and supplemental requests across the organization: in the following manner:

- A) items to include in the City Manager's proposed Fiscal Year 2018 Budget
- B) items contingent upon available funds after receipt of the Certified Tax Rolls
- C) items to be considered in City Manager's proposed Fiscal Year 2019 Budget

Much discussion and deliberation was held.

In regards to the supplemental request for a City Secretary Clerk position the Council prioritized the request in the following manner:

- Include in the City Manager's proposed budget: Councilmembers Winn, Whatley and Councilwoman Clay
- Include in City Manager's proposed budget contingent upon available funds after receiving the Certified Tax Rolls: Councilmember McCain
- Mayor Montgomery stated he would prioritize the supplemental request as a "D" which is to not fund a City Secretary Clerk position

Ryan Adams, Managing Director of Administrative Services, discussed the Wastewater Treatment Plants. He provided an overview of issues with both the North and West Wastewater Treatment Plants. He delivered alternatives to resolve the capacity issues and presented Council with projections of the City's population growth patterns through 2070.

After discussion, it was the consensus of the City Council to plan for the rehab of the current two (2) plants and prepare for growth.

Mayor Montgomery stated he would like to see a second opinion for rehabilitation of the tanks.

Mayor Montgomery mentioned the Tarrant County Water District and their ability to build waste water plants. He asked Staff to research this option.

Mayor Pro-Tem Winn agreed with rehabilitation of the two (2) plants and checking with Tarrant County Water District for options.

Thanasis Kombos, Managing Director of Community Services, discussed the Community Collection Site and the operational costs associated with operating the site.

Additional discussion occurred. It was the consensus of the City Council for Staff to pursue negotiations with Republic Services regarding potential service changes.

Mr. Kombos discussed strategies to address the City's drainage challenges.

After discussion, City Council directed Staff to continue investigating methods for addressing specific drainage issues in the city.

#### DISCUSSION OF FISCAL YEAR 2018 TAX RATE

There was discussion regarding the Fiscal Year 2018 Tax Rate. The City Council asked that the tax rate stay the same for the next budget year (no tax increase). Marty Coursey, Finance Director, stated the City should have the Certified Tax Rolls no earlier than July 25, 2017.

#### ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS THE 10<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JULY 2017.

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Monte Montgomery, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary