

VILLAGE OF WESLEY CHAPEL
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WESLEY CHAPEL TOWN HALL
6490 Weddington Road, Wesley Chapel, NC 28104
May 9, 2019 – 7:00 PM

The Village Council of Wesley Chapel, North Carolina met in the Town Hall at 6490 Weddington Road, Wesley Chapel, North Carolina.

Council Present: Mayor Horvath, Council Members Como, Fuller, and Rodriguez

Council Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Kaperonis

Others Present: Clerk/Finance Officer Cheryl Bennett, Planning and Zoning Administrator Robyn Byers, Ph.D.

1. Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation and Determination of Quorum

Mayor Horvath led the Pledge of Allegiance and Council Member Rodriguez gave the invocation. A quorum of Council was present.

2. Review/discuss Proposed Budget for 2019/20

The proposed 2019/20 budget was reviewed. Property tax values, which rose about 2.5%, were provided from the Union County Tax office and our current tax rate was used. State shared revenues were estimated using input from the League of Municipalities, and as adapted to our local situation.

Expenditures were reviewed line by line. The line item for Town Office Maintenance Services was increased by \$7,500 to include painting problem areas both inside and outside, per quotes obtained by Council Member Como. Youth Council line items were estimated after checking with the Council Chair, who indicated at most one person might attend the Youth Legislative Assembly, and they might like to do another vendor/food truck event in the park. The Communications Committee submitted a budget request for \$4,000 for possible services, and \$1,000 for photos for town hall. The photos were incorporated in the line item under Capital Outlay for Artwork. The Annual Retreat was left at the current year amount, noting a facilitator is likely to charge more than we paid this year, and the format for the Advance is as yet unknown. This is the first year we will have ongoing codification supplements, and the amount was estimated at \$5,000; it will depend on the number of ordinance pages amended. Dues and Subscriptions will no longer have an amount for Centralina COG. Elections were estimated by the Board of Elections, and is an item we do not have in the current year budget as elections are every two years. Liability and Workers Comp insurance numbers were obtained from the League. Travel and Entertainment and Seminars expenses are likely to increase next year, as we may have three new council members.

Planning and Zoning was reviewed next. We will not have Professional Services – Code Enforcement, so the \$2,700 currently budgeted was deleted from next year’s budget. \$1,300 was included for ArcGIS software since our new planner has experience using it, while in the past we had N-Focus do our maps. \$2,320 was budgeted for a new computer and monitor for the planner since she has had some problems with the current computer. She also suggested in future years we budget on-going ArcGIS maintenance of \$400 per year, and a possible upgrade to a standard license which would be \$4,534.

The next area reviewed was salaries. The League surveyed similar sized towns on their anticipated cost-of-living adjustments and merit increases for 2019-20, which was 2.4% and 1.98% respectively, so that amount was included in the Allowance for Salary Adjustment line item. The line items for fringe benefits – insurance and retirement were both adjusted to reflect a full year with the planner (previously we contracted out the planning services).

Professional fees were reviewed. Engineer Consulting which is largely offset with the revenue account Engineering Fees Reimbursements, were both decreased to \$40,000.

Capital Outlay – Artwork line item was reduced to \$4,000 which includes the \$1,000 from Communications Committee photos. The Sidewalks Reserve amount of \$12,000 was kept the same, we are unsure of the amount NC DOT will ultimately request.

In the Public Services/Safety category, amounts were not included for events nor dues, since we do not anticipate a National Night Out event, as we do not have a Safety Committee. Union County provided the amount for the deputy, which is up 3% from the current year.

The Parks and Rec Committee provided budget request amounts. Recreation event services went up from a budget of \$8,260 to \$28,000, this includes four WC FOPR events at \$2,000 per event, and funds for a music and car show - \$3,000, a fall music festival with three bands - \$14,200, and a Christmas event - \$2,800. If alcohol is served at the fall music festival, Parks and Rec believe there may be income of \$10,000 from that event. Barricades for events with alcohol are estimated at \$12,000; Council asked for more information on why the UCSO requested barricades for alcohol at an event. \$5,000 was requested for services for a survey; another new item requested is Sound System services, and Council would like more information on both these items. The amount requested for Pond Maintenance was reduced to \$4,500, based on current contract and expected increase. Likewise the Land Maintenance Contract amount was reduced from the request to \$43,300. Council Member Como obtained estimates on re-surfacing the park parking lot, and \$10,000 was budgeted. Based on current expenses, the amount budgeted for the Sanitation Contract was reduced to \$3,100, for Water/Sewer reduced to \$150, and for utilities to \$14,000. The amount requested for Monitoring Cameras was removed, and the amount requested for Park Security Cameras increased to \$20,000. The other capital items are barricades at \$12,000, a retaining wall on the main path at \$2,000, and north shore trail beautification at \$10,000.

Parks and Rec also proposed hiring a part time person to do maintenance at the park in lieu of the current contracted services. Pros and cons were discussed, and more information is needed, including a job description. It was decided to include \$10,000 in the budget to contract out some

maintenance services instead of hiring, and still keep the current landscape and pond contracts. Parks and Rec also proposed \$100,000 for PARTF matching funds, but that would be budgeted in a Capital Projects Fund if we are awarded a grant.

Questions were brought up on possible changes to the website, (Council was asked to send comments on what they would like to see different on the website), and on whether we needed a contract for a copier. Council Member Fuller asked about whether we should change our fund balance policy, we currently require keeping 25% of the budget in fund balance. The Finance Officer will get more information on how far we dip into fund balance before revenues come in, and this can be discussed at a future meeting.

The final proposed budget is at \$734,851, and includes Appropriations from Fund Balance of \$88,545.

3. Adjournment

Council Member Rodriguez motioned to adjourn; Council Member Fuller seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Bennett, Clerk

Mayor Brad Horvath