

MINUTES
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
PUBLIC HEARING
IN-PERSON & ZOOM
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 09, 2020

Members Present:

Mayor Steve Lawrence
Dr. Sonny Proctor-zoom
Kirk Raffield-zoom
Anne Sneve
Jim Looney
John Foust

Staff:

Brandon Douglas
Beverly Ragland
Lindsey Williams
Heath Watson

Guests in Attendance:

Jasper City Hall Lobby – zoom

Members Absent:

Legal Counsel:

Press:

Mari Livsey-Know Pickens
Larry Cavendar-Pickens Progress

Mayor Steve Lawrence asked Councilmember Jim Looney if he recognized a quorum. See a quorum, Mayor Lawrence recognized meeting as opening. He requested City Manager Brandon Douglas to provide the invocation. He requested Councilmember John Foust to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Lawrence advised that an agenda is in front of them and he entertained a motion to adopt the agenda. Councilmember Jim Looney made a motion to adopt the agenda. Councilmember Anne Sneve provided a second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence opened the public hearing to discuss the 2021 Budget for the City of Jasper. He asked City Manager Brandon Douglas, Finance Director Beverly Ragland, and Assistant Finance Director Lindsey Williams to bring forth information. City Manager Douglas recognized that the budget document presented has taken months of work. A presentation was displayed that gave highlights to the respective budgets. Revenue highlights in the General Fund included the millage rate increase, no change expected in TAVT and a very slight increase in Municipal Court Fines over 2020. Expenditures highlights in the General Fund included an estimated decrease in legal fees by changing to GIRMA, re-establishing travel and training as needed, continued shared support of Economic Development position with Pickens County, utilization of 2020 SPLOST funds where allowed for any Capital Outlay items, fill vacant Building Inspector position and no budgeted raises for employees in 2021. A list of potential projects was displayed for the 2014 SPLOST and 2020 SPLOST funds. The Revenue highlights for the Enterprise funds included a \$10.00 base fee increase to all accounts in the Water fund, slight changes to sewage tie-ins and leachate, meter install, sewer receipts and cost of construction expected to remain steady and a \$.50 increase to all solid waste accounts. Expense highlights in the Enterprise funds include the addition of water purchases in the water fund, increase in supplement from water fund to the sanitation fund and identified Capital Outlay projects in the water fund from the bond refinance proceeds. Finance Director Ragland added the draft budget was available for public view on the City's website and made herself available to anyone that has questions. Councilmember Sneve, Mayor Lawrence and Councilmember Looney expressed their thanks for the work from staff to put the budget together.

Mayor Lawrence asked if any member of the audience had a desire to make comments in the public hearing. After no comments were made, Mayor Lawrence asked for a motion to adjourn with Councilmember Foust providing a motion and Councilmember Sneve providing a second. The motion passed unanimously.

Public hearing closed.

Steve Lawrence
Mayor

Beverly Ragland
Finance Director/City Clerk