

August 9, 2014 Minutes

The Budget and Ordinance Workshop was called to order at 9:08 a.m. on Saturday August 9, 2014.

A quorum was present with Mayor Reinhard, and Councilperson Nettle, Thornton, and Nottingham in attendance. Councilperson Tiner joined the meeting at approximately 10 a.m.

Mayor Reinhard began by providing an updated working budget to the Councilmember's. He stated it was updated to include information provided by the Madla Park Board to include projected income of \$7,500 of which \$5,000 would come from fundraising and \$2,500 from donations. Also, the Park Board is projecting expenses of \$6,000 to support existing commitments and other expenses that may come up during the year. Mayor Reinhard then noted that there were topics from the previous Budget Workshop that were requested to be revisited. The first was reviewing the promotion and salary increase for a Public Works Manager. It was generally felt that this was appropriate. The working budget was then reviewed by Councilmember's. Councilperson Nottingham had several questions regarding items in Public Works, Public Safety, and Public Service Medical. In Public Works, there was a discussion regarding the nature of the Arborist Fund and Animal & Insect Control. Also noted is that the City Green Space Restricted account was moved up into Public Works. Mayor Reinhard stated that it seemed appropriate to move that account up into Public Works with other park type accounts, but noted that he would need to work with City Secretary, Shannan Kinsley to determine the appropriate location for the account. In Public Safety Police, Councilperson Nottingham asked why the Police Chiefs salary increase was 4.5% when all other employees were only getting 2.5%. Mayor Reinhard stated that the 4.5% listed was not the percent of salary increase, but rather the increase of the FY2015 budget versus the FY2014 budget. The anomaly was due to the fact that the Police Chief's salary was adjusted during the FY2014 budget and therefore the FY2014 budget number was lower than his current salary since he was paid less in the first few months of the fiscal year. The Salary increase is actually a 2.5% of his current salary. There was also additional discussion regarding the move of the shift officer to a fulltime position. In the Public Service Medical, Councilperson Nottingham requested an explanation of the Citizen Education and why the budget increased when only one third of the FY2014 budget was actually spend. Mayor Reinhard explained that the Citizen Education should really read Citizen Education and Events. It contains sponsoring four citywide events at \$200 each and two education classes at \$500 each with \$100 each for mailing and handling. The reason that the budget was not completely spent in FY2014 is that no classes were actually brought forward to be conducted during the year.

A rather lengthy discussion regarding the Contract Amount for the Grey Forest Volunteer Fire Depart ensued. Councilperson Nettle brought up the issues of ESD residents paying less than what the City of Grey Forest pays and also issues regarding what may happen when the Fire Department is forced to relocate and what happens to equipment, ownership and several other items. Mayor Reinhard stated that we should look at this as a contract for service and let the Fire Department be responsible for running its operations and providing the service that is has contracted for with the City. There was discussion regarding the amount of the contract. Mayor Reinhard presented some analysis that showed the City is contributing around 20% of the GFVFD income and that GFVFD responses within the City as a percent of their total responses for its larger service area is between

10% and 13%. He stated that we are paying a premium and we get excellent service with considerably faster response time than the larger service area due to GFVFD location within the City. He stated that it was worth paying a premium for this. However, he did not feel that an increase of \$45,000 (56% increase) versus the proposed about \$4,000 (5% increase) was warranted. Additional discussion occurred regarding this topic.

A discussion regarding the bottom line analysis followed. With the proposed working budget, a shortfall of about \$43,000 is projected if the entire budget is spent. Mayor Reinhard stated we typically do not spend all of the budget and that this year it looks like there would be about \$40,000 underspent, however, this could not be guaranteed since the projected FY2014 final actuals is based on data available at the end June 2014 when the budgeting process was started. He stated that we do not want to overstate the budget; however, the budget does contain estimates that include risks that may not be realized. Various discussions regarding cutting across the board or selectively cutting certain areas, such as the Police Department's new full time position were brought up.

At the end of the discussion, most of the Council present thought that we should use the base proposed working budget as the official proposed budget going forward. Mayor Reinhard stated that he would complete the budget preparation and would submit it on or prior to August 29, 2014 as required. He also stated that we would have another discussion on the budget at the Public Hearing. Council agreed that the Public Hearing on the proposed budget will be set for September 16, 2014 at 6:30 pm.

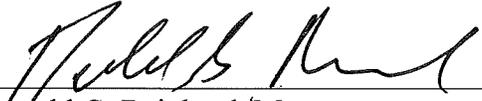
After a short break, council reconvened to continue the Workshop on the Zoning Ordinance. Council picked up where it had previously left off. The remainder of the meeting focused on discussing the Ordinance, Section 14, regarding Fences and Walls. There were several items regarding height, fencing materials, and safety that were discussed. A section was added stating that construction of a fence or wall in a setback would require a permit. Council then started a discussion of temporary living quarters and RV's and stopped before addressing camping in the City.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

These minutes were written/recorded by Mayor Ron Reinhard .

These minutes were approved as written/amended on the 26th day of August, 2014.

Signed: _____


Ronald G. Reinhard, Mayor