

Town of Tyrone Council Minutes

May 20, 2010

Present:

Mayor Don Rehwaldt
Councilman Eric Dial
Councilman Ken Matthews
Mayor Pro Tem Gloria Furr
Town Manager, Richard Newbern
Town Attorney Dennis Davenport
Police Chief Brandon Perkins
Finance/HR Manager Penny Hunter
Town Clerk Pamela Megill

Absent

Councilman Tracy Young

Call to Order, Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Rehwaldt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The invocation was given by Deacon Bill Hampton of Saint Matthew Catholic Church, and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments

There were no Public Comments.

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Pro Tem Furr made a motion to approve the agenda. Council Member Matthews seconded the motion. Motion approved 3-0.

Approval of Minutes: May 6, 2010 Regular Meeting.

Council Member Dial made a motion to approve the minutes. Mayor Pro Tem Furr seconded the motion. Motion approved 3-0.

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITION:

Mrs. Nebergall presented Mayor Pro Tem Furr, Council Member Dial, Council Member Matthews and Police Chief Perkins with an "Appreciation of Community Service Certificate" for their volunteer work. Mrs. Nebergall stated that Mayor Pro Tem Furr and Police Chief Brandon Perkins had taken commitment to public service to a whole new level and were willing to roll up their sleeves to raise support for a vulnerable sector of Fayette County citizenry. Mrs. Nebergall thanked Council Member Matthews for making the effort to raise awareness of the "Prevent Child Abuse Fayette" organization. Mrs. Nebergall thanked Council Member Dial and Police Chief Perkins for their collaborative efforts of giving their time and talents to benefit the ENCORE program. Mrs. Nebergall stated that the FACTOR organization is very grateful to them, and presented all with certificates of appreciation.

PUBLIC HEARING:

There were no public hearings.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Consideration of the Proposed FY 2010-2011 Budget. *Richard Newbern, Town Manager*

Mr. Newbern gave a report on the proposed FY 2010-2011 budget. Mr. Newbern stated: The Town Council had a budget session on Thursday, May 13, 2010. The draft General Fund budget is balanced at \$3,085,679, which is \$45,005 (1.5%) higher than the FY 2009/10 budget that is for \$3,040,674. The increase is due to increases in the cost of health insurance and pension benefits, and increases in capital expenditures that are reflected in the General Fund. Health benefits are partially paid by employees for family coverage. The Town pays the balance. Health benefits are expected to cost the Town \$145,335 next year, which represents a 15% increase. Worker's compensation costs are expected to increase from \$38,470 to \$47,928, which is a 25% increase. This year's budget includes departmental goals and objectives. This is the first step on getting Tyrone on the path of having a "performance budget" whereby each department's expenditures are tied to their stated goals. The proposed budget includes a \$136,100 transfer from the Town's reserves to the General Fund. The transfer will occur on an as-needed basis over the course of the coming year. The transfer is necessary due the anticipated decrease of property tax revenue, which is expected to decrease 7.76% below the receipts collected in FY 2009-10.

Mr. Newbern addressed the Council questions and requests from the May 13, 2010 budget workshop:

The SPLOST budget does not have to be approved along with the General Fund and special program budgets. However, it is important to begin prioritizing projects and plan the expenditure of SPLOST. The SPLOST referendum that was passed in November 2004 will be forwarded to you. I understand that the County's resolution for the referendum has been sent to you already. Mr. Newbern stated that he had determined that there is no time frame for spending the SPLOST money.

The \$160,000 (52.1200) in Administration is for professional services: Legal, Engineering, Audit and Environmental.

Council Member Dial asked for a breakdown to itemize the amount of monies for each of the professional services listed.

The \$40,000 (52.1204) in Administration for building inspector services is for the contract with Safebuilt, where they get 60% of permit fees. The \$44,000 (52.1300) in Administration for technical services is for Payroll, computer support and Incode software monthly expenses. The \$2,500 (53.1270) in Administration for vehicle gas is for the use of the two vehicles in administration. The \$10,800 (33.6000) in revenues from the County for Park Maintenance is a reduction. The County Commission will discuss their budget at the County Commission meeting room on Monday, May 24, 2010 at 11 a.m. Council Member Dial asked if we had information showing how much of a reduction other towns were taking in Park Maintenance. Finance Director, Penny Hunter stated she had spoken with the Finance Director from Peachtree City and the proposed percentage reduction of funds to Peachtree City was not as significant as the one

proposed for the Town of Tyrone. Mr. Newbern stated he would be attending the County Commissioners meeting on May 24th.

Mr. Newbern continued, the \$6,500 for the file server (54.2400) in Administration - Newnan Computers estimated a price of \$5,400, and we have budgeted a conservative figure to cover costs. This does not include e-mail migration. The \$96,000 (53.1233) in Administration for street lights will be monitored closely. We will investigate ways to use alternative lights/bulbs to cut costs. The Town millage will remain at 2.89, and departments have made serious efforts to cut costs in the face of revenue decreases and the Town's insurance premium increases.

Mr. Newbern stated that a copy of the proposed budget is available at Town Hall for the public's review, and notice of the availability has been publicized in the newspaper, and the official Public Hearing. Mayor Pro Tem Furr asked if the information requested by Council Member Young pertaining to line item 54-2400 (Computers) and the requested server had been provided to him. Ms. Hunter stated she only had a copy of one quote, because this purchase would be sent out for bids, after the budget is adopted. Council Member Matthews asked for the quote to be e-mailed to the Council Members.

Mayor Rehwaldt stated he would like to bring up the topic of the code enforcement officer position. Mayor Rehwaldt stated that staff members were taking time away from their desks and regular duties to take care of code enforcement issues, and stated there was more than enough work to justify hiring a code enforcement officer. Council Member Dial stated that he believed we (The Town) collectively have the staff to cover these issues, we have not seen anybody working overtime and I do appreciate the extra work everyone is doing, but in this economy all employers are maximizing the productivity of their employees. If we get into a position of employees having to work overtime to get things done, then that is another story. Mayor Rehwaldt stated that he thought the funding should still be put into the budget, and if the need does become greater the funds are already in place. Mayor Rehwaldt asked for a motion to return the \$20,000 to the proposed budget. No motions were given. Council Member Matthews asked if later on in the year, after the budget adoption, if a budget amendment could be made to insert the funding. Mr. Newbern stated that a budget amendment could be made into the next fiscal year. Mayor Pro Tem Furr stated she agreed with Council Members Dial and Matthews and did not think the funding needed to be placed in the proposed budget at this time. Council Member Dial thanked the Mayor for his tenacity over the Code Enforcement issue.

NEW BUSINESS:

2. Consideration and action on Briarwood/Laurelwood Drainage Improvements. *Richard Newbern, Town Manager*

Mr. Newbern stated that the Town's drainage system at the Briarwood/Laurelwood Road intersection has not succeeded in diverting water southward down Briarwood Road. The Town has a drainage grate and flume that do not capture the rainwater that flows along the right-of-way of Briarwood Road; resulting in the inundation of private property. Mallet Consulting, Incorporated has designed a solution, which involved the installation of approximately eighty foot curb and gutter drainage system that will divert the water down Briarwood Road into the Town's storm water drainage system. To construct the draining improvements, Mallet Consulting received three bids on behalf of the Town and recommends approval of one of them. The three bids are: Steadham Grading for \$5,775.00, Trammel Horton Contracting for \$7,250.00 and Southeast Site Development for \$10,388.70. Mallet Consulting has recommended that the Town award the bid to Steadham Grading.

Council Member Matthews made a motion to award the bid for improving the Briarwood/Laurelwood drainage system to Steadham Grading in the amount of \$5,775.00. Council Member Dial seconded the motion. Motion approved 3-0.

CONSENT AGENDA: All matters listed under this item are considered to be routine by the Town Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will not be separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered separately.

3. Consideration and action on filling the vacant position “Housekeeping Maintenance I”. *Renee’ Holt, Director of Public Works*

Council Member Dial made a motion to hire Ms. Jonna Stricklin for the position of Housekeeping Maintenance I. Mayor Pro Tem Furr seconded the motion. Motion approved 3-0.

Public Comments

Mr. Ruddy Norris, 155 Foxfire Run, Tyrone

Mr. Norris stated concerns regarding water retention on several lots located on Foxrun Drive and in the surrounding area. Mayor Pro Tem Furr stated that one of the lots Mr. Norris was referring to was, in her opinion, undevelopable, as it had been “wet” in excess of thirty years. Council Member Matthews stated he believed this was private property.

Staff Comments

Town Manager Richard Newbern

Mr. Newbern stated the financial monthly report is a work in progress, and in addition to providing the Council with a monthly report we intend to give a more descriptive and detailed report, and Finance Manager, Penny Hunter, will be providing the financial report.

Finance Manager, Penny Hunter

Ms. Hunter gave the monthly report for the month ended April, 2010. Ms. Hunter stated that for the month ended April, 2010 the Town has realized nearly 90.87% of its budgeted revenue. As the fiscal year is 83.33% complete, the Town has done quite well collecting revenue during this economic down-turn. Property tax collections have been better than expected as they have surpasses budget by 16.31% or \$150,367.47. Ms. Hunter also covered various tax revenues, building permit revenues, charges for services, and Municipal Court fines. Ms. Hunter stated for the current over-all expenditures compared to budget are at 72.65%; total expenditures to date are at \$2,198,581 compared to \$2,321,438 for the same month last year. The majority of this difference is from a decrease in Public Works expenditures of \$76,159; due in part to a large part to a reduction in road paving. Ms. Hunter concluded by stating we anticipate that we will have greater than normal expenditures for May due to end-of-year spending, but are optimistic that we will come in the under budget of \$3,025,128 at 92% or \$2,783,117.

Council Member Dial asked if were going to have to go into reserves. Ms. Hunter stated we were not.

Mayor Pro Tem Furr asked if the Council would be receiving this same type of report every month, and stated she would like to see the figures for how much money the Town has in CD’s, and all bank accounts.

Council Member Dial asked how much money the Town had in reserves. Ms. Hunter replied it was approximately \$3.2 million.

Ms. Hunter stated she would add an extra paragraph to the next monthly report to cover the bank account holdings.

Mayor Pro Tem Furr thanked Mr. Newbern and Ms. Hunter for an excellent job of preparing the proposed budget.

Mayor Rehwaldt

There were no further comments from Mayor Rehwaldt.

Council Comments

Council Member Dial asked what the status on Mr. Dwan Taylor is. Mr. Newbern stated that the Town Engineer was reviewing the survey of the area of concern; the Town Engineer had provided a preliminary report. Mr. Newbern stated that as soon as he received the final report he would forward the document to the Town Council. Council Member Matthews stated he had gone to Mr. Taylor's property when it was raining heavily and watched the water flow, especially from the water coming from the west side of the property that has significant elevation issues. Mr. Newbern stated the Town Engineer had taken a survey of that particular area and as soon as the analysis of the data and recommendations were received that information would be provided to the Town Council.

Council Member Matthews asked if the Town Manager had met with Mr. John Wieland. Mr. Newbern deferred to the Mayor to address the question. Mayor Rehwaldt stated a meeting had taken place to discuss gated communities, and Mr. Wieland was provided with copies of minutes from when this issue had been discussed by the Town Council. The Mayor further stated he did not believe this issue would be brought up again.

Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

Adjournment

Mayor Pro Tem Furr made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Matthews seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

The Town Council Meeting adjourned at 8:04p.m.

By: _____
Don Rehwaldt, Mayor

Attest: _____
Pamela J. Megill, Town Clerk

