

BANNER ELK TOWN COUNCIL

Special Budget Meeting

June 29, 2020

MINUTES

The Banner Elk Town Council met Monday, June 29, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. through a remote meeting.

Council Members present: Mayor Brenda Lyerly, Mike Dunn, Charlie VonCanon, Allen Bolick, David Lecka and Robert Tufts.

Staff present: Town Manager Rick Owen.

Call Meeting to Order

At 6:00 p.m. Mayor Lyerly called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Lyerly led those in attendance with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation

Council Member Bolick opened the meeting with prayer.

Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget Discussion

Manager Owen presented to Council a request to roll forward some funds not spent in the current budget year into the proposed 2020-2021 budget. The request included rolling forward funds for paving and street maintenance not spent in 2019-2020 and funds budgeted for Town Hall maintenance not yet completed. Manager Owen stated he had also increased budgeting for IT related to server security and computer support. He explained the concerns the Town has related to IT oversight. Council Members Bolick and Tufts indicated their support of the increase. Mayor Lyerly commented on a webinar presented by the NCLM which stressed the importance of good IT controls and management. Manager Owen stated these were the areas of change since the Council's last budget workshop meeting.

Mayor Lyerly asked if any Council members had questions for Mr. Owen. Council Member Dunn asked for clarity on the Historic School budget based on the cancellation of Art on the Greene and the golf tournament. The Town will need to rely on funds borrowed from the general fund to make the debt payment to the County which is due in July. It was noted that historically the Town fundraising throughout the year would repay this loan. Fundraising activities will continue.

Adoption of Budget Ordinance

Mayor Lyerly asked if Council was ready to adopt the budget. Manager Owen stated that Council had before them a budget ordinance for their consideration. Council Member Lecka motioned to approve the 2020-2021 Budget Ordinance as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bolick, the motion passed with all in favor, no one opposed.

Other Business

Manager Owen requested the Council to consider a budget amendment to closeout the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Council reviewed the requested amendment.

Council Member Tufts motioned to approve budget amendment 20200629. The motion was seconded by Council Member VonCanon, the motion passed with all in favor, no one opposed.

Mayor Lyerly asked for further comments. Council Member VonCanon commented on the pressure washing and staining of benches and trash cans throughout Town. It is a nice improvement. Mayor Lyerly ask about the plans for Ensemble Stage to hold their children’s plays. The ability to hold the shows is still up in the air. Manager Owen stated that the health department was currently doing drive through COVID testing daily at the health department parking lot beginning at 10:00 AM.

At 6:19 p.m. Council Member VonCanon motioned to adjourn the Special Budget meeting. Council Member Tufts seconded the motion. All were in favor. No one opposed.

Adjourn

The Banner Elk Town Council meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

Mayor Brenda Lyerly

Attested

Approved: August 10, 2020