

**MINUTES
CITY OF FALLON
55 West Williams Avenue
Fallon, Nevada
May 20, 2020**

The Honorable City Council met in a special Council meeting on the above date in the Council Chambers, 55 West Williams Avenue, Fallon, Nevada.

Present:

Mayor Ken Tedford
City Councilman, James D. Richardson
City Councilwoman, Kelly Frost
City Councilwoman, Karla Kent
Legal & Administrative Director, Robert Erquiaga
City Clerk-Treasurer, Sean C. Richardson

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Tedford at 2:00 p.m.

Mayor Tedford led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Tedford inquired if the agenda had been posted in compliance with NRS requirements.

Legal and Administrative Director Erquiaga advised that the agenda was posted in compliance with Governor Sisolak's Declaration of Emergency Directive 006, and as extended by Directives 016 and 018, the agenda and the supporting materials were posted on or before 9:00 a.m. on May 15, 2020 to the City's website and the State of Nevada's public notice website.

Public Comments

Mayor Tedford inquired if there were any public comments. He noted that comments are to be general in nature, not relative to any agenda items. No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item until the matter has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action will be taken.

No public comments were noted.

Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021

Legal and Administrative Director Erquiaga explained that this was the time set for a public hearing on the tentative budget. As the Council is aware, the City submitted a tentative budget to the Nevada Department of Taxation on April 15, 2020. At that time, we set up a notice of public hearing giving the public an opportunity to comment on the budget. We published a notice in the Lahontan Valley News and the agenda was posted as a typical agenda would be. We have not received any comment. No written comment has been submitted to the City Clerk's Office or anyone else at the City regarding the budget. This meeting is available on the phone and is also open to the public, although it was noted that there was no one in attendance. Typically, this would be the opportunity

to allow the public to weigh in and we could have discussion on the budget itself either in this item or in the next agenda item. The next agenda item actually contemplates potential Council action.

Mayor Tedford inquired if the Council had any comments or questions.

No comments were noted.

Mayor Tedford inquired if there were any public comments or questions.

No public comments were noted.

Consideration and possible adoption of a Final Budget for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021

Legal and Administrative Director Erquiaga explained that what was presented to the Council was the work product of former City Clerk Gary Cordes and current City Clerk Sean Richardson. This has been a unique budget experience. We went through a City Clerk transition in the middle of the process and both Gary Cordes and City Clerk Richardson deserve a lot of credit, especially Gary Cordes for putting in a lot of hard work to get us to this tentative budget and then City Clerk Richardson for picking things up so quickly and being able to work with Gary Cordes while he was still here and put together this budget for the Council's consideration. The COVID-19 situation is ongoing and we have tried to take into account, during every step of this budget from the Mayor on down, to analyze to our best effort and use the best information we have available to us now, to come up with the best tentative budget that we could. We are asking the Council to approve the tentative budget as was submitted to the Nevada Department of Taxation without change. He believed the fiscal year we are about to enter would be one of the most challenging in the history of the City. He will be discussing revenues and expenses quite often with the Mayor and City Clerk Richardson, especially as we spend the next several months trying to get a grip on what our revenues will look like. He noted that City Clerk Richardson is present to answer any questions the Council might have. The highlight of this process – although it has been difficult and the unknowns are very scary – the process itself has been very rewarding working with Mayor Tedford, City Clerk Richardson, and with Gary Cordes. It has been a very rewarding process to get us to this point today.

Mayor Tedford inquired if the Council had any comments or questions.

Councilman Richardson asked if we anticipated receiving any federal assistance at our level.

Legal and Administrative Director Erquiaga stated that was one of the topics that we discuss and monitor every day. We are hopeful. We did not go into this budget process counting on any federal assistance, we may be in a world of hurt if we did that, but he and Mayor Tedford have been on innumerable phone calls, and we are utilizing our consultants – especially the Porter Group – we get updated information at least weekly if not more often, on every federal avenue available and we are hopeful that some of those will come through for us. Whether they be grant programs or opportunities or direct assistance – and that has been the latest focus – on the potential for direct assistance in what might be the next stimulus package that makes it through Congress. We spend a lot of time with the Porter Group. He and Mayor Tedford were fortunate to speak with both of our Senators last Friday and they both understand and are really solid advocates for cities like ours that are not populations with 500,000 or more, who received direct assistance the first go-around. They also understand how difficult it is for a city like ours that is well-managed. The narrative that is developing in Congress and is unfortunate in that, for whatever reason, it is being told or repeated that a lot of cities are mismanaged and any direct assistance to them would just be a bailout. That would not be the case for us, and both of our Senators are working hard to hopefully get direct assistance to us. We are paying attention, and we are going to try every angle and every aspect. We have good people around us and we have Mayor Tedford in every day taking those calls and having those conversations and he believed we were going to be busy running down every single one of those leads. He hoped that more than one would come to fruition because they would be a big help.

Councilwoman Kent confirmed that they would be approving the final budget in this agenda item.

Legal and Administrative Director Erquiaga replied affirmatively.

Councilwoman Kent stated that she was new to this budget process and that it must have been difficult to project revenues and get the departments to do their expense cutting. She asked if grants that we know we have coming in for this fiscal year get included in this budget, like the one for Front Street.

Legal and Administrative Director Erquiaga explained that it would depend on the timing of when those grants are realized and when they are received. If we have approved grants, they typically make the budget more in the form of an augmentation, because it depends on the timeline of when they get approved and when the cash is actually received. Gary Cordes and City Clerk Richardson paid attention to this and have some ideas of what may come to fruition that have been considered in the budget.

City Clerk Richardson explained that if we budget grant revenue there is the other side, the expenditure, that is automatically in there. In this budget, we did not really have much grant carryover except the emergency management grant which he believed has been a year in/year out \$28,000 so you would see that in the General Fund but some of the other ones you will not see in there and as we use them, we would augment the budget on the revenue side and on the expenditure side, but right now they are not on either side. There are a couple of ways to do that.

Mayor Tedford inquired if there were any public comments or questions.

No public comments were noted.

Councilman Richardson motioned to adopt a final budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2021; seconded by Councilwoman Frost and approved with a 3-0 vote by the Council.

Public Comments

Mayor Tedford inquired if there were any public comments.

No public comments were noted.

Councilwoman Frost thanked City Clerk Richardson, Gary Cordes, and Mayor Tedford for their hard work on preparing the tentative budget, especially in these times.

Mayor Tedford thanked Councilwoman Frost for her comment; we still have a lot of hard work ahead of us in these unprecedented times.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Tedford adjourned the meeting at 2:10 p.m.

Attest:



Sean C. Richardson, City Clerk-Treasurer



Mayor Ken Tedford