

January 8, 2022

A special meeting of the City Council was held on Saturday, January 8, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers in City Hall. Mayor Donker presided.

Councilmen present: Steve Arnosky, Diane Brown Wilhelm, Maureen Donker, Marty Wazbinski, Pamela Hall (arrived at 9:03)

Councilmen absent: none

CITY COUNCIL PLANNING SESSION

Department heads provided updates and information on City operations over the course of the day. Discussions were held on the following areas: Water rate study; Landfill rate study; Barstow Airport needs and financial challenges; Fire Department organizational study; and Police Department updates.

Council Member Diane Brown Wilhelm, along with Alysia Christy and Perry Holmon, presented on the ongoing activities and findings of the We Hear You (WHY) group.

City Attorney Jim Branson presented on medical and recreational marihuana.

Director of Planning and Community Development Grant Murschel and City Engineer Matt Lemon presented on the need for review and decision on Ashman and Rodd Streets as one or two way streets in order to provide direction on road design work in downtown Midland and at the Circle area.

City Council held an open discussion, developing a list of topics for future, more in-depth, discussion.

Assistant City Manager Dave Keenan outlined the anticipated financial performance of the organization for the remainder of the year and expected financial position of the City for the FY 2022-2023.

City Manager Brad Kaye provided an overview of the previous years budget directives and provided a working list of budget-impacted initiatives presented over the course of the day. Mayor Donker led Council in a conversation in reviewing the FY 2021-2022 goals and further discussing FY 2022-2023 with budget directives and general directives presented to staff.

The directives presented to staff for the FY 2022-2023 budget were:

- Public services will be maintained at the highest level financially feasible under current economic and budget conditions.
- \$1,100,000 of funding will continue to be budgeted to the Stormwater Fund to be used for flood response programs and activities.
- \$1,000,000 of funding will continue to be budgeted to the Wastewater Fund to be used for flood response programs and activities.
- Increase the current level of the General Fund unreserved fund balance to \$6.5 MM by transferring \$500,000 from the General Fund Budget Stabilization Reserve.
- Increase contributions to the landfill budget by \$250,000, with future contributions to be reviewed and determined following completion of a rate study for landfill operations.
- Increase the Barstow Airport budget in the amount of \$350,000 from available American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.
- Reimburse expenses at the Civic Arena for lost revenue due to COVID closings in the amount of \$350,000, utilizing available ARPA funds.
- Reimburse expenses at Riverside Place for lost revenue due to flood closings in the amount of \$400,000 from available ARPA funds.

- Reimburse expenses at Currie Golf Course for lost revenue due to Covid and flood closings in the amount of \$200,00 from available ARPA funds.
- The anticipated maximum millage rate for FY 2022-2023 is 15.14mills, which represents no increase over the current fiscal year.
- Provided the above measures and directives can be achieved, and provided it can be done without increasing the millage rate, contribute up to an additional \$500,000 towards MERS unfunded liabilities.

Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

C. Bradley Kaye, Acting Deputy City Clerk