

City of Jasper, Florida
208 West Hatley Street
Budget Meeting
AUGUST 12, 2019, 5:05 P.M.

Meeting called to order at 5:05pm, with the following Council members present: Mayor Darnell Lumpkin, Jay Daigle, Chairman, and Mr. LaBarfield Bryant, also present Marcus Collins, City Manager, Patricia Herring, Acting Deputy Clerk. Mr. William Mitchell, V and Mr. Gerald Lewis present for the meeting at approximately 5:18 p.m.

Mr. Daigle led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Collins, City Manager thanked the Council for allowing him the time to present the Budget for the Fiscal year 2019-2020, and explained the Budget in its entirety. Each Council member present was given a copy of the Budget which included the \$700,000.00 CDBG Grant pertaining to the Water Meters. We are transferring less from other accounts which means we are operating better in the General Funds perspective. Our spending is down by \$145,000. We are increasing local services to the citizens by paving roads, fixing sewer lines, adding curbing etc., to bring life back to the city and we are cutting cost in the process.

Mr. Collins recommended to the Council to get familiar with the pie charts so they will understand where the money is coming from and where it is going. Mr. Daigle stated he understood and asked where does the money for General Funds comes from. Mr. Collins explained that a large amount comes from Ad Valorem Taxes and other taxes. He recommended Renegotiating the Public Service Fire Protection contract with the County once its expired because 69% of our service is being provided to the County.

Mr. Collins stated we have started billing the County for what Animal Control services we are providing to them. He thanked the Finance Director for during a great in the Finance Department, she renegotiated our CD's and got better interest rates which brought more money into the City per year. Council Budget has dropped by \$23,000.00. Travel Per Diem is being re-evaluated and held off for a while.

EXECUTIVE BUDGET: Consist of the City Manager and City Clerk, I have placed \$35,000, in the budget for a City Clerk position, my question to you is, do you want to keep it in there and possibly hire a City Clerk for next year or would you like to take it out and leave it as is and have staff continue to be my Deputy Clerk.

Mr. William Mitchell V stated the Deputy Clerk is working well and it's keeping everybody in the know and in the loop. Mr. J. Daigle stated we need to leave the money in the Budget in case we decide to hire a City Clerk, it will already be there. It was decided to leave the money in the budget. We have in reserve for Legal Counsel \$45,000 for attorney fees. We are moving forward and doing it cheaper. As you go through the Budget you will see ups and downs but the money has been put in appropriate places.

Law Enforcement: Budget has been cut approximately \$30,000. Mr. Bryant asked about getting the County to run the City and County. Mr. Collins stated, he's already asked the Sheriff about it and he's not interested. I would like to focus on rebuilding our Police Department making it an excellent Police Department at a low cost for the citizens.

Fire Department: Overall we are working on a few line items that have been deleted. The total operating expense last year was \$69,700.00, this year it's \$57,750.00 down approximately 11,950.00 drop. We're doing great in that budget. We are increasing the level of service at a lower cost.

I want to spend about \$3,000 this year on Christmas beautification/decorations.

Overtime pay is down and is being used where it should be.

The Council expressed their gratitude to Mr. Collins for doing a great job presenting the Budget for the City of Jasper FY 2019 - 2020.

Adjourned: 5:58 p.m.