

Council Work Session Minutes

April 13, 2017

The Tazewell Town Council met in a budget work session at 6:00 a.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers.

Present:

Mayor A. D. Buchanan Jr

Vice-Mayor Terry Mullins

Councilmember Chris Brown

Councilmember Jack Murray

Councilmember Glenn Catron

Councilmember Jennifer Boyd

Staff present were: Town Manager, Todd Day; Clerk-Treasurer, Leeanne Billings; Executive Assistant, Robin Brewster.

Absent:

Councilmember David Fox

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Buchanan reconvened the meeting.

BPOL

Manager Day stated that at a previous work session the council voted to increase BPOL some tax rates. He feels the Town will need to communicate with the businesses that we are going to raise the rates. It may be put in place but not effective until after the fiscal year. Councilmember Brown asked about gross receipt documentation for business license. Clerk-Treasurer Leeanne Billings stated that we accept three different types of proof of gross receipts, we will accept a copy of the businesses income taxes, monthly sales tax reports, or a letter from a CPA.

Budget

Manager Day discussed the general fund revenue.

- Taxes will stay the same, decals will decrease \$1,000.00.
- The meals tax that we receive from Seven is being put into an LGIP.
- Business license depends on the economy.
- We did not get the school resource money this year.
- The rescue squad revenue is being decreased by \$120,000.00 based on previous conversation. Discussion about the county helping with the cost of expense was then brought up. If the county does not step up to help with the county calls, we should give it to the county. Manager

Day said he would take it to Mike Hymes so he can take that to his board. It would be a rough estimate of \$50,000.00 a year. Manager Day also stated he feels like the county is ready to take it over. Currently we are running two trucks, we will be cutting down to one to try and cut expenses. July will be a decision making month.

- VDOT Primary Extension we are not sure what we will get this year.
- The police department and public works department both cut their budget by \$50,000.00.
- The fire department has a five year outlook. They have plans to buy a new ladder truck.
- EMS estimate of revenue is \$400,000.00 and estimate of expense is \$483,000.00. That would be a loss of \$83,000.00. The county should give about \$41,000.00. Vice Mayor Mullins would like to make sure the PR reflects that the town has tried to make it work every way we know how and we have asked for help from the county.
- In the zoning section of the budget, demolition has increased to \$50,000.00 in case council would want to do the bowling alley.
- Mowing will be done in house this year. We have five or six part time employees being paid \$9.00 an hour. Last year we paid \$160,000.00 for mowing. This year's budget for it is \$78,203.37.
- Paving increased \$100,000.00. It is too early to know if we will get primary extension for paving. If we do get it, it would pave West Riverside Drive. They set what we pave with those funds.
- The sidewalk line item has been cut by \$4000.00. Councilmember Brown asked why and stated they need to be repaired. Manager Day stated he could put it back in the budget.
- Community Development is lowered by \$36,000.00.
- The grant writer (planner) line item is reduced. Staff does grants and the follow up work it takes after they are finished.
- There has been \$25,000.00 set for the walking path. Also, the town was left \$25,000.00 from David Nichols for the walking path, the town just has to match it.
- Councilmember Brown asked if we could keep a separate running chart of how much council has donated to sports, schools, etc.
- Councilmember Murray asked what the tax revenue has been since we took in Drytown and that area.
- Mayor Buchanan gave an update about the meeting he was in on Tuesday about Sunset Communication buying the fiber optic from BVU.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Murray made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Mullins. On vote, Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye;; Councilmember Boyd, aye.

Mayor Buchanan recessed the meeting at 7:18am.