

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL WORK SESSION OF THE  
INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2015 –7:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a special meeting/ work session of the Independence City Council was called to order by Mayor Johnson at 7:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Postponed until regular meeting.

3. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Johnson, Councilors Betts, Fisher and Spencer.

ABSENT: Wenck

STAFF: Interim City Administrator and City Planner Kaltsas, ABDO Steve McDonald, Administrative Assistant Horner

VISITOR: Steve Grotting

4. Meeting to discuss the City budget.

Kaltsas stated the bond is due in 2017 so it has to be levied for in 2016. Kaltsas and McDonald scoured the budget to see if there were any more dollars that could be scrubbed out. Kaltsas stated we will be getting state funds for transportation in 2015 and that will be earmarked for Public Works. He said this would help with road improvements so they potentially could move some of the roads money already budgeted towards the tractor and generator purchases that are needed.

Betts asked about numbers for Planning and Zoning that were repeated on the budget and what those indicated. Kaltsas said those were budgeted numbers and they are working on cleaning up the escrow accounts.

Johnson asked if there was a comfort level of what was budgeted and what we would actually come in at. He noted the legal expenses were already at \$50,000 for the year and only \$30,000 had been budgeted. Kaltsas said some of that was attributed to the situation with the City Administrator. Kaltsas said he believed there was another \$10,000 that had not been reimbursed through escrow accounts to date. He noted the two development agreements (Serenity Hills and Bohemian Woods). Kaltsas said Bohemian Woods had an easement issue that the City had to work with the Developer on and will be reimbursed for.

Johnson asked about the numbers associated with solid waste and park maintenance. Kaltsas said he would check on park maintenance dollar amount. He said solid waste had another payment that would be coming in.

Kaltsas stated legal was going to be higher for the time that has been spent but moving forward there should not be any additional charges.

Spencer asked if \$60,000 for the contingency fund was taken out of Public Works. Kaltsas said for the purpose of this budget it was taken out. Spencer said his concern was that the individual funds within Public Works would be budgeted way too tight by removing that contingency fund. Spencer said another concern is

the tractor. He said they could make it go another year but once the frame goes it is done. McDonald noted that the contingency money is not going to be funding anything else.

Spencer stated the general budget went up about 3-3.5% and the bond is about 4%. Kaltsas said the budget increase is \$75,000 and \$65,000 of that is Police and Fire.

Johnson said we should be keeping our eyes open to see if there are more grants available. He also asked if we changed the rate on the Pioneer Watershed District. Spencer stated that we did not change it for this year.

Kaltsas stated when doing a budget it helps to look at the increase per average household. Using 360k for the average household it comes to an average increase of \$75 for the year. The overall increase is 5.32%.

Kaltsas asked if everyone was good with the preliminary 7.39. All said yes. He noted in October or November they would have another workshop.

**Mayor Johnson adjourned the Special City Council Meeting at 7:20 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Trish Bemmels, Recording Secretary