



CITY OF WINTER GARDEN

City Commission BUDGET WORKSHOP AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

August 25, 2022

REGULAR MEETING of the Winter Garden City Commission was called to order by Mayor Rees at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 300 West Plant Street, Winter Garden, Florida. An Opening Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were given.

Present:

Mayor John Rees
Commissioner District 1 - Lisa L. Bennett
Commissioner District 2 - Ron Mueller
Commissioner District 4 - Colin Sharman

Also Present:

City Manager Jon C. Williams
City Attorney A. Kurt Ardaman
City Clerk Angee Grimmage

Absent: Commissioner District 3 - Mark A. Maciel

BUDGET WORKSHOP

1. **BUDGET WORKSHOP:** FISCAL YEAR 2022/2023

A budget workshop and PowerPoint presentation highlighting some budgeted items were given by City Manager Jon C. Williams and Finance Director Zielonka (See attached – **Exhibit A**).

City Manager Williams began by noting his pleasure in presenting his first proposed operating budget for the City of Winter Garden for Fiscal Year 2023. He noted that the budget takes into consideration the unique times that we find ourselves in, such as a recessionary environment, high inflation, supply chain issues and competition in the labor market. He noted that in the development of the budget our philosophy was pretty simple. We would preserve the existing levels of services, focus on employee retention and recruitment, and submit capital projects and programs that consider inflation and supply chain issues that will continue and impact the cost, pace and timing of the projects. He then recognized Finance Director Laura Zielonka to give a PowerPoint presentation of the budget.

Ms. Zielonka pointed out that this presentation is an overview of the budget and no decisions were required at this meeting, noting that the actual budget hearings would be held on September 15th and 29th. Ms. Zielonka highlighted some of the City's proposed budget revenues and expenditures. She spoke of the general fund tax revenue, ad valorem tax revenue, half-cent sales tax revenue, and State revenue sharing revenue. She highlighted items in the proposed expense budget, noting inflationary effects such as increased costs for materials, equipment and contractual services. She noted that there is a proposed adjustment for wage inflation, and spoke of supply chain delays likely continuing

and their impacts on projects timing and pace. Ms. Zielonka also highlighted personnel and operating expenses, Citywide staffing, new positions, vacancies, and labor strategies. She noted that there would be pay grade equity adjustments to retain quality employees. City Manager Williams noted that the specifics of the pay-grade adjustments would be forthcoming as collective bargaining with the Police Union is still in process.

Ms. Zielonka addressed other areas in the category of the general fund division, which included capital projects, Police equipment, Fire capital, and fleet and facilities. Also addressed were streets fund projects and local option gas tax, noting road impact fees, Public Services general impact fee and services. Ms. Zielonka also spoke of enterprise funds related to public services, utility operating revenues, stormwater, and solid waste funds.

City Manager Jon C. Williams, in summary, addressed East Winter Garden, the 10 year expansion of the CRA, the master plan, carryforward CRA capital, and redevelopment housing. He also spoke of Parks and Recreation and the list of supported events. Mr. Williams addressed Tucker Ranch plans and timeframes, and the revitalization and rehabilitation of the downtown. He reiterated that the budget hearings would be on September 15, 2022 and September 29, 2022, both at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Rees requested that a copy of the presentation be provided to the City Commission for review. He also requested that the City Commission submit their questions to the City Manager so that all questions could be compiled and addressed. He commended staff for doing a good job with the budget and its presentation.

REGULAR MEETING

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Commissioner Mueller to approve regular meeting minutes of August 11, 2022 as submitted. Seconded by Commissioner Sharman and carried unanimously 4-0.

3. PRESENTATION

- **Proclamation 22-09**: Honoring Reverend Frankie Lee Massey was read and presented by Mayor Rees and the City Commission to the family of Reverend Massey. His daughter voiced her appreciation for the honor on behalf of the entire family.
- A. **Proclamation 22-07**: Proclaiming West Orange Healthy Selfie Day was read and presented by Mayor Rees and the City Commission. Lesa Boettcher accepted the proclamation, thanked the City Commission and shared information on some of the related activities.

Mayor Rees recognized Boy Scout, Brett Freeman, who was in attendance.

4. **REGULAR BUSINESS**

- A. Recommendation to approve Police Department purchase of weapons and equipment with the \$10,000 from the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program

Police Chief Steve Graham stated that this request is for the fiscal year 2021-22 Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant. He noted that \$301,278 had been allocated for Orange County, of which \$10,000 of those funds were earmarked for the City of Winter Garden Police Department. He stated that staff recommends utilization of those funds for purchasing weapons and equipment needed for added team positions for the participation on the Metro Swat Team. He noted that public comment must also be allowed for this item.

Commissioner Sharman inquired about the number of officers the City currently has on the Swat Team. Police Chief Graham responded that the City currently has three with there being six positions. He stated the Metro Swat Team would be comprised of officers from Maitland, Winter Park, Apopka, Ocoee and Winter Garden.

Mayor Rees opened the public hearing; hearing and seeing none, he closed the public hearing.

Motion by Commissioner Bennett to approve Police Department purchase of weapons and equipment with the \$10,000 from the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. Seconded by Commissioner Sharman and carried unanimously 4-0.

- B. Recommendation to approve Special Exception Permit and agreement to remove billboards located at 12201 and 12403 West Colonial Drive and construct new double sided billboard on property located at 12201 West Colonial Drive, subject to the conditions

Community Development Director Stephen Pash stated that there were discrepancies found with this item and requested postponement to the September 15th City Commission meeting. There were no noted objections.

- C. Recommendation to approve SPECIAL EVENT – National Night Out – Tuesday, October 4 2022 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm with street closure

Community Development Director Pash stated that this is a special event request from the Winter Garden Police Department for their annual National Night out. He noted that this event would be located at the Pavilion and described certain road closures, associated events and activities. Staff recommends approval.

Commissioner Mueller inquired about street closure times prior to the event for safety reasons. Mr. Pash responded that streets would close approximately two hours before the event for setup time.

Motion by Commissioner Mueller to approve SPECIAL EVENT for National Night Out on Tuesday, October 4, 2022, from 6:00 to 9:00 with street closure. Seconded by Commissioner Bennett and Sharman simultaneously and carried unanimously 4-0.

5. **MATTERS FROM PUBLIC** – There were no items.

6. **MATTERS FROM CITY ATTORNEY**

Meeting with Orange County regarding PureCycle

City Attorney Ardaman informed of the City of Winter Garden's meeting with Orange County officials with respect to PureCycle, noting that they did not reach a resolution. He noted that we would proceed with a community meeting, and thinks that PureCycle might agree. He noted that there might be some difficulty in resolving this issue, however, would keep the City Commission posted.

7. **MATTERS FROM CITY MANAGER** – Jon C. Williams

2022 State of West Orange Luncheon

City Manager Jon C. Williams informed that the 2022 State of West Orange Luncheon would be held at the Ocoee Lakeshore Event Center next week, August 31st, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and requested that the City Commission RSVP as soon as possible.

East Winter Garden

City Manager Jon C. Williams announced that the City of Winter Garden is assigning on new partners to assist in the revitalization efforts in East Winter Garden. He noted that the City of Winter Garden re-engaged earlier with the Polis Institute to be its community outreach partner. He noted that they help with community outreach, community partnership building and organizational capacity building. He noted that they would be hosting a kick-off event with organization leaders serving East Winter Garden on August 31, 2022 at the Healthy West Orange building from 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. Mr. Williams noted his intent to attend and offered that the Mayor and City Commissioners attend if they so desired. He named some of the partners such as Duke Energy and the Black Business Investment Fund (BBIF). Mr. Williams noted some of the functions and accomplishments of the BBIF and spoke of two of its members, Inez Long as President of BBIF Florida and Veronica Anderson of Anderson and Associates, serving as their legal counsel. He noted that Ms. Williams was unable to attend because of another commitment, but acknowledged Ms. Anderson, who was in attendance.

8. **MATTERS FROM MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Mueller thanked Finance Director Laura Zielonka and staff for their hard work and efforts in preparing the City's budget.

