

CITY OF BARDSTOWN
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
05-27-2015
5:00 PM

The City Council met in a special session in the Council Chambers with Mayor John Royalty and the following Councilmen:

Councilman Buckman
Councilman Copeland
Councilman Hagan
Councilman Lydian
Councilman Simpson
Councilman Williams

Others present: City Attorney Tim Butler, Chief Financial Officer Tracy Hudson, Director of Public Works & Engineering Larry Hamilton, City Civil Engineer Jessica Filiatreau, Assistant City Administrator Larry Green, Fire Chief Marlin Howard, Firefighters Trevor Mattingly, Todd Spalding, Kevin Grayson, Joe Marks, BNCVFD Derrick Laswell, Charlie Tipton, Nelson County Gazette Reporter Jim Brooks and Kentucky Standard Reporter Randy Patrick, and citizen C.R. Royalty. Minutes recorded by Executive Assistant to the Mayor Kathy Graham.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00pm by Mayor Royalty.

Financial Report

Mayor Royalty presented the first formal look of the FY2015-16 budget to the city council. The Mayor detailed the hiring of seven additional full-time firefighters in order to staff the fire department with a full crew 24/7. The proposal would include raising the occupational tax rate from .50 percent to .75 percent and removing the \$100,000 cap currently on the tax. This would generate an estimated \$400,000 the first fiscal year, and \$1.1 million in following years. The budget would include several water and sewer projects, including work to stabilize the rubble dam on the Beech Fork River and to stabilize the river bank near the city's pumps that send water from the Beech Fork River to Sympson Lake.

Councilman Hagan was in agreement that we need to move forward with purchasing of the needed equipment/truck. Councilman Hagan asked that we look at the property tax, establish a franchise fee, occupational tax and the insurance tax.

Chief Financial Officer Hudson explained how taking funds from the unrestricted reserves and feeding the general fund would be possible for maybe two years.

Councilman Buckman was in favor of taking action to fund the expansion of the full-time staff of the Bardstown Fire Department. Councilman Williams posed several questions to Fire Chief Howard in regards the staffing and purchases for the fire station.

Fire Chief Howard explained the need for the full-time staffing in regards to response time for call outs. Response time from midnight until 8:00am is about 12- 15minutes. This is due to waiting on volunteers to arrive to roll out the truck. The fire station currently houses 3 full-time staff members on rotating schedules that are 24 hour shifts.

The council agreed to discuss the budget in more detail at the working session on June 2, 2015.

Adjournment

Councilman Williams motioned to adjourn, duly seconded by Councilman Hagan. Vote 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm.

CITY OF BARDSTOWN

John Royalty, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathy Graham, Acting City Clerk