

**SPECIAL ROLLA CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MINUTES
MONDAY, AUGUST 31, 2020; 5:30 P.M.
ROLLA CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
901 NORTH ELM STREET**

Presiding: Mayor Louis J. Magdits, IV

Council Members in Attendance: Rachel Schneider, Terry Higgins (arrived at 5:50 p.m., Matthew Crowell, Ann Murphey (arrived 6:15 p.m.), David Schott, John Meusch, Jody Eberly, Carrolyn Bolin, Marie Allen, and Deanne Lyons

Council Members in Attendance via Zoom Videoconferencing: Lister B. Florence, Jr. and Christine Ruder

Council Members Absent: None.

Department Directors in Attendance: Finance Director Steffanie Rogers, Fire Chief Ron Smith, Police Chief Sean Fagan, Public Works Director Steve Hargis, Environmental Services Director Brady Wilson, Parks Director Floyd Jernigan, Interim Centre Director Marci Fairbanks, and Community Development Director Steve Flowers

Other City Officials in Attendance: City Administrator John Butz, City Engineer Darin Pryor, and City Clerk Carol Daniels

Mayor Louis J. Magdits, IV called the workshop to order at approximately 5:30 p.m.

COVID Update: Mayor Magdits first reminded the Council that the next Council meeting would be held on Tuesday, September 8, 2020. He noted the current COVID return-to-work ordinance expires on Wednesday, September 9, 2020. He said staff would be placing the existing ordinance, with blanks, in the September 8, 2020, agenda packets. He asked the Council to give some thought between now and the meeting as to how they wish to proceed.

FY 2020-2021 Budget: Mayor Magdits turned the floor over to City Administrator John Butz. He explained the total proposed budget for all nine funds has revenues estimated at \$54,222,380 and expenses at \$53,837,866. Regarding personnel related costs, he informed the Council that a 1% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) increase is budgeted with no merit increase consideration. Public Safety employees would be granted a 1% COLA plus 5% for a total of 6%. He pointed out that no layoffs or furloughs are anticipated. However, there is a reduction in part-time hours.

Councilwoman Higgins entered the meeting at approximately 5:50 p.m. and Councilwoman Murphey entered the meeting at approximately 6:15 p.m.

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FY 2020-2021 Budget (continued): Mr. Butz continued by providing an overview of the General Fund divisions. He outlined the following “critical funded requests”: Public Safety Compensation at 282,075, Rolla Police Department HVAC replacement at \$75,000, Fire Vehicle at \$45,000, Body Cameras at \$25,500, Fire Minimum Staffing (6 to 7) at \$23,900. Conversely, he outlined the “critical unfunded requests:” Public Safety Radios (financed) \$135,000, Animal Control Staff/Expansion at \$90,000, Animal Shelter Design at \$75,000, Administration Succession Staffing at \$75,000, and three of six police vehicles at \$139,500.

Mr. Butz then reviewed the proposed budgets for the Sewer Fund, Environmental Services Fund, Airport Fund, Cemetery Fund, Street Fund, Recreation Center Fund, Park Fund, Parkland Reserve Fund. He noted that staff has considered exploring the possibility of contracting out SplashZone.

Mr. Butz then expanded on the City’s debt position.

Councilwoman Eberly pointed out the Fire Department’s budget includes radios, but she noted they are not included in the Police Department budget.

Mr. Butz explained that staff plans to budget \$850,000 in next year’s police budget

Councilman Schott expressed his concern about the lack of funding for body cameras. He said body cameras provide accountability of the officers to the citizens and to other officers and avoids lawsuits. Although he would like to purchase six vehicles for the Police Department, Mr. Schott said he believes the City would be better off getting all crucial items that are missing.

Mayor Magdits stated he does not disagree about the body cameras, but stated the City needs to go about the purchase in a methodical way.

After a lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Allen and seconded by Lyons to increase the Police Department “Use Tax Lease Purchase” line item from \$25,500 to \$45,000 for the purchase of body cameras. After further discussion, a roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes; Murphey, Lyons, Allen, Bolin, Schneider, Ruder, Higgins, Eberly, and Schott. Nays; Meusch, Florence, and Crowell. Motion carried.

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ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the workshop adjourned at approximately 7:54 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by City Clerk Carol Daniels.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

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