



**SPECIAL CALLED
JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE/COUNCIL MINUTES**

APRIL 15, 2013, 6:30PM, SFD COMMUNITY CENTER

^ Manager note: Meeting was a joint Finance Committee/Town Council session to discuss submitted FY13-14 final budget requests. Meeting was led by Finance Committee with joint discussion to follow between Finance Committee and Town Council.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Finance Chair Ronnie Stafford with the following present:

Finance Committee	Council	Staff
Ronnie Stafford	Mark Brown, Mayor	Scott Whitaker, Town Manager
Jane Wilson	Dena Barnes	Valarie Halvorsen, Town Clerk
Dail Perry	Alicia Flowers	Katrina Whitt, Finance Officer
(Scott Whitaker and Katrina Whitt are also committee members)	Dianne Laughlin Elizabeth McClellan John Wray	

CONSENT AGENDA

Perry made a motion to approve the consent agenda that included the meeting agenda and 3/18 Finance Committee meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Brown and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No speakers.

TOWN COMMITTEE BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

Historical Committee: Elizabeth Ingram outlined the following priorities of the committee: new Historic District banners, \$5,000; interviewing veterans, \$200; rotating exhibits at town hall, \$100; and preservation of historical news items, \$100. Other requests included: special events, \$825 and per diem and travel, \$100

Following brief discussion of the requests, Flowers asked about the possibility of signs instead of banners to increase life span. The Manager addressed the question with an offer to investigate further.

BUSINESS FROM TOWN MANAGER

A. Highlights of Town Council's budget priorities: Whitaker noted the following priorities that had been expressed by Council in a previous budget session: finishing projects that are in

process, including exterior repairs to town hall, SAP repairs, completion of the Development Ordinance rewrite, and continuation of trail projects. Other priorities included future town hall property acquisition, addressing town safety needs, and acquiring additional SAP parking.

- B. **Other internal and external budget requests:** Whitaker stated the Public Safety Committee's budget request was essentially the same as last year with the addition of two-way radios to be used during town events; the Finance Committee's budget request was the same as the previous year. Planning requests included additional code enforcement services (additional \$6,000) and \$15,000 to complete the rewrite of the Development Ordinance. Parks and Rec requests included a part-time seasonal assistant, and funding for events. Administrative requests included funds for the following: branding and website overhaul, additional banners for locations other than the Historic District, and a cohesive sign encompassing school and other signage in front of Summerfield Elementary School, all of which totaled \$18,500. External requests are from the following: Piedmont Triad Regional Council (\$6,162), School of Government Foundation (\$1,164) Piedmont Triad Partnership (\$800), and Kids Voting (\$750).

DISCUSSION ABOUT COMMITTEE AND OTHER BUDGET REQUESTS

Perry asked about the part time Parks and Rec assistant; Whitaker stated it was preliminarily intended to be seasonal help from March 1 through mid-November at 18 hours per week, and that the town has a real challenge regarding week nights and weekends concerning the gates, field oversight, etc. Wray asked about recouping the funds from park users; Whitaker stated it could be done via adjustments to tournaments and even reconfiguring janitorial needs. Perry feels there is a real need for a staff person to be present nights and weekends. Wray agrees, but feels the cost should be borne by field renters. Whitaker stated as more contracted park tasks are brought in house there should be a reduction of expenses.

Whitaker discussed the need to re-key locks at SAP; all were in agreement that it was necessary. Regarding park events, there was consensus to continue with Touch-a-Truck and the Kid's Fishing Derby, but to discontinue movies in the park.

Regarding code enforcement, Flowers asked if it was intended to be a complaint-driven process. Whitaker stated it was complaint-driven by default, as the contracted hours left no time for anything else, that the approach was reactive rather than proactive, and that the level of contracted services was inadequate to stay fully on top of maintaining an attractive community appearance in the spirit of the Comprehensive Plan. There was discussion of this approach and the current volume of complaints.

With no further business, a motion was made at 7:47pm by Brown to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Perry and carried unanimously.



Mark E. Brown, Mayor



Ronnie Stafford, Finance Chair



Valarie Halvorsen, Town Clerk