

1 **Mayor Pro-Tempore Mahaffey** said the Community Town Hall series were
2 usually held on a quarterly basis and sprinkled around town to encourage more
3 resident participation and make it more convenient verses driving into Town.

4 **CLERK NOTE:** Approximately twenty-five (25) community members were present
5 and no other elected officials attended. Four stations were setup for residents to
6 respond to a particular prompt on a sticky note. The following prompt questions
7 were asked:

- 8 • If the Town could accomplish one thing in the next year, what should it be?
- 9 • Budget Trade Offs - Please denote a response to the following:
 - 10 ○ I would support additional investment in
 - 11 ○ I would be willing to delay or reduce
- 12 • Continue, Start, and Stop scenarios - Please denote a response to the
13 following:
 - 14 ○ What should the Town continue doing?
 - 15 ○ What should the Town start doing?
 - 16 ○ What should the Town stop doing?
- 17 • What Town service, program, or initiative would you place in one of these
18 categories for the upcoming budget?
 - 19 ○ Invest More
 - 20 ○ Maintain Current Funding
 - 21 ○ Reduce Funding

22 Residents were given an opportunity to answer the above prompts at the beginning
23 of the meeting, during the meeting, or at the conclusion of the meeting. No one who
24 wished to provide comments was turned away. (**REF:2026-069 - Sign-in Sheet**)

25 **[DISCUSSION]**

26 **Rosemay Sanozky - Dawes** asked about the amount allocated to the
27 Community Investment Fund (CIF) in the proposed budget and inquired about the
28 amount of funding included in the budget for the Flock Safety Automated License
29 Plate Reader (ALPR) cameras in Town.

30 **Mayor Pro-Tempore Mahaffey** said additional information would be provided
31 regarding the Community Investment Fund (CIF). Councilmembers provided other
32 responses on their viewpoints related to Ms. Dawes' questions.

33 **Lorraine Meehaw** stated that she was a former Human Resources professional
34 and requested clarification on the criteria used to designate certain Town positions as
35 "essential". She asked the Council to consider providing a list of all current Town

1 positions and separating them by essential and non-essential positions and
2 emphasized the importance of prioritizing essential staff positions.

3 **Mayor Pro-Tempore Mahaffey** said he previously requested the Town
4 Manager to reduce positions where position but emphasized the importance of
5 providing workforce stability in a growing community like Apex. He commented on
6 the importance of public service works in all positions and said the Town Manager
7 was currently reviewing additional positions that could possibly be frozen or delayed
8 hiring.

9 Councilmembers provided other responses on their viewpoints related to Ms.
10 Meehaw's questions.

11 **Hesham Osman** expressed appreciation for the Town's efforts to maintain a
12 zero-property tax increase and noted concerns regarding proposed fee increases
13 included in the budget. He said the budget discussions thus far had been framed
14 around investments in public safety and questioned where those investments were
15 the primary factor enabling a zero-tax increase.

16 Councilmembers provided other responses on their viewpoints related to Mr.
17 Osman's questions.

18 **Linda Caffero** asked how the Town acquired its own electric utility system and
19 raised concerns about electric bills continuing to double and triple from rate
20 increases. She requested information on the amount budgeted or spent on Smart
21 Meter implementation and expressed her concerns for the public health impacts that
22 may be caused by such software.

23 Councilmembers provided other responses on their viewpoints related to Ms.
24 Caffero's questions.

25 **Andrew Gluck** expressed his appreciation for Town employees regardless of
26 whether their position was designated as essential. He said administrative staff were
27 equally important because without them the process, service, and function would not
28 be completed to the same level of professionalism and service. He referenced his
29 experience in the workforce and stated he believed the Town staff count was
30 appropriate for the the Town. He raised concerns and questions regarding the Town's
31 expenditures, including vehicle and facility related costs and inquired whether their
32 was an opportunity to make reductions from those areas.

33 Councilmembers provided other responses on their viewpoints related to Ms.
34 Dawes questions.

35 **Rome Fontaine** said he was concerned about the continued growth of
36 apartments and townhomes with the Town's corporate limits. He asked what the
37 typical Apex property owner pays in property taxes currently and offered his
38 observations that renters utilize Town services similar to permanent homeowners.

