



# city council minutes

MINUTES  
CC Budget Workshop  
August 25, 2020  
Virtual Conference 6:30 pm

The Belle Isle City Council met in a Regular Session on August 25, 2020, at 6:46 pm on a Virtual Webinar (zoom.us/j/87488745664).

Present was:

Mayor Nicholas Fouraker  
Commissioner Ed Gold  
Commissioner Anthony Carugno  
Commissioner Karl Shuck  
Commissioner Mike Sims  
Commissioner Jim Partin  
Commissioner Sue Nielsen

Absent was:

Commissioner Harv Readey

Also present were Attorney Ardaman, City Manager Francis, Chief Houston, Finance Manager Tracey Richardson, and City Clerk Yolanda Quiceno.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Mayor Fouraker opened the meeting and called for confirmation of Quorum.**

**City Clerk confirmed that a quorum was present.**

**REVIEW OF FY20/21 BUDGET HEARING – 2<sup>ND</sup> BUDGET WORKSHOP**

City Manager Francis presented the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Preliminary Operating Budget and Budget Message in accordance with the Charter. He provided and gave a brief overview of the significant changes and highlights previously discussed to include implementation of the Police Department Pay Plan (commencing 1, October), 3% pay increase for non-uniformed staff, and the debt service payment for the purchase of the Bank of America buildings (Allocating 20% of the cost of stormwater).

	<u>Previous</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Finance, Admin and Planning	469,945	497,263
General Government	2,934,805	2,934,805
Police	1,995,672	2,333,704
Public Works	669,590	679,442
<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>6,226,062</u>	<u>6,727,116</u> (80% general Fund/20% Stormwater Fund)
<u>Total Expenditures</u>	<u>6,226,062</u>	<u>6,727,116</u>
<u>Ending Fund Balance</u>	<u>2,881,465</u>	<u>2,380,410</u>

Comm Nielsen noted that a fund balance reserve of \$2million is more than adequate and recommended by the Financial Advisors. Comm Nielsen spoke in favor of the increase to the Police Department because their compensation is below the average median for all agencies in the County. She further added that it makes it more difficult for City staff to obtain grants if the reserve is more than the median average.

Comm Sims shared his support and strongly spoke in favor of the increase for the Police Department and non-uniformed staff. He understands the Budget Committees' concern and recommendations (referencing Chairman Miller's email); however, he would like to continue and not postpone the increases as proposed.

Comm Gold said he agrees; however, he would like to compare non-uniformed staff salaries with other cities before approval.

Comm Partin was also in favor of moving forward with the Police Department pay plan and the 3% COLA for non-uniformed staff. He suggested revisiting the new vehicle plan to open funds for the proposed increases.

Mayor Fouraker shared his support for the increases and said the increase is significant for all staff. It also offers a moral perspective and staff solidarity. Council consensus was in favor of the increases as proposed.

Comm Carugno shared his support; however, he would like to have better clarification on the bottom line if the increases are approved. He does not want to make the decision based on a "feeling" and would feel comfortable in deciding on hard numbers.

Council further discussed the various options to increase revenue, possibly freezes until -mid-year due to the Pandemic and the Red Light Camera funding proposals.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mayor Fouraker called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was passed unanimously at 7:25 pm.

Yolanda Quiceno, CMC, City Clerk