



**TOWN OF EAGAR**  
**REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING &**  
**WORK SESSION**

**JUNE 6, 2023 at 6:00 PM**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, 22 WEST 2ND STREET**

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**WORK SESSION MINUTES**

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Mayor Steve Erhart called the regular meeting to order and welcomed those present. Mayor Erhart requested that the record show all Councilmembers are present. Mayor Steve Erhart led the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilman Ray Hamblin offered the invocation.

COUNCIL PRESENT:            Steve Erhart  
   Marsha Tucker  
   Debra Seeley  
   Brandon Slade  
   Bryce Burnham  
   Ray Hamblin  
   John Phelps

**7. WORK SESSION**

**A. WORK SESSION TO DISCUSS THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 TENTATIVE BUDGET**

Councilor Brandon Slade made a motion to move into Work Session. Councilwoman Debra Seeley seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. 7-0

Vote: Ayes:            Steve Erhart  
                                 Marsha Tucker  
                                 Debra Seeley  
                                 Brandon Slade  
                                 Bryce Burnham  
                                 Ray Hamblin  
                                 John Phelps

David Lamm, Finance Director stated for fiscal year 2024 looking at a proposed budget of \$16,585,706 and a decrease of \$1.2 million from the 2022-2023 fiscal. That decrease is because of capital projects like the Butler Street project and the pond. In the budget we have included a 4% cost of living adjustment (COLA), and full participation in the 457-retirement plan. The General Plan you're seeing a decrease of revenues about \$98k this is because of the CARES and ARPA money we don't anticipate another round of funds for 2024 fiscal year.

Seeing an increase of \$143k for the urban revenue we should see it next year also the state is changing how they are calculating rates. Updated animal control and police budgets to reflect the shared agreement with Springerville. The Police department is at \$1.1 million and animal control at \$45k. New fire house budgeted at \$1 million, budgeting for Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) unfunded liability we have a required contribution of \$305,786 and will pay an additional \$500k because of the unfunded liability the interest is 7.6% which making the additional payment will save us \$1.2 million. Highway User Revenue Funds (HURF) there is a decrease of almost \$16k, and about \$1.3 million left to finish the Butler Street project the total for Butler Street is \$3.1 million. Grants funds looking at about \$5.2 million includes \$1.5 million for fiber, \$1 million for water tank, \$1 million for streetlights, and another \$1 million for any unanticipated grants. Utilities are seeing a decrease of about \$1.27 million in expenditures that haven't been completed so they have been pushed off to different years. There is an increase of about \$88k for personnel costs related to the COLA and salary adjustments there is a decrease in sewer of \$14k related to those personnel adjustments.

Steve Erhart, Mayor stated that on the wage adjustments in the 1<sup>st</sup> column those are the current wages. We had to start tweaking after Jessica had provided the wage study that included Springerville, Show Low, Pinetop, and other towns. Compared to those other towns we had positions that weren't being paid for all the things they do. We upped the range on everyone in the second column and the 3<sup>rd</sup> column are updated adjustments with the 4% COLA. Some increases will be up to 15% some issues I do see are possibly employees with years of experience and some without the experience getting moved closer together in pay.

Bryce Hamblin stated that Public Works job descriptions are being updated. We haven't had employees getting their certifications like they should be, and we have some of our higher certified employees getting closer to retirement. Some of these advancements are going to require that they get their certifications those will be their yearly goals that will qualify them for a merit raise.

Bryce Burnham, Councilman asked how does the town choose what percentage the COLA is and how does an employee get to the max of their pay? David Lamm, stated it is usually based on inflation rate and what the town can afford. Bryce Hamblin replied that an employee can increase their pay by merit instead of years of service and is approved by the Town Manager and Department head.

John Phelps, Councilman asked does public works for example have tests that they can take each year or re certifications?

Bryce Hamblin stated that yes it takes 4 tests per operator position and that a goal also could be taking a new person and mentoring them. Public Works employees have been told that they are required to get water and sewer certifications.

Councilor Bryce Burnham made a motion to move into regular session. Vice-mayor Marsha seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. 7-0

Vote: Ayes: Steve Erhart  
Marsha Tucker  
Debra Seeley  
Brandon Slade  
Bryce Burnham

Ray Hamblin  
John Phelps

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_

Council: \_\_\_\_\_

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CERTIFICATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular and Work Session Council Meeting of the Town of Eagar, Arizona held on June 6, 2023. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

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Jessica Vaughan, Town Clerk/Event Coordinator