

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL SESSION - BUDGET DISCUSSION



321 WALNUT STREET, GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA
TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2021 – 5:00 PM

MINUTES

Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag – **Vice Mayor, Matt Johnson**

Roll Call

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Ed Gaw, Vice Mayor Matt Johnson, Council Member Connie Butler (Arrived at 5:25pm), Council Member Steven Kelley (Via Phone), Council Member Van Royal

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: L.J. Arnold, III, City Attorney (Via Phone), Steve Kennedy, City Manager, Marlena Guthrie, Finance Director, Kimberly Thomas, Executive Assistant

Mayor to call on members of the audience wishing to address the Council on matters not on the Agenda. No comments.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. Mayor Presentation for the City Manager and City Attorney Contracts.

Mayor Gaw advises he sat down City Attorney, Jim Arnold to discuss any adjustments to the Attorney contract and compensation plan.

Mayor Gaw advises Mr. Arnold has been with the city for 44 years and has received no more than 2 pay increases.

Mayor Gaw suggests increasing the City Attorney's salary to \$75,000 a year while extending his contract for 4 years with a yearly increase of 5%.

Council discussion follows with Council Member Royal abstaining due to Jim's wife, Rosalind, being his business partner.

Motion to increase the City Attorney salary to \$75,000 a year and include in his contract a 5% increase every year for the next 4 years.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Johnson, Seconded by Council Member Butler.

Voting Yea: Mayor Gaw, Vice Mayor Johnson, Council Member Butler, Council Member Kelley

Voting Abstaining: Council Member Royal

Mayor Gaw advises he sat down with City Manager, Steve Kennedy to discuss any adjustments to the City Manager contract and compensation plan.

Mayor Gaw advises the City Manager contract currently states \$132,000 and suggests increasing the City Manager salary by 25% which will make the salary around \$162,000 with a 5% yearly increase and a 5 year contract.

Council discussion follows with the suggestion of a 12% increase.

Motion to increase the City Manager salary by 12% with a 4% yearly increase and a 5 year contract.

Motion made by Council Member Royal, Seconded by Council Member Butler.

Voting Yea: Mayor Gaw, Vice Mayor Johnson, Council Member Butler, Council Member Kelley, Council Member Royal

- 2. Follow up session and discussion of changes to the FY 2022 Proposed Budget after the August 3rd and August 5th, 2021 Budget Hearings.

City Manager, Steve Kennedy speaks to the Council concerning the budget changes that were spoken about during the budget meetings at the beginning of August.

Council discussion follows.

Finance Director, Marlana Guthrie advises that the ARPA Funds will be increasing.

Council discussion follows.

Motion to the accept changes to the proposed budget for FY22 and taking into consideration the adjustments to the City Attorney and City Manager salaries and the ARPA funds.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Johnson, Seconded by Council Member Butler.

Voting Yea: Mayor Gaw, Vice Mayor Johnson, Council Member Butler, Council Member Kelley, Council Member Royal

- 3. City Manager & City Attorney Reports / Correspondence
Nothing to add for the Special Session.
- 4. City Council Reports / Correspondence
Nothing to add for the Special Session.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA

Edward R. Gaw, Mayor

Attest:

Erin West, City Clerk