



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2024 FOLLOWING AGENDA REVIEW

ST. TAMMANY ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX

21490 KOOP DRIVE, MANDEVILLE, LA.

Call to order by Honorable Rick Smith, Chair

Roll Call: Rick Smith
Cheryl Tanner
Joe Impastato
Patrick Burke, III
Arthur Laughlin
Jeffrey Corbin
Jimmy Strickland, III

Also present: Seiden, Phillips, Cogle

-Smith - 1. Review of Monthly Finance Reports generated by the Finance Department.

-Leslie Long – explained the Sales Tax Report and the first 2 months of the year Budget to Actual report. She also asked if anyone had any questions on any specific accounts.

-Smith - 2. Review of proposed Finance Ordinances and Resolutions on the April 04, 2024 Council Meeting Agenda. (Meeting Agenda available in Council Office or on Parish website: www.stpgov.org)

10. Ordinance Calendar No. 7541 - Ordinance to amend the 2024 Operating Budget – Amendment No. 8. (Laughlin/Cooper)

-Long – explained that this was for 3 funds: \$2.9 million for Public Works, \$54,632 for an inspector position in Environmental Services, and \$12,043 in Utilities Operations for a cost share with FEMA for the Meadow Lake generator.

-Tanner - asked for an explanation of where the money is coming from. She asked if it was money that was not allocated or was it additional funds.

-Long – said it was coming from the Fund Balance.

-Tanner – asked what is the balance.

-Long – said \$15.1 million after the \$2.9 million. She also said that after the auditors complete work, they may receive some credits.

-Tanner – asked what this is for at the Trace and Long explained.

-Corbin asked if the diesel tanks are replacements or additional.

-Jay Watson – explained that these are in addition to what's already there.

-Corbin – asked what is the need.

-Watson – explained that they have a high fuel consumption. He said they now have 1,000-gallon tanks and these will be 5,000-gallon tanks.

-Corbin – asked if this would be a reduction in fuel prices.

-Watson – said, no, but it will be a reduction in deliveries.

-Phillips – said it would be a good idea to have tanks for inclement weather as well.

11. Ordinance Calendar No. 7542 - Ordinance to amend the 2024 Capital Improvement Budget and Capital Assets – Amendment No. 13 – Sales Tax District 3 Capital Projects. (Laughlin/Cooper)

-Long – explained the purpose of this ordinance.

-Corbin – asked if there was any insight on what drove the increases.

-Tanner – explained that they are doing a \$2 million project on that road and this is to resurface it after the project.

-Watson – explained that it is for additional paving added after the GoMESA project is done.

-Hill – explained the Bigner project.

12. Ordinance Calendar No. 7543 - Ordinance to amend the 2024 Capital Improvement Budget and Capital Assets – Amendment No. 14 – Disaster Relief Capital Projects. (Laughlin/Cooper)

-Long – explained that this is for the Meadow Lake generator which is funded by FEMA and the Utility Revenue Fund.

13. Ordinance Calendar No. 7544 - Ordinance to amend the 2024 Capital Improvement Budget and Capital Assets – Amendment No. 15 – St. Tammany Parish Library Capital Assets. (Laughlin/Cooper)

-Long – said this is for the purchase of 2 acres in Lacombe for the replacement Library branch.

14. Ordinance Calendar No. 7545 - Ordinance to amend the 2024 Capital Improvement Budget and Capital Assets – Amendment No. 16 – Culture and Recreation – Tammany Trace Administration Capital Projects. (Laughlin/Cooper)

-Long – explained that this is for \$305,800 for the Kid’s Connection Playground and is funded by cell tower revenue.

15. Ordinance Calendar No. 7546 - Ordinance to amend the 2024 Capital Improvement Budget and Capital Assets – Amendment No. 17 – Information Technology and Capital Assets. (Laughlin/Cooper)

-Long – explained that this is for \$26,700 for the Department of Information and Technology to refurbish the automatic backup battery unit in the Emergency Operation Center.

-Tanner – asked where is the money coming from.

-Long – said she believes it is coming from the Information Technology Fund, but she will verify.

-Laughlin – asked Grant Black to explain the importance of this.

-Black – explained what this unit does and the importance. He said this cleans the power and we are currently working with dirty power.

16. Ordinance Calendar No. 7547 - Ordinance to amend the 2024 Capital Improvement Budget and Capital Assets – Amendment No. 18 – Public Works – Maintenance Barns Capital Assets. (Laughlin/Cooper)

-Long – explained that this is the Capital Assets ordinance for purchase of 4 fuel tanks for Public Works.

-Tanner – clarified that this is just moving the money from 1 fund to the other.

-Long – explained that this is to name the items that are funded.

17. Ordinance Calendar No. 7548 - Ordinance to amend the 2024 Capital Improvement Budget and Capital Assets – Amendment No. 19 – Economic Development Capital Projects. (Impastato/Cooper)

-Long – explained that this is to increase the budget by \$171,728. She said some is funded by mandatory impact fees and some by voluntary development fees.

18. Ordinance Calendar No. 7549 - Ordinance to amend the 2024 Grants Budget – Amendment No. 3. (Laughlin/Cooper)

-Long – explained that this is the award from Goseph for flood mitigation assistance.

-Corbin – asked where is this located, is it in French Branch.

-Jeanne Marino – explained that some of it is in French Branch.

19. Ordinance Calendar No. 7550 - Ordinance to amend the 2023 Grants Budget – Amendment No. 12. (Laughlin/Cooper)

-Long – explained that the purpose of this ordinance is for year end adjustments from 2023. It is the end of the year clean up ordinance.

20. Ordinance Calendar No. 7551 - Ordinance to amend the 2024 Grants Budget – Amendment No. 4. (Laughlin/Cooper)

-Long – explained that this ordinance addresses the almost \$180 million roll-over budgets that were available at the end of the year so it can be spent in 2024.

-Tanner – moved to refer the Finance Ordinances for Adoption (#7541 through #7551) to the full Council, seconded by Laughlin. Unanimous with no one absent.

-There being no further business, meeting adjourned at the call of the Committee Chairman.

RICK SMITH, COMMITTEE CHAIR

KATRINA L. BUCKLEY, COUNCIL CLERK