

## **MINUTES**

### **FORSYTH CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING**

**JANUARY 29, 2013**

#### **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Mayor Howard called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Present for the meeting was Mayor Howard, Council members Mike Dodd, Jo Anna Banks, Desi Hansford, Eric Wilson, and Melvin Lawrence. Also present was City Attorney, Bobby Melton; City Administrator, Thomas White; and City Clerk, Janice Hall. Department heads David Herndon and Keith Corley were also present.

Council member James Calloway was unable to attend the meeting; therefore, all unanimous votes will be five (5) votes for (Dodd, Banks, Hansford, Wilson, and Lawrence).

#### **PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED 2013 BUDGET**

Mayor Howard opened the public hearing for comments for or against the adoption of the proposed 2013 budget. Mr. Melton stated that this is the first of two public hearings required for adoption of a budget and the final public hearing will be February 5, 2013. Mrs. Hall reviewed the proposed 2013 budget stating that the revenues have been changed to more closely match the revenues received in 2012 and the expenses are essentially the same as the 2012 expenses with the exception of the personal and benefits section of each department which includes a 3% COLA for all employees and the increases to the insurance benefits provided by the city. Mrs. Hall stated that the MEAG, SEPA, and ECG cost will increase \$705,920 and a 1¢ PCA increase is being proposed to balance the budget and offset these increases.

Chief Herndon addressed council stating that maintenance needs to be done on the public safety building and requested that the police R&M Building line item be increase to \$5,000 to match the fire department R&M Building line item to allow for this maintenance.

Chief Corley addressed council stating that he had requested \$5,000 for wi-fi cards for the police cards to enable them to use the E-Ticketing system that was purchased in 2011.

Mrs. Hall stated that a balanced budget is required for the general fund and reviewed the amount to be transferred from the combined utilities fund to the general fund to balance that fund. Mrs. Hall stated that approximately \$130,000 surplus will remain in the combined utility fund.

Hearing no further comments for or against the proposed 2013 budget, Mayor Howard closed the public hearing.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Wilson offered a motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss pending litigation. Seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the motion carried unanimously (voting in the affirmative was Dodd, Banks, Hansford, Wilson, and Lawrence). Council adjourned into executive session at 6:30 pm.

Mayor Howard called the meeting back into open session at 8:20 pm.

### **ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

Mrs. Hall announced that the county commissioners would like to begin holding the city/county dinner meetings on March 5<sup>th</sup> and asked for a consensus from council if they were in agreement to hold the meetings. Council consensus to hold the city/county dinner meetings.

### **ADJOURN**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Submitted by:

Janice L. Hall, City Clerk