

**TOWN OF TRYON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BUDGET WORK SESSION
APRIL 11, 2018 3:00 P.M.
TRYON TOWN HALL – MCCOWN ROOM**

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Bill Ingham

Commissioners: Crys Armbrust, Bill Crowell

Absent: Mayor Alan Peoples, Commissioner Chrelle Booker

Staff Present: Town Manager Zach Ollis Town Clerk Susan Bell

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Ingham called the budget work session to order and turned over to the town manager.

Town Manager Ollis stated we are looking good as far as revenues go. He has made small adjustments. The sales tax is getting higher and he will continue to bring up as the year goes. Powell Bill is the same. He is going to get with Chief Tennant. The FRAC approved the four cent request, but it hasn't been approved by the county. Still having issues with Harmon Field, but will have to work on that. Commissioner Armbrust stated Harmon Field is the least utilized asset in our holdings. We need to figure out a way for Harmon Field to make us more money. He feels that we need to assess South Carolina people. Commissioner Ingham stated the administration cost is going to eat those funds. Armbrust stated we have looked at R.V. rentals. He asked who has final authority over Harmon Field. He would like that question answered. Ollis stated the attorney has told him we have the final say so. That board is a taxing authority. Armbrust stated that needs to be published so that citizens and the Harmon Field Board understand this. Ingham stated he feels that you are making a bigger issue out of this.

Ollis stated the biggest change in police is the increase in overtime of \$9,000. This is in preparation of WEG. They don't know what to expect. Came to the conclusion it may just need to be adjusted at that time. Armbrust asked about the ghost position in last year's budget. Ollis stated there are the current officers, along with two vacant positions. Jeff stated we have one vacant position now. Armbrust will not vote to have an additional position. Ollis stated this budget has eight officers. Armbrust would like to be notified by the manager about new officers. Ingham stated a manager is supposed to manage and not every decision he makes needs to come to us. Ollis will let the board know when changes in staff are made. Ingham stated he met Phillip at the Eastside meeting. Seems like a nice guy. Jeff stated he is a good fit.

Ollis stated at the last meeting the board mentioned a three percent cost of living adjustment. He did a 2.2% COLA and a 2.5% Christmas bonus. The admin budget is going from \$261,000 this year to \$244,000. The police is going from \$360,000 to \$354,000. Some departments have went down while providing increases. The budget went up \$41,000. This is because of the increase to the fire department. Armbrust asked what the fire chief salary was. Ollis stated \$50,000. He will send the budget to you so that you can look over it. Armbrust asked to add and addendum section of projects that may come up in the year for which we have allocated. Ollis keeps a running list. He will make sure

that you have that as well. Wastewater treatment clarifiers, weirs, computer and software to name a few.

Ollis and Mr. Vining had the garden club discussion the other day. The town pays them a percentage to keep up the gardens. If the revenues continue to grow, it would be a positive thing to put more money towards that, so the men and women that put forth the effort and time don't have to pay out of pocket for supplies. Armbrust stated they shouldn't have to pay out of pocket. Ollis will go ahead and increase the line items and find the money through the revenue side. John Vining stated they usually spend \$750 to \$1,000 per garden.

Ingham asked when it will be presented. Ollis stated in May and we have to display it for thirty days and adopt it in June. We also may find out what our fund balance is at that time. Armbrust asked how is it possible that with keeping records we don't know at any given time what our fund balance is. Ollis stated the auditor's take it and cross check the numbers. Armbrust stated it seems that we are heavily relying on our auditors to tell us how much money we have. Ingham stated we have a ball park idea. Armbrust stated that's the reason Susan was pulled out from under the supervision of the town manager. She answers to the four of us and the Mayor and should be able to answer any financial question we have. His question is how often we reconcile. Susan stated we can print out the information that you are looking at any time. Ingham stated it looks good to him. Crowell agreed.

ADJOURN

Mayor Pro Tem Ingham entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Crowell so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

J. Alan Peoples, Mayor

Attest:

Susan B. Bell, Town Clerk