

TOWN OF TRYON

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

JANUARY 16, 2020 3:00 P.M.

MCCOWN ROOM - TOWN HALL

Present: Alan Peoples, Mayor, Chrelle Booker, Mayor Pro Tempore, Crys Armbrust, Town Commissioner, Bill Crowell, Town Commissioner, Bill Ingham, Town Commissioner

Staff Present: Town Manager Zach Ollis Administrative Assistant Jamie Williams

CALL TO ORDER

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

Zach Ollis will get quotes for dredging the pond. Alan Peoples mentioned to watch out for fines. Zach Ollis stated that there is nothing wrong with the lines, but they bottleneck at the manhole. Bill Ingham asked why we can't get a permit to dump it into the creek again. Zach Ollis responded that they rarely give out permits. Bill Ingham asked if we lost the permit. Zach Ollis responded, yes.

Crys Armbrust asked if we could buy a wood chipper and chip on the designated spot. Zach Ollis responded that he asked Mr. Newman to rent his wood chipper. Mr. Newman agreed to rent it to the town for \$700 a month. Crys Armbrust agreed that the town should rent Mr. Newman's wood chipper. Zach Ollis will confirm if the wood chips can be dumped on site. We will need a certified engineer designated on the site for chipping. Alan Peoples asked if we haul it and dump does it take the same amount of time to do it at our own location? Zach responded it would be significantly longer for us to chip it ourselves, but we would save money long term. Crys Armbrust asked if that would justify a part time position. How much is it to dump at present? Zach Ollis responded \$20,000 to \$30,000. We could get a part-time position for that, but it takes two people to run a large chipper.

- Current Property Tax Revenue – 5% remaining to pull in
- First Prior Property Tax Revenue – 20% remaining
- Motor Vehicle Tax Revenue is on par for where we need to be.
- Local Option Sales Tax Revenue is really going well for us. We might be able to utilize the revenue for some of the projects and put it into the budget.
- City Hold Harmless – Projected \$98,000 – We are already at \$83,000
- Utility Franchise Tax – 32% remaining
- Interfund will not be in the budget next year. The budget will be split up by departments. Crys Armbrust asked if the practice of splitting up the budget by department has changed. Zach Ollis responded, yes and we have to complete a budget amendment to reflect the change. Alan Peoples asked if this change will show in the general fund. Zach Ollis responded, yes and gave an example. Alan Peoples asked if this is a requirement of the auditor or the state. Zach Ollis

responded, that it is a state requirement and explained the procedure. Crys Armbrust asked if this was additional work. Zach Ollis responded maybe five hours work for everyone. Crys Armbrust stated that it is a good procedure to track what one does. Alan Peoples stated that we might see more time allocated to different departments, but it has to be worthwhile for the change.

- Powell Bill Allocation – Stays the same. We took \$31,000 out to do some work. Hogback was the big project.
- Fire Department is doing well. They did get an increase on Lake Lanier Tax Revenue – We budgeted \$30,000 and we received \$52,000.
- Harmon Field is doing extremely well with the new tax increase. Usage has gone up. Revenue is about the same.
- Recreations Donations and Grants – The Friends of Harmon field are doing some improvements to the property. Crys Armbrust wanted to confirm that Harmon field cannot do a project without the board's approval. Zach Ollis confirmed that is correct.
- Occupancy Taxes – We have 31% remaining, which is on par for where we have been the past couple of years. Crys Armbrust asked if it was being tracked. Zach stated that it is being tracked.
- Water Charges – 48% remaining
- Sewer – 58% remaining
- Annual debt repayment will change slightly. Crys Armbrust asked what the debt is. Zach Ollis responded 3.5 million. Alan Peoples asked if that includes the issue with Howard Gap. Zach Ollis responded that it does not.

Expenditures:

- General discussion about pumping water to neighboring towns.
- General discussion about police department presence among the community. Police department is considering getting an advanced first aid kit, but in order to carry certain drugs we need to be certified.
- General discussion about TDA.
- General discussion about fire department preparedness with Epi pins and Narcan. Zach Ollis stated that the fire department are prepared for overdoses.
- Contracted Services - \$1350 has been spent. Still have money to tear homes down. Discussed making room for Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Travel – There are overages for sending people to classes to receive certifications.
- Sanitation – contracted services are over and overtime is over due to being short staff.

General discussion about boardwalk clean up. Zach Ollis stated that we will not put gravel between the tracks. Discussed installing sidewalks and one-way signs or do-not-enter signs for pedestrian safety.

ADJOURN

Mayor Peoples entertained a motion to recess the meeting to January 31, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. in the McCown Room. Commissioner Crowell so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

J. Alan Peoples, Mayor

Attest:

Susan B. Bell, Town Clerk