

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Hernando met in recessed session at City Hall on Tuesday, September 5, 2019 at 5:30 P.M. with Mayor Tom Ferguson presiding. Aldermen present were: Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, and Alderman Hobbs. Also present for the meeting were: City Attorney Kenneth Stockton, City Engineer Joe Frank Lauderdale, Fire/EMS Chief Hubert Jones, Police Chief Scott Worsham, Assistant Police Chief Shane Ellis, Public Works Director Bobby Burton, Court Clerk Cassaundra Perry, Planning Director Keith Briley, Human Resource Director Julie Harris, Community and Economic Development Director Gia Matheny, Animal Control Director Susan Huff, Lori Cate, Shirley McLendon, Dale Bellflower, Carolyn Richards, Hollie McDonald, April Thomas Chris and Yuomac Fuller, Glenda Gurley, Kim Derryberry, Carol Ayers, Austin Waldrop, and Robin Hurdle.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance

INVOCATION

Alderman Miller gave the invocation.

AGENDA

Agenda
City of Hernando
Mayor and Board of Alderman
Recessed Meeting

September 5, 2019

5:30pm

- 1) Call the meeting to order
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Invocation
- 4) Approve Agenda
- 5) Discussion of the proposed budget fye 2020
- 6) Adjourn

Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon and seconded by Alderman Miller to approve the agenda as presented. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, and Alderman Hobbs.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 5th day of September, 2019.

DISCUSSION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET FYE 2020

Mayor Ferguson stated that the proposed budget was balanced by pulling the remaining \$141K overage from the overlay budget. We cut request, cut the overlay budget and too the \$100K for improvements out of the cemetery fund.

Alderman Miller stated that he would like to thank the department heads for looking back over their requests. I think as an Aldermen we should make an effort to give something to our employees and we, the Aldermen not get a raise. Mr. Miller would like to see \$243K removed from overlays, put \$100K in contingency and fund a 2% increase for employees. That would leave about \$385K for overlays. \$300K was the past amount for overlays, 2 years ago. The Mayor was going to budget \$100K for Spring Hill Cemetery, to sale more lots. I think he has taken it out though.

Alderman Hobbs I don't think people understand that the Cemetery fund pays for itself, it can't be paid for out of the General fund.

Mayor stated the cemetery investment would be paid for by the sale of lots. If we don't do something, we will end up using the perpetual fund. People don't understand government accounting. They think we can take the \$100K out of cemetery and put it into overlays or raises. But you can't do that.

Alderman Miller stated it needs to be looked at because it will bring in revenue.

Alderman Hobbs stated the cemetery took in \$21K revenue to date. The Mayor has budgeted \$28K in revenue.

Mayor Ferguson stated that the maintenance up keep expense is not available tonight.

Alderman Miller stated he really thinks we need to look at it in the 1st quarter.

Mayor Ferguson stated he wants a strong perpetual care fund.

Alderwoman Brooks agrees with Alderman Miller.

Alderman Miller will leave \$381 for overlays and there is \$104K still available for road work.

Mayor Ferguson stated that Joe Frank Lauderdale is looking at a round-a-bout. Toyota has spent \$200K for a lane, the corner store will put in a lane. The round-a-bout will help with traffic.

Alderwoman Brooks asked why is now the time to do it.

Mayor Ferguson stated the hill would not be a problem with a round-a-bout.

Alderwoman Brooks asked about the McIngvale and Commerce St turning lanes. Joe Frank Lauderdale stated that area would have to be studied.

Alderman Miller stated later would be the time to discuss.

Mayor Ferguson would like to have micro sealing and crack filing done.

Alderman Higdon stated 2% raise plus 1.7% pers increase for personnel. We are down to \$386K for overlays.

Mayor Ferguson stated that administration took a vehicle out of the budget, planning reduced their budget.

Alderman McLendon asked about the Police Department overtime.

Alderman Miller stated that \$40K was removed from the budget.

Alderman Higdon questioned about using the part time officers for 5K races and events.

Police Chief Worsham answered that is not feasible. We've had more sick officers than usual lately. The SRO's have helped some in school events.

Alderman Hobbs asked about the number of hours for continuing education.

Police Chief Worsham answered that 24 hours are required. Chief Worsham also discussed the number of miles we have to cover on the interstate.

Alderman Hobbs stated he is concerned about the need for overtime. We are taking it out, but we will need it to be put back in.

Alderman McLendon stated the 1.7% increase in PERS causes \$45K increase in police personnel.

Police Chief Worsham stated that the amnesty program could possibly bring in \$25K in revenue. Raising the animal adoption fees will help a little.

Alderman Miller stated that budget amendments may be necessary in the future. Monthly financial information will help the Aldermen with the budget.

Alderman McLendon asked about the DUI grant in the budget.

Police Chief Worsham advised it was in there.

Alderman Hobbs asked the effect of Alderman Millers proposal to overlays.

Alderman Miller stated it would be roughly \$386K plus \$104K.

Alderwoman Brooks stated \$100K will be in contingency.

Alderman Hobbs stated \$40K needs to be added back in.

Alderman Miller stated we can always do amendments.

Alderman Hobbs stated he would like to reduce \$40K from overlays.

Alderman Higdon stated make adjustments.

Alderman Hobbs stated \$40K is only my thing, want to make sure there are no others that agree.

Police Chief Worsham stated under in regular salaries.

Mayor Ferguson stated the animal shelter has \$275K for the building that was set aside from the bond money. If we took out a loan, it would be about \$1,200 a month over 20 years, about \$15K annual cost for debt service.

Fire Chief Jones stated that the 15 year old truck recertification pump stress test will give you 5 years, the risk is the hose may collapse under fire.

Alderman Harris asked if it passed the stress test it will give 5 years. Chief Jones is not in favor of signing off.

Alderwoman Brooks asked why do they do the stress test.

Fire Chief Jones answered mostly done on used trucks.

Mayor Ferguson stated service records must be made

Fire Chief Jones stated they reviewed the stress test requirements, they are 1st 2 hours at 100%, 2nd is 30 mins at 70%, 3rd is 30 mins at 50% and 4th is 5 mins at 165 PSI.

Mayor Ferguson stated that the pumps and engines are being tested, a brand new truck is under warranty.

Alderman Higdon stated no doubt, we need the best equipment.

Alderman Miller stated the fire truck is in the budget already.

Fire Chief Jones answered yes.

Mayor Ferguson stated that the court room needs to be painted. Mayor stated that Mrs. Perry did a good job on her budget.

Alderman McLendon asked if there has been an increase in cases.

Court Clerk Cassaundra Perry answered yes, 4,500 cases total.

Alderman Hobbs stated he would like to see the court room expanded.

Mayor Ferguson stated that there is \$135K in long term improvements for Parks.

Parks and Recreation Director Dewayne Williams stated

Mayor Ferguson stated that we reviewed loan funds and purposes. We can get a \$135K loan for 4 years, would be about \$36,215.00 a year. Drainage issues are common.

Alderman Higdon stated that drainage issues need to be fixed.

Alderman Hobbs asked about tournaments.

Dewayne Williams answered there are not enough courts for a tournament.

Gia Matheny stated she is looking at grants for more courts.

Dewayne Williams stated that youth camps is the focus, and resurfacing of church park.

Mayor Ferguson stated he likes the micro seal and crack seal programs.

Joe Frank Lauderdale stated

Motion was duly made by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderwoman Brooks to balance and adopt the budget fye 2020 in summary form after entering in a 2% raise for all employees, except the Aldermen, and putting \$100,000 in contingency for the general fund. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Higdon, Alderwoman Brooks, Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, and Alderman Miller.

Those voting "Nay": Alderman McLendon and Alderman Hobbs.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 5th day of September, 2019.

ADJOURN

There being no further business at this time a motion was duly made by Alderman Bryant, seconded by Alderman Miller to adjourn.

Motion passed with a unanimous vote of "Aye".

MAYOR TOM FERGUSON

ATTEST:

KATIE HARBIN, CITY CLERK