

Riverside City Council

July 7, 2018

Special Meeting

The special meeting of the Riverside city council was called to order by Mayor Flaute at 9:03 a.m. at the Ronald McDonald House, 555 Valley Street. Council members present were William Flaute, Michael Denning, Stephen Fullenkamp, Kenneth Curp. Absent were: Sara Lommatzsch, Brenda Fry, Beverly Campbell. Also present was city manager Mark Carpenter.

A motion was made by Mr. Denning, seconded by Mr. Fullenkamp to excuse absent members. The motion was approved unanimously by a voice vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Denning, seconded by Mr. Fullenkamp to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was approved unanimously by a voice vote.

Mrs. Fry arrived at 9:11 a.m.

The city manager led the council through a warm-up exercise.

The city manager led the council in a discussion of residential streets paving and maintenance needs and cost estimates. The residential street paving needs identified by the city engineer identifies the needs to spend at least two million dollars (\$2 million) per year for residential street paving in order to catch up on deferred paving and maintenance and to address additional streets needing to be repaved in the near future. The council determined that street paving needs to occur at a more accelerated pace because of increasing rate of deterioration of the residential streets.

Ms. Campbell arrived at 10:00 a.m.

The council determined the city does not have the revenues nor will it have projected revenues in the future to fund city operation and street paving at the level needed. The council determined that the best strategy in addressing the street paving and maintenance needs would be to submit a tax issue to the voters to generate the needed funds, with the tax earmarked for street paving and maintenance. Upon approval of the tax issue, the city would expedite the street paving and maintenance program by issuing debt to fund a greater number of streets being repaved in the near term and leveling off after the initial period. The debt would then be retired through the collection of the new tax revenues earmarked for street paving and maintenance. This will permit the city to reach a greater number of streets more quickly before greater deterioration occurs.

The council discussed various revenue generating options for funding residential street paving, including a discussion of property taxes versus income taxes, and the timeline for enabling legislation to place a tax issue on the November General Election ballot.

The council decided to place an eight (8) mills property tax levy on the November 2018 General Election ballot to go into effect for the tax year 2018, with collections to begin with tax year 2018 collections in

calendar year 2019 or as determined by the Montgomery County Auditor. The tax would be a permanent tax with no sunset provision and would be earmarked for street paving and maintenance.

The city manager presented a preliminary budget for the year 2019 and basis for estimates in the various city departments.

The city manager discussed year-to-date expenditures for the current year and the impact on the carryover balance at the end of 2018. The city manager discussed an upcoming supplemental appropriation to provide additional funding for several areas due to added costs. The council discussed with the manager the need for fewer supplemental appropriations and the need for department heads to manage to their budgets and appropriated funds, and that excess funds and unspent funds in budget areas are to be returned to the General Fund and not spent on other unplanned areas of a particular department, and that he should look to those department unspent funds to lessen the amounts in the anticipated supplemental appropriation.

The manager discussed with the council the lack of project completion and progress in a few departments, with the council admonishing the manager that he should (1) make sure the projects are being reviewed regularly and frequently by the manager and requiring sufficient levels of detail in the reviews; (2) that departments are not taking on more projects than they and their staffs can handle, and (3) making sure the projects are appropriate to the needs of the city.

The council discussed with the manager the need to make sure essential service delivery occurs in all neighborhoods -such as crime prevention patrols and activities, and code enforcement and nuisance abatement activities- and to make sure the service delivery is visible in the neighborhoods in assuring citizens are aware of receiving city services.

The council addressed with the manager that when budgeting for grant-funded projects, that budgeting for the local match is taken into account in the budget and in the decision as to whether the project(s) should be recommended.

A motion was made by Mr. Fullenkamp, seconded by Mr. Denning to place an eight (8) mills continuing property tax levy on the November 2018 General Election ballot effective tax year 2018 to begin collection in 2019 with normal 2018 tax collection cycle. The vote was as follows: Mr. Fullenkamp: yes; Mr. Denning: yes; Ms. Campbell: yes; Mr. Curp: yes; Ms. Fry: yes; Mayor Flaute: yes.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Campbell at 3:08 p.m. and was seconded by Mr. Denning. The motion was approved unanimously by a voice vote.

William R. Flaute

Mary Ann Brane

Mayor

Clerk