



CITY OF DAHLONEGA
WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
JULY 25, 2018 4:00 P.M.

Mayor Norton called the Work Session to order at 4:00 p.m.

Members Present

Mayor Sam Norton and Councilmembers Bruce Hoffman, Ron Larson, JoAnne Taylor and Mitchell Ridley were present. Council Member Roman Gaddis arrived at 4:07 p.m.

Staff Present

City Manager Bill Schmid, Finance Director Melody Marlowe, Community Development Director Kevin Herrit, Public Works Director Mark Buchanan, Assistant Finance Director Kimberly Stafford, City Municipal Clerk Stacie Sides, Water Plant Superintendent John Jarrad, Accounts Payable Clerk Angi McDonald, Vince Hunsinger and City Clerk Mary Csukas were present. City Marshal Jeff Branyon and Downtown Development Director Jan Harris were present. City Attorney Doug Parks was present.

FY 2019 Budget Presentation

City Manager Bill Schmid presented the 2019 Financial Budget to the Council and Mayor for review.

Mayor Norton commended the Staff and Team for the most well prepared and presented Budget in his 12 years on the City Council. The level of professionalism shown throughout the Budget process was to be commended.

Council Member Taylor inquired if the Water Rate increase was included in the budget presented. City Manager Schmid stated that there is a narrative on page 2 in the second paragraph outlining the 4% Water Rate increase.

Mayor Norton asked if there will be recommendations presented soon to the Council for updating Occupational Tax and Alcohol Tax. City Manager Schmid stated that Staff is working on the analysis to compare comparable cities with a college basis to compare apples to apples for the recommendation.

Council Member Taylor inquired if an example showing what the new water bill would look like, so the typical customers could understand the change in their water bill with the increase, since the 4% is really very small. City Manager Schmid stated that would be a good idea to show the breakdown to the customer.

Council Member Hoffman stated that he and the Mayor have been on a Council where a Member has not approved a Budget due to one department and he knows of Municipalities that have approved budgets by departments, is this an option.

City Manager Schmid stated that the departments all affects each other, and he would prefer the Budget be approved as a single Document by single vote. Mr. Schmid stated that in this way a Council Member could still preserve their right to voice their opposition to certain parts and conceivably still vote for or against the

budget. Mr. Schmid further stated that the only alternative would be to present this budget as separate budgets but at this point we have progressed too far for that idea.

Council Member Taylor asked about the section pertaining to Chamber of Commerce 5 % Hotel/Motel Tax.

SPLIT 50% will be used for Water and Sewer improvements.

City Manager Schmid asked that Council and Mayor to please review the budget document and bring any changes or ideas to Staff before August 16, 2018.

Finance Director Marlow stated that the public hearing for the Budget will be on August 6, 2018 and the Budget Adoption will be held on August 16, 2018.

Adjournment