

BUDGET WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE
MONDAY, MAY 10, 2021 5:30 P.M.
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MEMBERS PRESENT: Alan Snow, Juan Topete, Ed Barlow and Ray West.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Dan Rife, City Administrator Tom Short, Parks & Recreation Director Mark Peterson, City Clerk Traci Cox, Police Chief Greg Dagnan, Council Members Ceri Otero, David Armstrong, and Craig Diggs, and Abi Almandinger.

Mr. Snow called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Approval of minutes from previous meeting:** Mr. Barlow made a motion to approve the minutes for the May 3 Special Budget Meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Consider & discuss a Council Bill authorizing utility rate adjustments for electric, water and wastewater services as recommended by the Carthage Water & Electric Plant Board for Fiscal year 2022.** This is the Council Bill that will be presented to the Council for consideration at the next (June 08, 2021) Council meeting. Rate adjustments will be effective as of July 01, 2021.

Mr. West moved to forward the Council Bill authorizing utility rate adjustments for electric, water and wastewater services to Council for approval. Motion carried.

2. **Consider & discuss a Council Bill authorizing the Mayor to sign an Agreement with the Carthage Convention and Visitors Bureau for tourism services for the City of Carthage for fiscal year 2022.** This agreement is the annual agreement with new dates for the CVB to perform Tourism and marketing services for the City. The agreement is based on the collected Lodging Taxes being distributed to the CVB as discussed at the last BW&M Committee meeting.

Mr. Topete moved to forward the Council Bill authorizing the Mayor to sign an Agreement with the Carthage Convention and Visitors Bureau for tourism services to Council for approval. Motion carried.

3. **Consider & discuss a Council Bill authorizing the Mayor to sign an agreement with The Carthage CVB for communication enhancements for the City of Carthage for Fiscal year 2022.** This agreement continues the services provided by CVB regarding communications begun last fiscal year. The difference is that instead of just one quarter, the services are for an entire fiscal year at about the same rate as discussed at the last BW&M Committee meeting.

Mr. Topete moved to forward the Council Bill authorizing the Mayor to sign an agreement with the Carthage CVB for communication enhancements to Council for approval. Motion carried.

4. **Consider & discuss a Council Bill authorizing Mayor to execute a contract between the City of Carthage and the Carthage Over 60 Center Inc., for services for fiscal 2021 - 2022.** This is the same amount of requested assistance as previous years. The dates have changed to accommodate the new year as discussed at the last BW&M Committee meeting.

Mr. Topete moved to forward the Council Bill authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract with the Carthage Over 60 Center to Council for approval. Motion carried.

5. **Consider & discuss a Council Bill authorizing adopting the City of Carthage's Annual Operating and Capital Budget for the year ending June 30, 2022.** This is the Council Bill adopting the budget for next year. The three (3) summary pages with the updated (changed) numbers are included as discussed at the last BW&M Committee meeting. The Council Bill, along with the final document (book) with the detailed numbers corresponding to the (included) summary numbers, will be presented to the Council for first reading at the June 08, 2021 meeting.

Mr. Barlow moved to forward the Council Bill authorizing adoption of the Annual Operating and Capital Budget for FY 2022 to Council for approval. Motion carried.

6. **Staff Reports. Sales Tax Numbers:** The General Fund Sales Tax (1%) receipts for May (included) showed an increase of 36.55% from the same month last Fiscal Year. This amounted to approximately \$65,500 more than the same month last year. This is the eleventh of the fiscal year and the ninth month collections were higher than last year's monthly reported Sales Tax. Overall, the City had budgeted a decrease of 1.62% from the previous fiscal year's budgeted amount, primarily due to the COVID pandemic. ***Budget statements*** for April are included. April represents the 83.33% level of the budget year. On the revenue side, eight funds indicate they are below April's budget level; Landfill Closure, Lodging Tax, Civic Enhancement, TIF, Golf Course, Myers Park, Judicial Education, and Public Facilities. On the expenditure side, two funds show higher than the 83.33% level. Basically, there are other considerations that negate 'red flags' for most of these funds. We'll discuss and answer any specific questions regarding these at the meeting. Also included is the ***Pooled Investment Report***.

Mr. Short reviewed the financial statements. Sales tax revenues were 36% higher than the same month last year and year-to-date is 11% higher than same time last year. Mr. Short discussed results from a Chamber of Commerce survey conducted amongst its members regarding the Use Tax proposition. The survey showed most do not understand what a Use Tax is. Mr. Short reported a new contract with Vision Carthage has been received and has been sent to City Attorney Nate Dally for review.

7. **Other Business** None.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 5:54 P.M. on motion by Mr. Topete.

Respectfully submitted,
Traci Cox