

PUBLIC HEARING

5:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 21, 2013

1. Mayor Cronin called the Public Hearing to order and acknowledged that the press and public had been duly notified in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

2. Purpose

Mayor Cronin noted that this Public Hearing was on the City's ordinance to raise revenue and to adopt a budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.

Administrator Tucker noted that revenue for FY14 is relatively stable compared to prior years' budgets, but increases are projected in parking lot revenues as a result of a new contract and building permits.

On the expenditure side, increases affecting all departments are a three percent (3%) merit pool for deserving employees and increased premiums in the state health plan and property insurance. Other expenditure highlights are as follows:

- For the Police Department – re-accreditation expenses and the addition of body-worn digital cameras and the introduction of tazers for officer protection;
- For the Fire Department – purchases of a jet ski, a pickup truck and an ATV;
- For the Public Works Department – replacement of a garbage packer and a pickup truck;
- For the Building Department – expenses relative to changing the due date for business licenses;
- For the Recreation Department – replacing the fencing at the softball field and a vehicle;
- From the tourism funds – replacing one (1) beach walkover; and
- For the marina – the replacement of the watersports dock.

In the course of the year, the City anticipates receiving three (3) grants, and they are

- \$140,000 from Charleston County for stormwater improvements;
- \$40,000 from Charleston County to fund Beach Services Officers; and
- A donation from a resident for an automatic door at the Recreation Center for handicapped visitors.

The Administrator was pleased to announce that the General Fund budget for FY14 is balanced and does not call for a tax increase.

With no questions from the public in attendance, Mayor Cronin ended the Public Hearing at 5:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland
City Clerk