

DeFuniak Springs City Council
Budget Public Hearing
September 15, 2011

The DeFuniak Springs City Council met in workshop session at 5:30 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor C. Harold Carpenter; Mayor Pro-Tem Henry Ennis; City Council Members: Ron Kelley, Mac Work, Wayne Graham and Kermit Wright; Interim City Manager Kelly Schultz, City Attorney Clayton Adkinson, Finance Director Sara Bowers and Deputy City Clerk Jonathan King.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Carpenter opened the workshop noting that this was a public hearing and asked for any public comments. With no comments from the public, Mayor Carpenter introduced Clayton Adkinson.

Clayton Adkinson noted that the advertisement for the public hearing had gone out with the TRIM notices. He noted that the Council had advertised the tentative millage rate at 4.5 mills. He asked for a motion to adopt a tentative millage rate.

Mac Work said that by lowering the millage rate to 4.0 mills, it would lower the revenue source by \$103,900.

Motion by Mac Work to set the tentative millage rate to 4 Mills, second by Ron Kelley.

Sara Bowers noted that this would change the revenue numbers that were being used. Ron Kelley asked about where the difference would come from in order to balance the budget. Sara Bowers noted that the difference would be deducted from reserves. Ron Kelley asked about the condition of the reserves. Sara Bowers noted that as of today, with the tentative amount to balance the budget and the additional \$103,900 would leave the reserves at approximately \$4.4 Million. Ron Kelley asked if the reserves were at a normal rate. Sara Bowers said they were lower than normal, but not at a critical level.

Mac Work said he wanted to see the budget balanced next year without using reserves. Mayor Carpenter said it was unrealistic to get to a balanced budget without dipping into reserves.

Ron Kelley said that he was worried about cutting too much from revenues. He noted that if the city continually pulled money out of reserves without ever putting any back, the reserves would eventually be totally depleted.

Motion carried 3-2 with Ron Kelley and Henry Ennis with the nay votes.

Clayton Adkinson asked for a motion to adopt the tentative budget of \$23,983,130.

Motion by Ron Kelley to adopt the tentative budget of \$23,983,130, second by Mac Work. Motion carried 5-0.

Clayton Adkinson noted that staff had advertised an additional item to be included in the special meeting. He explained that the city has been working to acquire the land around the airport. He noted that each time staff comes to a tentative agreement with a landowner; the agreement is brought to the Council for approval. Clayton Adkinson asked for approval to purchase the property for \$225,000 plus closing cost. He noted that the grant paid 80 percent of the purchase. It was noted that the property had a three-bedroom brick home on the property.

Wayne Graham asked if the city could use the home. Bill Holloway noted that it could be used for a while before the airport extension.

Some discussion followed concerning the airport future plan.

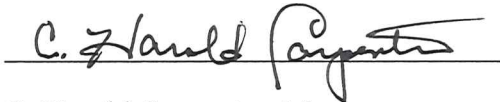
Motion by Ron Kelley to approve the purchase, second by Kermit Wright.

Some discussion followed concerning the other properties that needed to be purchased to complete the project. Clayton Adkinson noted that staff had been directed to attempt to negotiate the purchase of the properties that needed to be acquired instead of approaching eminent domain proceedings.

Motion carried 5-0.

There being no further business, Mayor Carpenter adjourned the meeting at 5:51 p.m.

ADOPTED this 24 day of October, 2011.



C. Harold Carpenter, Mayor

ATTEST:



Deputy City Clerk