

TOWN OF COATS
Board of Commissioners
Thursday, May 18, 2023
Budget Workshop

The Town of Coats Board of Commissioners met in a scheduled budget workshop session on Thursday, May 18, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board of Commissioners' Meeting Room at Coats Town Hall.

Members Present:

Mayor Chris Coats
Mayor Pro-Tem Jerry Beasley
Commissioner Kelvin Gilbert
Commissioner Shirley Allen
Commissioner Marc Powell

Staff Present:

Nick Holcomb, Town Manager
Connie Lassiter, Finance Director/Town Clerk

Members Absent:

Commissioner Allen Mosby

I. CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Mayor Chris Coats called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Coats delivered the invocation and led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

RESOLVED, to approve agenda.

MOTION BY: Mayor Pro-Tem Jerry Beasley, SECOND BY: Commissioner Marc Powell
APPROVED: 4-0, unanimously approved

II. Proposed Budget

A. Salary & Personnel

Town Manager Nick Holcomb informed the Board that he was able to fit in the salary request presented by the Police Chief at the prior meeting that illustrated the goal of \$40,000 as a starting point in hiring and adjusting current police officers accordingly.

Mr. Holcomb stated that he proposed a 5% cost of living increase for all other full-time employees and no increase for part-time employees. He mentioned that he included a 5% cost of living increase for himself and Connie Lassiter as a place holder since both fell under the discretion of the Board for increases.

Mr. Holcomb noted that the Public Works salaries included an increase for a potential promotion within the department.

Discussion from the Board included:

- No problem with salaries as presented
- Importance to remind employees about the insurance provided to them as a benefit

- Concern of proposed increases other than 5% COLA appearing as a merit raise and upsetting employees
- Concern of no raise for part-time employees

B. Cleaning

Town Manager Nick Holcomb reminded the Board of the recent quotes for cleaning services and the company that was selected with the lowest quote. He acknowledged that even the lowest quote was higher than we had previously paid, but he included that amount in the proposed budget. He mentioned that the current company was doing an excellent job.

Discussion from the Board to decrease cost included:

- Clean every other week
- Request to lower price with some duties once a month instead of each week
- Look for another cleaning service
- Hire part-time person

C. Parks Capital

Nick Holcomb, Town Manager recalled that plans for the parks capital project line had jumped around since the initial discussion in part to the grant project that was finally voted on for the multipurpose hardcourt. As a result, Mr. Holcomb had proposed an aerator attachment that could be used on the Public Works tractor by Parks department and Concession Stand upgrades. Mr. Holcomb suggested that additional funds could be budgeted toward the new hardcourt project for additional items like goals and nets.

Discussion from the Board included:

- Have food truck at park to take liability off Town instead of concession stand
- Bathrooms in bad shape; need repair

Non-Funded Requests

Town Manager Nick Holcomb mentioned the extra police officer, Vac Jet trailer for Public Works and tractor for Parks and Recreation that were not included in the budget and said that he wanted to be clear on the Boards' decision to not fund. No further discussion on those items.

Discussion from the Board on other items included:

- Police vehicle policy
- Possibly replace police vehicles every other year
- Difference in amounts to non-profits; give same flat amount and give additional if they do something that benefits the Town

II. ADJOURN

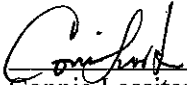
Mayor Chris Coats called for a motion to adjourn.

RESOLVED, to adjourn.


**MOTION BY: Commissioner Marc Powell, SECOND BY: Commissioner Shirley Allen
APPROVED: 4-0, unanimously approved**

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

The attached documents of reference are incorporated herewith and are hereby made a part of these minutes.



Connie Lassiter, Town Clerk



Chris Coats, Mayor