

**Town of Mocksville  
Special Meeting  
Budget Retreat  
April 24, 2019**

The Town of Mocksville Board of Commissioners met for a Special Meeting Budget Retreat Wednesday, April 24, 2019 at 5:00pm in the Mocksville Town Hall.

<b>Present:</b>	Mayor, Will Marklin	<b>Absent:</b>
<b>Commissioners Present:</b>	Eric Southern	
	Brent S.Ward	
	Rob Taylor	
	Brian Williams	
	Amy Vaughan-Jones	

**Others Present:**

Matt Settlemyer, Town Manager  
Lynn Trivette, Town Clerk  
Pat Reagan, Police Chief  
Brian Moore, Public Services Director  
Tami Langdon, Community Development

**Manager’s Overview of Enterprise Budget**

Town Manager explained to the Board that the Enterprise Fund (water, sewer, capital and non-departmental) will balance all but \$157,900. The staff recommends a 2% increase across the board including inside and outside minimum base rates 0-3000 gallons and any gallons over 3000 which is per 1,000 rate. The Town experienced a loss in revenue when House of Raeford burnt down in December 2018 but the good news is BrakeBush Brothers bought out House of Raeford and are expected to open in August of 2019.

2% equals

**INSIDE CITY LIMITS**

Minimum Gallons Used: 0-3000

	<u>OLD</u>	<u>NEW</u>
Water:	\$29.69	\$30.28
Sewer:	\$32.18	\$32.82

Per 1000 gallons after minimum is met:

Water:	\$4.21	\$4.29
Sewer:	\$4.93	\$5.03

**OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS**

Minimum Gallons Used: 0-3000

Water:	\$51.55	\$52.58
Sewer:	\$63.80	\$65.08

Per 1000 gallons after minimum is met:

Water:	\$7.18	\$7.32
Sewer:	\$7.64	\$7.79

**Enterprise Budget Discussion**

The Board agreed on the 2% increase.

Enterprise capital projects that Willis Engineers oversees are:

Bear Creek Pump Station Upgrades	\$200,000
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Filter Media Replacements	\$150,000
Misc. Site and Mechanical Improvements	\$200,000

WWTP Renovation Project (multiple years)

Enterprise capital equipment agreed on includes:

Gas Monitor (water)	\$15,000
VFD Frequency Drive (water)	\$25,000
Sewer dump truck	\$95,000

The Board requested an estimate to refurbish the 1987 dump truck so Brian presented to the Board an estimate of \$30,000 which will save the Enterprise Fund \$65,000. The Board agreed on the \$30,000 dump truck. The Board also requested Brian to look into a lease opportunity.

**Manager’s Overview of General Fund Budget**

In 2015 general fund showed a fund balance of 125%. For the last two (2) years 2017 and 2018 general fund appropriated \$2,771,731 which decreased fund balance in the 47% range. This is a trend that needs to stop so fund balance can start increasing again. Manager recommends appropriating \$500,000 in year 2019 and \$250,000 in year 2020 to start getting fund balance under control. The budget that was first presented in March had an estimated short fall of \$2,000,000 so in order to reach the \$500,000 fund balance goal the Department Heads and Management had to recommend several reductions which were prioritized in the Capital Improvement Plan discussion in March. The first initial reductions were estimated at \$1,800,240 so the Board needed to discuss and reduce another \$199,760 to help reach the fund balance goal.

The Police Department’s reductions included no additional positions, the removal of a wireless field surveillance system, the removal of an internal video recording camera system, and two (2) police equipped SUV’s totaling \$215,700. The department is exploring the option to lease new vehicles, equipped to department standards, through Enterprise’s Government Leasing Program. This program offers departments a variety of options to provide lower cost options with the same functionality. The department would have the option to purchase the vehicles outright at the end of the lease or continue the program with newer vehicles. The Board was excited about this program and thought it was a great idea to try out. The Board agreed to leave \$43,000 in the vehicle Capital Improvement Plan.

The Fire Department’s reductions included no additional full-time positions, the removal of a brush truck repair, the removal of a canopy, the removal of a storage unit, the removal of \$50,000 in part-time positions and the removal of ½ of the air paks totaling \$249,300. The Board agreed on ten (10) sets of gear \$40,000 and \$75,000 for ½ of the air paks because if the grant is awarded in May the Fire Department will receive an additional \$75,000 for the other ½ of air paks.

The Board agreed on leaving the \$85,000 in the budget for the bucket truck that the Street Department requested because the 1986 bucket truck the Town purchased in 2012 has not passed a certification since 2015. Safety is an important factor when this equipment is used for hanging banners, flags and Christmas lights. The Board would like Brian Moore to check on leasing.

The Park and Grounds reductions included the removal of a truck, paved parking lot, softball field lights, pole shed base concrete, sod cutter, reel mower, fence totaling \$215,300. The Board agreed that the parking lot at the baseball field needed to be paved \$8,000 and the pole shed project needed to be completed with a concrete base \$12,000. In order to add these two (2) projects back in \$20,000 in other projects had to be reduced. The Board’s reductions included the Library contribution \$10,000 and Arts Council contribution \$10,000. In addition the Board removed \$11,000 from the jungle gym County/Town grant project. The total reductions for the Parks and Grounds Department are \$206,300.

The Governing Board’s initial reduction included \$50,000 for construction renovations to the Board room. The Board cut an additional \$10,000 for new furniture. The total reductions for Governing Board are \$60,000.

The mast arms totaling \$160,000 were taken out of Special Projects in hopes of discussing later in the year.

Community Development’s reductions included downtown speakers, light poles down East Depot Street, trash cans, and wayfaring signs totaling \$62,900. The Board agreed on benches and planters \$7,148.

The paving discussion included \$158,760 being in Powell Bill and \$38,000 in streets totaling \$196,760 for paving the streets. The Board discussed several streets and decided to pave West Church Street for

\$88,000 and reduce paving by \$108,760. The other streets will still be included on the priority street list for the five (5) year Capital Improvement Plan.

### **General Fund Budget Discussion**

#### **Vehicle Tax**

The Board was in agreement to leave the \$30.00 vehicle tax in place.

#### **Fee Schedule**

The Board would like a break down on how much money is being brought in yearly from the fee schedule.

#### **Landfill and Recycle Fees**

The Board was in agreement to not increase landfill and recycle fees.

#### **Conclusions**

All Capital Improvement Plan items will be placed on the five (5) year plan, not to be forgotten.

Town Manager will draft a budget message for May's meeting and the Board can schedule a public hearing for June's meeting to approve the budget.

#### **Adjourn**

*A motion was made by Commissioner Williams to adjourn the April 24, 2019 Special Meeting Budget Retreat. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Taylor which carried by a unanimous vote 5-0.*

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William J. Marklin, Mayor

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Lynn Trivette, Town Clerk, NCCMC