

Special Meeting of the Finance Committee Budget Workshop

Virtual Meeting

June 10, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Clark called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and stated due to the Safer-At-Home Order, all Committee Members are participating virtually. For virtual meetings, Committee Members will be muted until asked to be heard. When there is a vote, it will be necessary to conduct a roll call vote. A Committee Member will be recognized, raise their hand, and state their vote. He announced the regular scheduled Finance Committee will begin at 4:00 p.m. on June 14, 2021 and the Community Development/Housing/General Government Committee will begin at 3:30 p.m. on June 15, 2021.

Present:

Council Member Robert Clark, Chair
Mayor Pro Tempore Denise D. Adams, Vice Chair
Council Member Jeff MacIntosh
Council Member James Taylor, Jr.

Additional Attendees:

Mayor Allen Joines
Council Member Annette Scippio
Council Member Kevin Mundy
Council Member Barbara Hanes Burke

1. Review of Responses to Questions from Mayor and Council Members.

Patrice Toney, Budget Director, provided the staff report for this item.

Mayor Pro Tem Adams requested a backwards glance of the debt service fund reserves beginning with 2010 and more in-depth information regarding the American Rescue Plan Act.

Council Member MacIntosh suggested to reduce the tax rate by one cent.

Mayor Joines stated he supports lowering the tax rate by one cent.

Council Member Clark stated that Durham is a close comparison to Winston-Salem but has very little nontaxable property. He requested an explanation of the difference. He requested information regarding the cost of LED lights and the economic return for using them and requested WSTA ridership by year, noting that Route 100 transports an average of 8 people.

2. Finance Committee Changes to the Proposed Budget.

Council Member MacIntosh stated he would like to reduce the tax rate by 1 cent and would like to fund \$25,000 more to the downtown partnership in six months if the sales tax rates stay at the same level.

Council Member Taylor stated he supports the crime prevention plan and reducing the tax rate by one cent.

Mayor Pro-Tem Adams stated she would like to a two-cent reduction but would compromise with a one cent reduction in the tax rate.

3. Consideration of a Recommended Budget and Property Tax Rate.

A motion was made by Taylor, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Adams, to adopt the budget with a change of one cent reduction to the tax rate (61.24) and add the \$1.35 million for the Crime Prevention Plan. Motion carried with the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Pro Tem Adams, Council Member MacIntosh, and Council Member Taylor

Abstain: Council Member Clark

4. Preview and Consideration of Recommended Budget Items to be Included in the City Council Agenda for June 21, 2021.

a. Resolution Approving the Capital Plan for Fiscal Years 2021-2022 Through 2026-2027 as a Financial Planning Guide.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Adams, seconded by Council Member Taylor, that the Resolution Approving the Capital Plan for Fiscal Years 2021-2022 Through 2026-2027 as a Financial Planning Guide be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Council Member Clark, Mayor Pro-Tem Adams, Council Member MacIntosh, and Council Member Taylor

b. Resolution Approving Merit Pay For Eligible City Employees, Amending Article I Of The City Of Winston-Salem Personnel Resolution To Expand Grievance Hearing Options For City Employees And Removing COVID-Related Delayed Merit Adjustment Provision Amending Article II Of The City Of Winston-Salem Personnel Resolution To Add And Delete Position Classifications Adjusting Pay Plan For Market Parity And Increasing The Minimum Wage To Fifteen Dollars And Amending Article Three Of The City Of Winston-Salem Personnel Resolution To Designate June 19 As The Recognition Date For Juneteenth.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Adams, seconded by Council Member MacIntosh, that Item 4-b be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Council Member Clark, Mayor Pro-Tem Adams, Council Member MacIntosh, and Council Member Taylor

c. Resolution Approving The Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Operating Memorandum Between The City Of Winston-Salem And The Risk Acceptance Management Corporation.

Lisa Saunders, Chief Financial Officer, provided the staff report.

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In response to Council Member Larson's request for funds for Theatre Alliance, Mr. Garrity explained it would be the decision of the Elected Officials to add items to the budget.

In response to Council Member Mundy, Mr. Garrity stated he would have Staff to check if ARPA funds could be used for Theatre Alliance.

A motion was made by Adams, seconded by MacIntosh, that the Resolution Approving the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Operating Memorandum Between the City of Winston-Salem and the Risk Acceptance Management Corporation be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Council Member Clark, Mayor Pro-Tem Adams, Council Member MacIntosh, and Council Member Taylor

Next Steps:

City Council Meeting Public Hearing and Budget Adoption - June 21, 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.