

May 20, 2021

The City Council of the City of Murfreesboro, Rutherford County, Tennessee, met in special session at its regular meeting place in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 20, 2021, with Mayor Shane McFarland present and presiding and with the following Council Members present and in attendance, to wit

Madelyn Scales Harris
Rick LaLance
Ronnie Martin
Bill Shacklett
Kirt Wade
Shawn Wright

The following representatives of the City were also present:

Craig Tindall, City Manager
Adam Tucker, City Attorney
Melissa Wright, City Recorder/
Finance Director
Gary Whitaker, Assistant City Manager
Darren Gore, Assistant City Manager
Angela Jackson, Executive Director/
Community Services
Chris Griffith, Executive Director/
Public Infrastructure/City Engineer
Raymond Hillis, Executive Director/
Public Works
Sam Huddleston, Executive Director/
Development Services
Mark Foulks, Chief of Fire and Rescue
Michael Bowen, Chief of Police
Trey Duke, City Schools Director
Erin Tucker, Budget Director
Kim Williams, City Schools Finance Director
Jennifer Brown, Assistant Finance Director
Betty Brewer, Evergreen Cemetery Manager
Amanda DeRosia, Accounting Manager
Joshua Miller, Administrative Assistant

Mayor McFarland commenced the meeting with a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chief Foulks announced that the City of Murfreesboro Fire Department had been recommended for accreditation by the Commission of Fire Accreditation Peer Review Team and that this was the result of five years of hard work by the Department.

Mayor McFarland announced that the purpose of this meeting was to present to Council overviews of entities that are funded separately from the City General Fund and to discuss the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget.

Ms. Betty Brewer, Evergreen Cemetery Manager, presented the Evergreen Cemetery Budget for Fiscal Year 2022 and discussed with Council a fence that was removed due to construction of Police headquarters, replacement of the fence by the cemetery and the potential for the City to reimburse Evergreen Cemetery for the fence.

Mrs. Erin Tucker, Budget Director, presented to Council highlights of the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget which included: property tax and sale tax trends; various revenue sources for

the City; Fiscal Year 2022 expenditures; the priority of expenditures; pay raises (1.5% COLA increase and 2.5% step increase); health insurance premium increases; carry-over expenditures; and increase to fund balance.

Mayor McFarland proposed increasing the employee pay raises to a 3.5% COLA increase and 2.5% step increase for public safety positions and a 2.5% COLA increase and 2.5% step increase for all other positions. He proposed giving public safety employees a \$2,500 one-time stipend from funds received from the American Rescue Plan Act and for all other employees a \$1,500 one-time stipend to be paid from the General Fund.

Council discussed the Mayor's proposal, the hiring and retention issues with public safety positions, the need for a City-wide classification and compensation study to include a benefit package and the current exit interview process.

Mr. Darren Gore, Assistant City Manager, presented the Water Resources and Stormwater Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2022, total revenues comparison from Fiscal Year 2019 to Fiscal Year 2022 and Fiscal Year 2022 reserve expenses.

Mr. Trey Duke, City Schools Director, presented the Murfreesboro City Schools Budget for Fiscal Year 2022. Mr. Duke stated that there is an expected decrease in the state BEP allocation from what was budgeted due to the lack of anticipated student growth resulting from the pandemic. He answered questions from Council regarding the BEP decrease and the anticipated number of students planning to attend summer school.

There being no further business, Mayor McFarland adjourned this meeting at 5:50 p.m.

SHANE MCFARLAND - MAYOR

ATTEST:

MELISSA B. WRIGHT - CITY RECORDER