



MINUTES
CITY OF RATON SPECIAL CITY COMMISSION MEETING
BUDGET WORKSHOP
RATON READINESS FACILITY, 33808 US HWY 64 (12 miles south of Raton)
SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2022 AT 10 A.M.

I. CALLED TO ORDER:

Mayor Segotta called the special meeting of the Raton City Commission to order at 10:05 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL/ATTENDANCE:

Answering roll call was: Mayor Neil Segotta, Mayor Pro-tem Linde' Schuster. Commissioners: Ronald Chavez, Donald Giacomo, and Lori Chatterley. Also present were City Manager Scott Berry, Deputy Clerk Desire'e Trujillo, City Clerk/Treasurer Michael Anne Antonucci, and one visitor other than the department heads.

III. Public Comments Regarding the FY23 Budget: GrowRaton's Coordinator Anita Valdez mentioned revolving loan funds and stated that GrowRaton is interested in assisting the City with managing those funds, if there are any.

IV. WORKSESSION – City of Raton 2022-2023 Budget

Budget Overview, City Manager Scott Berry

City Manager Scott Berry stated that this is a meeting allowing the department heads to give a brief presentation about their needs with their personnel, equipment, and facilities going forward on about a 5 year timeline. He noted that inflation has had a large impact on the budget and that the City of Raton operates on a restricted budget and is working in building up its reserves. He also noted that the City of Raton needs to stay competitive in economic development and growing the economy.

Department Head Presentations

Public Works/Sanitation, Jason Phillips – Director

Public Works Director/Sanitation Director, Jason Phillips stated the funds are not going nearly as far as before and that the building funds and grounds maintenance funds are dwindling fast. He stated he is needing a chip box to chip seal the city streets which will run about \$40,000. He is currently recruiting CDL drivers for the public works and sanitation department. He is wanting to hire on one more full-time employee and is wanting his supervisors compensated stating it's harder to hire and train than to keep knowledgeable workers. No action was taken.

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Raton Police Department, John Garcia – Police Chief

Raton Police Department Chief, John Garcia stated the biggest challenge with the PD is retention and recruitment. He currently has 7 sworn officers and 11 officers total. He stated he has been advertising employment opportunities for telecommunicators as well as officers for quite some time and hasn't received any applications. He stated the department is in need of new handguns, a taser platform, a couple new vehicles, and he is wanting his officers wages raised to stay competitive with other departments. No action was taken.

Code Enforcement, George Riley – Code Officer

Code Enforcement Officer, George Riley stated he has had good progress with the enforcing city cleanup but that there is still a lot more needing to be done. He noted that he is in the second cycle of violation notices and that he would like a couple of cameras to place at various sites to deter illegal dumping. No action was taken.

Raton Fire & EMS, Anthony Burk – Fire Chief

Raton Fire & EMS Chief, Anthony Burk stated one of the biggest hurdles he's faced currently is vendors placing purchasing allotments making it difficult to stock up on gloves. He stated he is wanting to purchase a generator for the Convention Center due to it being used as an emergency evacuation center. He also stated he is wanting new SCBA packs, bottles, and masks. No action was taken.

Community Facilities, Jolene Greene – Director

Community Facilities Director, Jolene Greene gave a brief overview of the improvements being made at the Welcome Center. She stated the Shuler Theater is in need of new plumbing and that she is wanting to get out a request for bids for housekeeping for the City buildings. She also stated the Convention Center is in need of some new lighting, water fountains, bathroom flooring, and the parking lot needs redone. She also noted that she would like to be able to hire two part-time employees for the Welcome Center. No action was taken.

Arthur Johnson Memorial Library, Thayla Wright – Director

Arthur Johnson Memorial Library Director, Thayla Wright provided an overview of the events being held at the library and commended the public works department, police department, and fire department for assistance when needed. She stated the building exterior needs painted, the front entrance needs handrails for safety reasons, the boiler needs replaced, and the elevator needs updating. No action was taken.

Aquatic Ctr/Recreation, JR Alderette – Rec Director

Aquatic Ctr/Recreation Director, JR Alderette stated some of the showers and stalls need replaced, he would like to have video surveillance installed, new tables and chairs in the party area, new deck chairs, a surge protector for the building, a new slide, diving board, climbing wall, sand filter, and lighting. He also mentioned how the cost of chemicals has gone up affecting his budget. No action was taken.

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Finance/Administration, Michael Anne Antonucci – City Clerk/Treasurer

Finance/Administrator City Clerk/Treasurer, Michael Anne Antonucci stated there will be additional conversations with the department heads to pinpoint needs and prepare a balanced accurate budget as well as crafting the budget to give current staff raises. She gave an overview of some of the expected increases as well as decreases in funding/grants the city will receive. She also spoke about the concerning price inflation that the city is currently experiencing. She stated City Hall is in need of an updated phone system, front desk improvements, entrance door improvements, grant management software, and the Commission Chambers is needing new audio and visual equipment. No action was taken.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 2:16 p.m.

CITY OF RATON

ATTEST:


Michael Anne Antonucci, City Clerk


James Neil Segotta Jr., Mayor