

MALABAR TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP #3 MEETING

September 4, 2012

7:00 PM

This meeting of the Malabar Town Council was held at Town Hall at 2725 Malabar Road.

A. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Phillip Crews. The prayer and pledge were led by Mayor Chair Phil Crews.

B. COUNCIL ROLL CALL:

MAYOR/CHAIR

VICE-CHAIR:

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

PHIL CREWS

MARISA ACQUAVIVA

CARL BEATTY

DAVID WHITE

STEVE RIVET

JEFF MCKNIGHT, Excused

BONILYN WILBANKS

DEBBY FRANKLIN

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

TOWN CLERK/TREASURER:

Clerk stated for the record, PW Dir Tom Miliore.

Chair asked staff to summarize and outstanding items. TA said they looked at revenue reductions from the State and they approached 13K in total. Then Franklin talked to State about the Local Option Gas Tax that had been reduced to 69K and learned that with the State portion we should be using the State estimate of 83,510.00. So that brought us back to where we started. At last meeting there was only contingency in 519 and 541. TA said there was also one in 513 and she reduced that amount as well. She has shown in this budget all the reductions directed by Council. The directive was to pay the maximum amount back into reserves from the \$250,000.00 from the sale of the utility. She did leave in the amount for the one-time 3% Special Pay for FRS participating employees Council approved that to bring the employees pay back to starting point. TA also stated that at last meeting she reported that the difference between the RBR and the current 1.6630 was a difference of 6,000.00 and she was wrong. It was only a difference of 2,000. TA further explained that the pages that were given out were because of the local option gas. Also, go to page 19, Promotional Activities 519.4800 was wrong and has been fixed. There was an amount approved in the budget and we did make the special pay checks out of that line item last year. Acquaviva asked if this was an error. TA said no, it was scribes. When she re-did the pages it gave the amount needed. TA asked Franklin to speak.

Franklin went on record that the General Fund budget of 1.5 mil was actually 1.2 or 1.3 after you take away the one-time payment for the utility. So the General Fund budget is less than the budget for the last six (6) years shown on the budget workshop pages. Franklin said that for the record, staff has given their blood, sweat and tears to keep costs down and have worked very hard for the benefit of Malabar and wanted to express that on the record that she felt staff had done a great job of keeping expenditures down. There was not decision on any bonus or raise over the 3% "special pay" that returns the amount withheld from employees on the retirement system set up by the State. It is still in litigation.

TA addressed repairs and maintenance in 541 acct because CM White had asked about the proposed reduction from the TBRB. TA did not reduce that line item as she had suggested that the Board's recommendation was not based on real numbers due to the pipe failures PW has been dealing with. TA said the PW Dir Tom is here tonight to answer any questions CM White had. White asked Miliore and Miliore said the budget amount had been retained and would be necessary. White did not see how they could do it with less.

TA said staff appreciated the 3% "special pay". Franklin said the Attorney said it can't be called a bonus; it is special pay to recoup the 3% withheld for FRS and that is still in litigation.

White brings it up and said he supports either that or a larger merit increase like 5% and forget about the special pay. Rivet said they should be given merit increase since they have not had a merit increase for 5 years. White also agreed; said there is money since they have shaved so much from the budget. He supports giving the 3% and on top giving a merit increase.

Acquaviva complemented the Town hall staff on their efforts. When she went through the budget before, Council seems to sit and count paper clips here at town Hall and then don't ask for anything from the fire dept. We don't get revenue from fire inspections although it was not a lot of money. The Fire Dept costs a lot of money and has no revenue coming in to offset the expenditures. She said it is not an item for tonight's meeting. Rivet said that a related concern is also the issue with doing the fire inspections required by the State. TA said that the FD is doing inspections on the daycare.

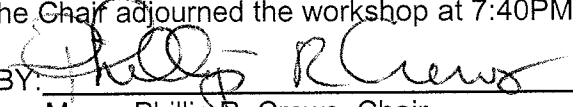
Beatty said the FD was going to do the inspections in house. The fee schedule they had at the time. The fire could do it in house we didn't need to collect it. We then voted to follow the law. TA said the Lts are trained to do the inspections. Acquaviva said it was a general statement and not intended for this night. TA said the FD will be going back to doing training. She said they are getting back into swing regarding fire training and that will be a revenue source. TA was talking to FF today and seeing training back and seeing Dan Welton come back. FD Interim Chief Bob Strandell came in at 7:20PM.

CM White said back to merit review discussion - does Council agree in merit review.

If you consider a merit then the additional 2%. Beatty agreed to the 2% merit above the 3% "special pay."

C. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the Chair adjourned the workshop at 7:40PM

BY: 
Mayor Phillip R. Crews, Chair

ATTEST BY:


Debby K. Franklin, Town Clerk/Treasurer

9/12/12 as submitted
Date Approved

