

City of Lafayette
City Council Work Session Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Malcomson called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

2. **FLAG SALUTE:** Mayor Malcomson led the flag salute.

3. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor Malcomson called the Roll:

Present: Mayor Hilary Malcomson, Lee Gilgan, Joseph Carswell, Kayla Paulsen, Russell Burrows, Marilyn DuVall, Micheal Schindele, Suzanne Harpell, Jeffery Olson

Not Present: Eric Quillan, Jessica Kitt, Leah Harper, Shirley Burkett, Shelly Wisdom

City Staff Present: Branden Dross, City Administrator; Jamie Rhodes, Administrative Services Manager; Jasmine Garcia, Community Development Clerk; Kennedee Richardson, City Recorder

4. **WORK SESSION WITH THE BUDGET COMMITTEE:**

a. *Review of Year to Date of the FY 23-24 Budget and Capital Improvement Program*

City Administrator Dross went over the PowerPoint presentation. Committee Member Schindele had a question regarding the 83% remaining budget under Capital Outlay. City Administrator Dross mentioned that is where the grant funding is flowing through.

City Administrator Dross stated that Municipal Court expenditures are higher due to the high salary of the new judge. He stated the City was trying to limit the number of times he is used but there have been ticket influxes so we will be using the Judge for all 12 months. Committee Member Duvall asked if the tickets would help off-set this cost. City Administrator Dross stated we would see that in the next fiscal year.

The Committee discussed the increase in tickets from the sheriff's deputies and from Code Enforcement. City Administrator Dross mentioned there was a list on the City website of the services the sheriff's deputies provide.

Mayor Malcomson wanted clarification on where the funds to pay the landscaping company came from. City Administrator Dross went over the reasons the Fire-Expenditures have increased this fiscal year.

Committee Member Olson asked why there hadn't been any capital improvements with Sewer. City Administrator Dross explained the current projects were being

funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and System Development Charges (SDC).

Councilor Burrows asked if the City has seen any increase in revenue now that the new meters have been installed. City Administrator Dross stated it has just recently been done and we would have to wait till all the meters have been installed.

City Administrator Dross went over the current projects that are being done during the 23-24 fiscal year.

b. Discussion on the FY 24-25 budget

City Administrator Dross went over the projects planned for the 24-25 Fiscal Year. Mayor Malcomson stated there were funds for Bridge Street, but the City is hoping to use leftover ARPA funds for the repairs. City Administrator Dross stated he would like to use more street funds for Bridge Street.

City Administrator Dross plans to use in-house personnel for the Infiltration/Inflow (INI) testing. He went over the equipment he plans to buy for the City that may reduce costs in the long term. Street repair to avoid added cost on outside contractors. Committee Member Olson wanted clarification on why the funds were being pulled from the Streets fund. City Administrator Dross gave an example of an issue the City had on Madison where a contractor was called out since the City did not have the tools available to them to do it in-house.

Administrative Services Manager Rhodes went over what the recommendation from Public Works Director Snyder was and the equipment the City plans on purchasing. Committee Member Duvall asked if there would be training needed. City Administrator Dross stated only a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) is needed.

Community Center needs upgrades, Public Works Director Chad Snyder will be creating a list of upgrades needed.

City Administrator Dross stated Dayton is looking to upgrade the shared well to the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) and it would be a 50/50 shared cost. Committee Member Olson wanted clarification on whether the City of Lafayette was required to contribute 50 percent. City Administrator Dross stated the City of Dayton will bring the proposal to him and there will be a discussion.

There was a discussion regarding the Facility Plan for wastewater. Committee Member DuVall asked City Administrator Dross to go over the problems that had occurred with the Wastewater plant. City Administrator Dross went over the problems that have been brought to the City's attention. Administrative Services Manager Rhodes stated in the early 2000's when the plant was newly constructed there were some deficiencies, there was a lawsuit with the engineer and the contractor for the issues that was done. The money that was won from the lawsuit, the council at the time ruled not to charge the residents for their utilities for two months. Instead of using the money to fix the repairs, the Council decided to give the money back to the residents. City Administrator Dross stated if the city wants to continue to grow, we will need to expand the sewer plant to handle that growth.

5. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilor Gilgan moved to adjourn the meeting. Paulsen seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Minutes approved on the 14th day of March 2024.

CERTIFIED:


Hilary Malcomson, Mayor

ATTESTED:


Branden Dross, City Administrator