

SHALLOTTE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING
JUNE 15, 2023
3:30P.M.

The Shallotte Board of Aldermen met for their Budget Public Hearing on June 15, 2023 at 3:30 p.m. in the meeting chambers located at 110 Cheers Street with Mayor Walt Eccard presiding.

Aldermen present: Larry Harrelson, Carson Durham, Gene Vasile, and Bobby Williamson

Aldermen absent: Jimmy Bellamy

Staff present: Mimi Gaither, Robert Waring, Paul Dunwell, Dan Formyduval, Megan Bellamy, Isaac Norris, Darby Lykins, and Cory McLamb.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Walt Eccard called the meeting to order. A motion was made by Carson seconded by Gene Vasile to open the meeting. Motion carried 4 yes 0 no.

II. FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

- a. A motion was made by Carson Durham seconded by Gene Vasile to open the public hearing. Motion carried 4 yes 0 no.
- b. Public Comments – There were no public comments.
- c. A motion was made by Carson Durham seconded by Bobby Williamson to close the public hearing. Motion carried 4 yes 0 no.

III. BUDGET DISCUSSION ITEMS

Town Manager Mimi Gaither presented the FY 2023-2024 Budget Recap:

General Fund

- Revenue neutral rate at 24.26 down from 35.25.
- Budget balanced with 4.5 cents increase at 28.76.
- Fire fees are covering 77.6% of the Fire Department's budget.
- Funding Salary Study.
- New Hires include Planner II/Code Enforcement, Police Detective and Human Resource Specialist.

Enterprise Fund

- Due to inflation, increase sewer fees by \$1.00 per tier. Will add \$6.00 to a bi monthly bill for users @ 6,000 gallons or less. This is less than the recommendation on the rate study.
- Increase in System Development Fees. Charging 75% of the allowable charges per the study.
- Funding SDF Study as required every five years.
- Increase sewer tap fees due to materials cost increase.
- Funding Shallotte Ave Sewer Project, redirecting Brierwood flow from Village Point Estates, upgrading and up sizing lines on both Pender and Columbus.
- Starting 12 Force main along US 17 consisting of survey, design, permitting and possibly bidding.
- Continuation of Lift Station Rehabs.

Capital Projects

- Riverwalk is continuing with Phase II – kayak launch and floating dock.
- Price Landing should be under construction for Phase I.

Employees

- COLA at 4.9% with up to 3.5% for Merit.
- Continuing State Health Plan coverage.
- State Retirement up from 12.10% to 12.85% for General Employee and 13.1% to 14.1% for LEO.
- Funding an Employee Assistance Program.

IV. ADOPT BUDGET ORDINANCE

A motion was made by Carson Durham seconded by Gene Vasile to approve the 2023-2023 Fiscal Budget for the Town of Shallotte as submitted – Budget Ordinance 23-03. Motion carried 4 yes 0 no.

V. ADDITIONAL PTO DAY (8) HOURS FOR PARENTAL LEAVE / REPAIR LEAVE

A motion was made by Carson Durham seconded by Bobby Williamson to approve a change to the personnel policy, adding an additional PTO day (8 hrs) for parental leave/repair leave. Motion carried 4 yes 0 no.

VI. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Carson Durham seconded by Gene Vasile to adjourn the meeting at 3:41 p.m. Motion carried 4 yes 0 no.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Goins, Town Clerk

Date