

City of Live Oak
City Council Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2024

1

The Live Oak City Council met Monday, August 12, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. in City Hall located at 101 SE White Ave., Live Oak, Florida 32064 for a budget workshop. The following officials were present: Mayor Frank Davis, Council President Matt Campbell, Councilmember Gladys Owens, Councilmember Vanessa Robinson, Councilmember David Alford, City Manager Larry Sessions, and City Clerk John Gill. Absent: Councilmember Tommie Jefferson, and City Attorney Todd Kennon

Council President Campbell called the meeting to order

Mayor Davis led the invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Council President Campbell opened the floor to public comments, hearing none he closed public comments.

Council President Campbell at this time turned the floor over to City Manager Sessions to discuss the proposed 2024-25 FY budget. He began by stating that there would not be a salary increase for employees this year. The only raises likely for employees will be those mandated by the state to raise the minimum wage to \$14.

Joanne Luther, Finance Director stated that a 1% cost-of-living adjustments is included in the budget for hourly employees and a 1% merit raise for employees who have worked at least one year. The proposed millage rate is the rollback rate of 9.2623 mils which would generate an additional 80,000 in the budget. In addition, the health insurance will increase 22.7% from previous years where there was little to no increase. Ms. Luther also advised that per Ordinance 1486 there will be an increase on utility bills of 10% starting 10/01/2024.

Mr. Session also discussed purchasing land to build another well to help with future hurricanes which Ms. Luther advised that staff is actively looking for grants.

Council President Campbell stated that he would like to see the 2 frozen positions for the police department available again being that it has been on hold for 2 years. Council President Campbell also requested a more user-friendly iPad to access emails in this budget. Mr. Campbell also moved into discussion about the new garbage truck and getting new trash cans.

Councilmember Robinson stated that she would like funds for an assist for the Public Works Director and for mowing of the right-of-way that are no longer be maintained by the city.

Fire Chief Sid Hayes gave a report on his budget and stated that he has one vacancy and has a full part-time list and nothing would have to change in his budget.

Parks & Rec Director Jason Furry stated that there was no increase to his budget, however he would like to ask if the city would consider hiring a part time event coordinator with the different events in town.

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Councilmember Matt Campbell
City Council President

Attest:
Mr. John Gill
City Clerk