

City of Live Oak
City Council Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes
August 26, 2024

The Live Oak City Council met Monday, August 26, 2024 at 4:30 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 Tommie Jefferson, Councilmember Vanessa Robinson, Councilmember David Alford, City Manager Larry Sessions, and City Clerk John Gill. Absent: Councilmember Gladys Owens, and City Attorney Todd Kenon

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.

Mr. Robert Ford spoke regarding funds for the Police Athletic League.

With no other comments, Council President Campbell closed the floor for public comments.

Upon further discussion, Council agreed to include the additional \$2,000 requested by Mr. Ford for the Police Athletic League.

Council President Campbell at this time turned the floor over to Mr. Larry Sessions. Mr. Sessions stated that he included everything in the budget requested with the exception of a few things like laptops. He explained that the laptops will not need to be budgeted because they will be purchased within the current year.

Mr. Sessions moved to the requested assistant for the Public Works director which is not included in the budget. Public Works Director Jerald Lee stated that he would rather give the current employees more money or see the city hire a grant writer that would benefit the city as a whole. Mr. Session suggested to make the parttime cashier fulltime and split their time between finance and assisting public works in handling paper work and invoices to free up time for Mr. Lee.

Regarding the event organizer position, Councilmember Robinson didn't agree on another part time position for the Suwannee Parks and Recreation to help handle organizing and planning festivals. Mr. Furry advised that the part time employee would be funded by the county and the city and would work with volunteers on sponsorships for events and putting them together, he stated that the city's portion would be up to \$15,000.

Councilmember Jefferson moved on to the solid waste pickup by obtaining different trash cans and a truck to no longer require employees on the back of the truck, and he would like to have all residents provided new trash cans at no cost. Finance Director Joanne Luther stated that the plan is to increase trash fees by \$2.50 to pay for the trash cans and get the truck.

Councilmember Robinson proceeded with discussion regarding mowing the right of way. Mr. Session proposed that he would like to have/hire two employees to handle the right of way, with a budget amount of \$180,000 to mow the city. Mr. Session stated that currently the city is only mowing 7 streets. The \$180,000 would include all the equipment and two employees and they would go in each district and mow.

Mr. Session stated that there will be carpet place in the City Hall along with painting the walls for the administration side of City Hall, he stated he would have to get back with council with the quotes for the project.

Ms. Luther stated she added about \$8,000 for a damaged police sign, that is on the list.

Council concluded with having another budget workshop September 3, 2024 to make any final suggestions or changes.

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

Councilmember Matt Campbell
City Council President

Attest:

Mr. John Gill
City Clerk