

MINUTES

Lowell City Council
Special Meeting-Budget
Friday, April 8, 2022, 3:00 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Sandy Railey

Mayor Railey called the meeting to order at 3:00p.m. Those attending in-person were Mayor Pro-Temp Travis Smith, Councilmembers Phil Bonham, Candy Funderburk, and Joanna Fulbright. City staff included City Manager Scott Attaway, Interim Chief Carl Moore, Sergeant Jeff Harrison, Finance Director, Lisa Nolen, Public Works Director, and City Clerk Cheryl Ramsey. Councilmember Gillespie came in at 3:18pm.

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING

Councilmember Candy Funderburk made a motion to accept the agenda and seconded by Mayor Pro-Temp Smith. The vote was unanimously in favor.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

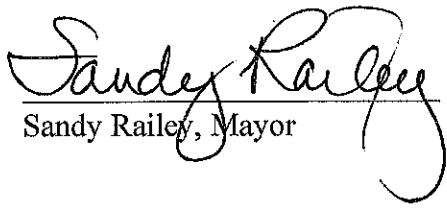
IV. NEW BUSINESS

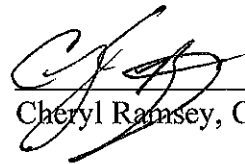
A. FY 2022-2023 Budget Planning Discussions.

1. Scott Attaway presented, and council discussed the Fire Department budget item and possibly have the Gaston County administer the entire program and tax the City of Lowell a county tax. Kevin Gordan from Gaston County discussed how the process would work.
2. Thomas Shrewsbury discussed the Water/Sewer fee analysis, capital improvements, identifying lines needing updating to eliminate leaks, and AIA mapping funds that will help identify the lines.
3. Sergeant Harrison presented costs for beginning a K-9 program
4. Mr. Attaway discussed Sanitation and recycling budgets. He discussed the Parks and Recreation budget including a new position, use of ARPA money for the outside of the community center as well as the difficulty of attaining CDBG funding. He said the city will attempt to do better bidding and more direct soliciting for the needs outside the community center, and funds for events.
5. Brief discussion on the COLA raises and comparisons to other localities.

V. ADJOURN – Mayor Pro Temp made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Funderburk. The vote was unanimously in favor. Adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

ATTEST:


Sandy Railey, Mayor


Cheryl Ramsey, City Clerk