

CITY OF PORT REPUBLIC
6:00 P.M. MARCH 1, 2022
BUDGET WORKSHOP

Adequate notice of this meeting was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act. On the motion of Council President Kozlowski, seconded by Councilmember Bugdon and carried to close the workshop portion of the meeting.

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Steven Allgeyer, Doris Bugdon, Stanley Kozlowski, Jacob Nass

COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT: Roger Giberson, Thomas Kurtz, Donna Riegel

MAYOR: Monica Giberson

MUNICIPAL CLERK: Kimberly A. Campellone, RMC

MUNICIPAL AUDITOR: Nancy Sbrolla, CPA, RMA

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: Jenna Kelly, CMFO

Council President Kozlowski called the meeting to order and lead the flag salute. This is to advise the general public and to instruct that it be recorded in the minutes, in compliance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, entitled the "Open Public Meetings Act". The Municipal Clerk of the City of Port Republic posted at City Hall, 143 Main Street, Port Republic and mailed and/or faxed to the Atlantic City Press and the Current Newspaper, a meeting notice setting for the time, date and locations of this meeting.

BUDGET WORKSHOP:

Chief Financial Officer Kelly stated:

- Since our last budget workshop, two small changes were made. We added a grant and \$1,600 for liability insurance.
- The budget presented to Mayor and Council tonight is at a 1.1 cent increase.

Council President Kozlowski confirmed with Chief Financial Officer Kelly that there was enough money in our currently presented budget for the following items:

- Sand for the beach area
- Legal billing for the Type I to Type II school issue (approximate amount being \$9,188)

Council President Kozlowski stated that he spoke with Mayor Giberson in regard to the legal billing assistance being requested by the School Board. He explained that the Type I to Type II situation does not happen often, and it is very complicated law. For us to get to a proper resolution, which is what we are on the path to do now, this could be viewed as necessary/consultant fees. He is in favor of considering paying this bill.

Councilmember Allgeyer and Councilmember Bugdon are not in favor of paying the legal billing for the School Board.

Councilmember Nass is in favor of the City paying the legal billing.

Council President Kozlowski stated that the topic of the Type I to Type II School will be listed under Executive Session for the March 8, 2022, City Council Meeting. Council can further discuss and decide how to move forward with the request to cover the School Board's legal billing at that point.

In order to keep the budget process moving and to be able to introduce our budget on March 8th, Council decided to keep our current legal budget at \$27,000. Auditor Sbrolla feels this amount should cover the City's legal fees along with the requested legal billing assistance requested from the School Board, and if needed transfers can be made in November.

Council President Kozlowski stated that we need to advise the School Board that we will pay this billing, but it may take time, until at least November.

Council President Kozlowski questioned if \$10,000 was factored into the budget for taking care of the brush pile. Chief Financial Officer Kelly responded that this money was added under the garbage and trash removal account.

Council President Kozlowski questioned if the purchase of a new tractor was going to be under a typical expense or under capital. Chief Financial Officer Kelly responded that this is being raised by our budget and listed under capital.

For 2022 the City will be paying the Fire Department \$22,000.00 for equipment and \$30,000 for aid, for a total amount of \$52,000.00.

Celebration of Public Events has been increased by \$1,700.00.

Councilmember Nass would like to see an increase in the budget for public safety. Auditor Sbrolla suggested we look into grants for public safety. Council President Kozlowski also stated that if a purchase is necessary, we could utilize the capital funds we have been building up.

Mayor Giberson questioned if we would be doing anything about the repair needed to the Port School roof. Auditor Sbrolla responded that those funds would need to be handled with a capital ordinance. Councilmember Allgeyer added this project needs to be done.

On the motion of Councilmember Nass, seconded by Councilmember Allgeyer to approve the discussion of the Budget Workshop.

Ayes – 4 Nays - 0

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION

On the motion of Councilmember Bugdon seconded by Councilmember Nass and carried.

CLOSED TO THE FLOOR FOR TOPICS FOR PUBLIC PORTION:

Hearing nothing from the public, Councilmember Bugdon moved, seconded of Councilmember Allgeyer and carried to close the public portion.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Councilmember Bugdon, seconded of Councilmember Allgeyer and carried to adjourn at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly A. Campellone, RMC
Municipal Clerk