

April 26, 2015

Pocomoke City Mayor and Council held a budget meeting in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Tuesday, April 26, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M.

Present: Mayor Bruce Morrison  
Council Members: Diane Downing, Brian Hirshman,  
Esther Troast, George Tasker, Dale Trotter  
City Manager/City Attorney: Ernie Crofoot  
City Clerk: Carol L. Sullivan

Budget Discussion:

City Manager Crofoot stated that after the last discussion, he asked department heads to review their budget and they cut their budget another \$165,000. They still are short \$105,000. He suggested that the City could borrow the money for capital outlay. The City will be paying off a couple of loans this year and the new loan would be repaid from the funds already allotted for the current loans. He stated the problem of using the line of credit is it would need to be paid off at the end of each year. He discussed charging a fee as other utilities companies do to pay with a credit card; this way all of the proceeds would be used to pay the bill and not part of it paying the credit card expense that is charged to the City. This would generate approximately \$9,000; that we are currently paying for use of credit cards. He also suggested to review the rates at the golf course and don't give free golf play to employees and fire department members.

Councilman Hirshman thanked the Department Heads for trimming their budget down more.

Councilman Trotter asked Superintendent Phillips if he needed to order 16 actuators or could he use 8.

Superintendent Phillips stated that he needed 16; that these would replace the current actuators and he would not have any on the shelf.

Councilman Tasker stated that the City wasn't raising taxes this year; several people asked him why as everybody seems to be increasing taxes this year.

Mayor Morrison stated that the City has the highest taxes in Worcester County and we are the poorest City in the state.

City Manager Crofoot stated that if our revenues are better then expected than we could add things back into the budget by amending the budget.

In a motion (Trotter, Troast passed) to authorize City Manager Crofoot to sign and return the Constant Yield Rate exemption letter.

City Manager Crofoot stated that we would be having a meeting on May 2, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Morrison asked if City Manager Crofoot would find financing for capital items.

City Manager Crofoot stated that he would look first at our local bank. He also stated that he would like to add one position which would make the 5<sup>th</sup> PCO at the Police Department. He stated that the Chief assured him that it will save money in overtime; maybe hire for a six-month probation if it is not working like they think it will work they would delete the job.

Mayor Morrison thanked City Manager Crofoot and Finance Director Janet Wilson for preparing the budget and working with the department heads.

City Manager Crofoot thanked the department heads for working so hard and deleting items from their budget.

With no other discussion (Trotter, Troast passed) made a motion to adjourn at 7:20 p.m.

Approved: May 2, 2016

---

Carol L. Sullivan  
City Clerk