

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Rapid City, South Dakota

August 17, 2020

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Special meeting of the City Council of the City of Rapid City was held at City Hall in Rapid City, South Dakota on Monday, August 17, 2020 at 5:30 P.M.

The following members were present: Mayor Steve Allender and the following Alderpersons: Greg Strommen, Lance Lehmann, Jason Salamun, Ritchie Nordstrom, Darla Drew, Laura Armstrong, Bill Evans, John Roberts and Pat Jones; the following Alderpersons arrived during the course of the meeting: None; and the following were absent: None.

Staff members present included: Finance Officer Pauline Sumption, City Attorney Joel Landeen, Interim Police Chief Don Hedrick, Interim Fire Chief Jason Culberson, Deputy Finance Officer Tracy Davis and Administrative Coordinator Heidi Weaver

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Council President Armstrong called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Motion was made by Jones, second by Lehmann and carried to adopt the agenda.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Smith previously spoke in favor of defunding and abolishing the police department. He said funding should be used for proper training, tracking police misconduct, and good community relationships.

NON-PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS – Items 1-2

NON-CONSENT ITEMS – Items 1-2

2021 Mayor's Budget Presentation

Armstrong opened the meeting and introduced Mayor Allender. Mayor stated he would be giving a summary of the 2021 proposed budget. He indicated there would be no vote on the budget tonight. He said copies of the presentation were provided to the council members and also online for the public.

Mayor Allender began by thanking Sumption and Davis, as well as all of the Department Directors. He said there were some delays due to the pandemic. Once the pandemic hit, city staff came together and retooled the 2020 budget. They had to restate the spending authority. They now have more economic data and can make better decisions.

Mayor Allender started going over the 2021 budget presentation. He covered Economic Indicators such average wages and Unemployment; Rapid City Regional Airport – Enplanements and Economic Indicators, such as hotel occupancy and commercial vacancy; General Sales Tax Collections; BBB Tax; Building Permit Valuation.

Mayor Allender presented the 2021 Highlights: General Fund Revenue, General Fund Expenses, Enterprise Funds, and Infrastructure Spending. The challenges were: Overreliance of sales tax revenue; demand for city services increasing; COVID-19 producing threats to the economy; increased need for human services; growing homelessness. Opportunities include: population increasing, building industry is healthy, Elevate Rapid City, 5th and St Joseph Street lot; B-21 community.

In summary, the 2021 Budget is balanced; city services will return to pre-COVID levels; sales tax collections are susceptible to negative influence from various sources; and protecting the city's interests is the same as protecting the tax payer interests. Motion was made by Nordstrom and second by Strommen and carried to acknowledge the budget presentation.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, motion was made by Lehmann, second by Jones and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:16 p.m. Armstrong said there would be a short recess before the start of the regular City Council Meeting.

ATTEST:

CITY OF RAPID CITY

Finance Officer

Mayor

(SEAL)