

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Rapid City, South Dakota  
August 29, 2022

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, 300 Sixth Street, in Rapid City, South Dakota on Monday, August 29, 2022 at 5:30 P.M.

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

Staff members present included: Finance Director Pauline Sumption, Deputy Finance Director Tracy Davis, City Attorney Joel Landeen, Public Works Director Dale Tech, IT Director Jim Gilbert, Communications Coordinator Darrell Shoemaker and Administrative Coordinator Heidi Weaver.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Council President Lehmann called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Motion was made by Jones, second by Evans and carried to adopt the agenda. Motion carried 9-0.

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT** (3-minute time limit per speaker)

William Waggoner, on behalf of 'For the Warriors', spoke on the South Dakota Constitution. He did not agree with the proposed raise for the Mayor.

**NON-PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS** - Items 1-2

**NON-CONSENT ITEMS** – Items 1-2

Mayor Allender said he sent the council an email regarding the answer to a question asked by Jones at the previous budget meeting. He explained the estimated guess on the money spent for the homeless people in Rapid City is between \$13-\$15 million. Jones suggested that Public Works receive 5 FTE's instead of 9 FTE's. He wanted to give \$200,000 to the Parks and Recreation Department to use toward the cleanup of current vandalism and for the development of new parks. Mayor Allender clarified that Public Works had requested 11.75 FTE's, and not 9 FTE's. Tech explained the new employees are needed to keep the service levels at the current level. Many State Highway projects effect the amount of work the City has to complete. All 11.75 new employees are needed to complete projects. The police department has 22 openings, with six more employees being budgeted as new hires. The council and mayor talked about incentive programs to get people recruited. Strommen spoke in favor of giving the mayor a raise and to include that in the budget. Evan passed out a proposed amendment to the budget. He is not sure PW needs that many new employees. He is in favor the mayor's salary being increased. Everyone is looking forward to the Gallaher wage study being completed. Evans thinks the city needs a Chief of Staff position to relieve the mayor of certain duties that he has taken on. Evans wants the city to hire a Sustainability Director. He suggested that \$30,000 be added to the five arts committees. Jones thinks the Grant Writer position is very important. Sumption explained that employee raises are normally absorbed by the department giving the raise. If that can't be done, then a supplement would be needed to pay that cost. Salamun suggested that the mayor's salary not change until the Gallagher study is done. Mayor Allender spoke regarding the needed engineers, the Chief of Staff, the Grant Writer and the Sustainability Director. He said most of the salaries would be more accurately estimated after the results come in from Gallagher. Regarding the Sustainability Director, Mayor Allender said it would be a good topic for a city retreat. He suggested leaving the mayor's salary and the Sustainability Director off the table for now. In response to a question from Armstrong, the

mayor thinks it would only take a few weeks to get a job description established. Roseland said he is the liaison to the Sustainability Committee. He said the committee indicated a director has been needed for over ten years. Motion was made by Jones, second by Evans to approve adding \$30K to the art contingency fund from undesignated cash. To be divided among the five art groups as follows: \$3000 for Ranger Band, \$4000 for Minnilusa Historical Association, \$5000 for Choral Society, \$7000 for Symphony Society and \$11,000 for Municipal Band. Roseland is the President of Minnilusa and stated their group didn't need more than the \$6000 they already have. Roseland asked to abstain. Motion carried 7-1 with Roseland abstaining.

Motion was made by Armstrong, second by Evans, to create a Sustainability Coordinator position within the Mayor's Budget or Council Budget with a budget up to \$80,000 coming from sales tax revenue as the funding source. Evans, Armstrong, and Nordstrom spoke in favor of the addition of this position. Armstrong said the position could be part of HR, Community Development or the Mayor's office. It was suggested that Gallagher be asked to include this position in the current wage study. Roseland has been to the Sustainability Committee meetings and he said they need this position. He said the committee is willing to help draft the job description. Motion failed 5-4 with Lehmann, Salamun, Nordstrom and Ham voting no. Since the motion involved the expenditure of funds, a majority of the City Council, or six of 10 members, is needed to approve such a motion.

Motion was made by Jones, second by Roseland to add \$200,000 to the Parks and Recreation line item. He said the department needs the money to repair current damage due to vandalism and to help with costs needed for the new city park. Jones offered this be funded through the sales tax line item. Sumption indicated that would be fine and still cover what we need. Motion passed 6-3 with Lehmann, Armstrong and Ham voting no.

Motion was made by Ham, second by Jones to approve these changes and place this item on the September 6, 2022 City Council Agenda, as the Second Reading of Ordinance 6550. Motion carried 9-0.

### **ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, motion was made by Jones, second by Strommen and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Dated this 29th day of August, 2022.

CITY OF RAPID CITY  
s/ Steve Allender  
Mayor

ATTEST:  
s/ Pauline Sumption  
Finance Director  
(SEAL)

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