

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Rapid City, South Dakota
August 21, 2023

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 21, 2023 at 5:30 P.M.

The following members were present: Mayor Jason Salamun and the following Alderpersons: Greg Strommen, Lance Lehmann, Pat Roseland, Josh Biberdorf, Jesse Ham, Rod Pettigrew, Lindsey Seachris, John Roberts, Kevin Maher and Bill Evans; the following Alderpersons arrived during the course of the meeting: None; the following attended telephonically: None; and the following were absent: None

Staff members present included: Finance Director Daniel Ainslie, 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 Roberts called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Motion was made by Lehmann, second by Evans and carried 10-0 to adopt the agenda.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT No speaker request forms were received.

NON-PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS – Items 1-2

NON-CONSENT ITEMS - Items 1-2

Mayor Salamun stated he was pleased to present the budget for 2024 to the City Council. He stated there was a collaborative effort involved in the budget process. He wants Rapid City to be a safe place to live and raise families. He wants businesses to thrive here. There is a desire for peace and prosperity for the people of Rapid City. Mayor Salamun provided budget books to each council member and all City Directors. The top priorities for 2024 are a safer community which includes: Ignite, Ranger Program and Journey On. A healthy economy which includes the Opportunity Capture Fund and Economic Development Support. A vibrant community which includes The Monument and Summit Arena, continued parks improvements and the library Book-Mobile. He is striving for a high-performing government which includes community engagement, efficiencies and long-term focus. And a hometown spirit that includes Christmas Season Celebration, Main Street Square Activities and Parks and Recreation Enhancement. Mayor Salamun continued the budget by discussing the Vision of Rapid City, the Guiding Principles and why Rapid City has the best community. He spoke on Economic Indicators including employment, economy, building, housing, real estate, commercial real estate and inflation. He indicated the budget revenue consists of sales tax, utility fees, property tax, entrance / user fees, interest, grants-federal and county funding, savings, ambulance payments, other taxes, permits and licenses and other revenue. The budget expenditures consist of water, solid waste, waste water, storm water, ambulance, public safety, airport, capital improvements, The Monument, public works, culture, recognition, Vision, community investments, and administration. Mayor Salamun explained the distribution of sales tax, along with general fund revenue and expenditures. The budget book gave an overview of each City Department and their department goals. The mayor finalized the budget by going over the Capital Improvement Fund, the Vision Fund and the Community Investment Fund, which partners with public safety, crisis services and community enrichment. Mayor Salamun stated additional full-time employees are being considered for hire with the Police Department in the Internet Crimes Against Children

Unit. It is vital that the children in our community are protected. There is a staggering increase in crimes against children and public safety is critical. There is a brand-new initiative that will introduce City Park Rangers into the community. This pilot program is designed to bring a more official presence to our parks to ensure they are a safe place for all. The rangers would be empowered with code enforcement authority with a direct line to law enforcement. Mayor Salamun stated the number of homeless individuals in the United States has increased by 11% in the past year. He said the Police Chief indicated there are 11 FTE's dedicated to homelessness, which doesn't include the three positions covered by grants. He indicated that a significant portion of undesignated funds will go toward crisis services, particularly those who are serving the homeless. Funds will be provided to the Care Campus, Cornerstone Rescue Mission, Journey On, Volunteers of America, WAVI and Lifeways. There are many great resources and they need to be utilized. Mayor Salamun said Elevate is working with new growing companies who are considering the move to Rapid City. He is excited to see who we can add to our community. Mayor Salamun closed by thanking everyone who was involved with the budget process, especially Finance Director Ainslie. Roberts directed council to send any questions to the finance director who will work on the answers by the next special council meeting on Monday, August 28, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, motion was made by Lehmann, second by Seachris and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:16 p.m.

CITY OF RAPID CITY
s/ Jason Salamun
Mayor

ATTEST:
s/ Daniel Ainslie
Finance Director
(SEAL)