



Minutes of the Roanoke Rapids City Council

A Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of Roanoke Rapids was held on **Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.** in the Council Chambers at the Lloyd Andrews City Meeting Hall.

Present: Emery G. Doughtie, Mayor
Carl Ferebee, Mayor Pro Tem
Sandra W. Bryant)
Wayne Smith)
Rex Stainback)

Council Members

Kelly Traynham, City Manager
Geoffrey Davis, City Attorney
Traci Storey, City Clerk
Carmen Johnson, Finance Director
Bobby Martin, Police Chief
John Simeon, Parks & Recreation Director
Davis Wise, Planning & Development Director
Christina Caudle, Human Resources Director
Jason Patrick, Fire Chief
Larry Chalker, Public Works Director

Absent: Suetta S. Scarbrough, Council Member

Mayor Doughtie called the meeting to order.

Consideration of Budget Ordinance/Amendment to Purchase New Fire Truck

Finance Director Johnson presented the following Budget Ordinance:

Ordinance No. 2022.09 CITY OF ROANOKE RAPIDS BUDGET AMENDMENT

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROANOKE RAPIDS:

SECTION 1. The following additional amounts are hereby appropriated for the operation of City Government and its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022, according to the following schedule:

SCHEDULE A – PROJECT FUND REVENUES

Fund Balance – Fire Department – Fire Truck (not budgeted)

Project Revenues – To Fund Fire Truck **\$580,725**

FUND PROJECT TOTAL **\$580,725**

SECTION 2. The following additional revenues and reductions in appropriations are available

for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022, in order to meet the foregoing appropriations, according to the following schedule:

SCHEDULE B – PROJECT FUND EXPENDITURES

Funding to General Fund – Fire Department – Fire Truck

Project Expenditures - To Fire Truck **\$580,725**

FUND PROJECT TOTAL **\$580,725**

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

Emery G. Doughtie, Mayor

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee, seconded by Councilman Smith and unanimously carried to adopt Ordinance No. 2022.09 to fund the purchase of a new fire truck.

Consideration of Resolution for Adoption of Joint Cooperation Agreement for the Establishment of the Choanoke Area Housing Consortium

City Manager Traynham reminded City Council that back in the Fall they talked about the HOME Consortium Program and the opportunity to receive federal funding for home improvement projects in the region. The City Council adopted a Resolution of Intent to form a consortium with Halifax County governments, Bertie, Hertford, Martin and Northampton Counties. This resolution is the official formation of the consortium with the five counties and their municipalities. It will allow the consortium to partake in the grant funding of over \$733,000 annually that would go towards home renovation projects, new construction and so forth.

She asked for City Council to adopt the resolution and exercise the agreement to form the Choanoke Area Housing Consortium. This action is being requested of by all participating jurisdictions and due back to Halifax County by June 20, 2022 to be returned to HUD for final processing.

Councilman Smith asked if Halifax County had agreed to pay the \$93,000 gap. City

Manager Traynham replied the gap has been reduced down to \$16,000 and that will be shared by the five counties; the City has not been asked to pay into that. The Counties are going to bare the shared costs on that.

Mayor Doughtie asked if there were any other costs associated with this for the City. City Manager Traynham replied not that she was aware of. The monies would go toward qualifying projects that occur under the consortium. There is not any additional funding required as long as the activities are allowed under the federal program.

Mayor Doughtie asked if it was similar to the CDBG program. City Manager Traynham replied it was not as restrictive. She said rental homes qualify and it has more flexibility. A similar type consortium was used to help a large residential neighborhood in west Greenville between ECU and the hospital. CDBG has a lot more red tape on the City's part.

Mayor Doughtie stated that it appears they could withdraw after one-year after giving a 150-day notice. City Manager Traynham stated it was 3-year commitment. The participation in the program is optional, but it is here to benefit the community and the housing that is in substantial need of improvement. They would not be able to share in the funds if the agreement was not in place.

RESOLUTION NO: 2022.02

Resolution for Adoption of a Joint Cooperation Agreement for the Establishment of the Choanoke Area Housing Consortium Under the Federal HOME Investment Partnerships Program

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 160D, Article 13, Part 2 of the North Carolina General Statutes, counties and municipalities are authorized to engage in various programs of housing assistance for low- and moderate-income persons;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 160A, Article 20, Part 1 of the North Carolina General Statutes, the units of local government may enter into a contract or agreement with each other to jointly exercise any power, function, public enterprise, right, privilege, or immunity;

WHEREAS, under certain provisions of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990 (specifically 42 USC §12746 and 24 CFR §92.101) geographically contiguous units of general local government may enter into a cooperation agreement and form a consortium to undertake or assist in undertaking affordable housing programs pursuant to the HOME Investment Partnerships Program;

WHEREAS, the undersigned units of local government desire to enter into a cooperation agreement to form a consortium to undertake or assist in undertaking affordable housing programs pursuant to the HOME Investment Partnerships Program;

WHEREAS, the undersigned units of local government propose to enter into that certain “Joint Cooperation Agreement for Establishment of the Choanoke Area Housing Consortium Under the Federal HOME Investment Partnerships Program,” a copy of which was presented to the governing board of each unit during a regular meeting prior to the adoption of this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to G.S. 160A-461 each of the undersigned units of local government does hereby ratify and authorize the execution of the aforementioned interlocal agreement.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Bryant, seconded by Councilman Smith and unanimously carried to adopt Resolution 2022.02 for a Joint Cooperation Agreement for the Establishment of the Choanoke Area Housing Consortium Under the Federal HOME Investment Partnerships Program.

Public Hearing for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

City Manager Traynham stated the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget has been prepared as required by law and been advertised as being available since the May 18, 2022 meeting. The Budget Message was presented and the Public Hearing has been advertised as required in order to encourage citizens to make any comments or ask questions in writing or orally. The proposed budget has been available for public inspection and will remain available.

She reported the General Operating Budget is \$16,886,091 which includes \$403,000 from Fund Balance. It also includes the transfer to other funds within the budget: Municipal Swimming Pool Fund, Drug Enforcement Fund and for the Roanoke Rapids Theatre where the payment is deducted from the General Fund and transferred to the Theatre fund. The total operating and special revenue fund balance is \$16,927,391. The current tax rate remains the same at \$.661 including a once cent tax rate for the Roanoke Valley Rescue Squad. Operating budget revenue sources include: Ad Valorem taxes, Motor Vehicle License and Tags, Powell Bill allocations, Sales & Use Tax, ABC profits, donations and grants and various fees for services. Estimated revenues prior to the fund balance allocation is \$16,483,908. The fund balance allocation is \$403,683.00 in order to budget for expenditures in the amount of \$16,887,591.

City Manager Traynham stated the proposed expenses from the General Fund are allocated by departments and divisions. They primarily cover the costs of doing business such as salaries, benefits, maintenance/repair for existing facilities, equipment and vehicles. The requested amounts from departments for the upcoming fiscal year was over \$19M. After looking at the anticipated revenues in the amount of just over \$16M, her recommendation is for \$16,887,591 for the FY 2022-2023 budget.

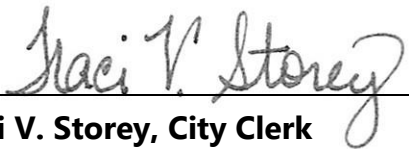
Mayor Doughtie opened the public hearing and asked for those wishing to speak and make comments to come forward.

With no one wishing to speak, Mayor Doughtie closed the public hearing.

Mayor Doughtie noted City Council would consider adoption of the budget at the June 21, 2022 Regular City Council Meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee, seconded by Councilman Stainback and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 5:47 p.m.



Traci V. Storey, City Clerk

Approved by Council Action on: June 21, 2022