

Nashville Utility Service Board

Budget Work Session

September 29, 2023

Commission members present: President Pam Gould, Vice-President Alyn Brown, Secretary Nancy Crocker, Member Scott Dick and Member Tom Roberts. Also in attendance: Water/Sewer Operator Robin Willey, Chief Administrator Phyllis Carr, ms consultants Municipal Operations Consultant, Dax Norton, Town Manager Sandie Jones. Present via Zoom: ms Representatives Dan Cutshaw & Carla Mann.

1. Opening the Meeting

President Gould called the work session to order at 10:03 am.

2. 2024 Budget Workshop:

A) Water Education:

MOC Norton suggested they increase the Budget Line to \$5,000 concerning the water utilities and \$6,000 for the sewer utilities. The operators will need to go to conferences on both water & sewer to get their required education hours.

B) Engineering Services:

MOC Norton told the Board, the budgeted funds spent on engineering services need to be increased for the sewer utilities. MOC Norton recommended the board leave the budget that was in place this year, the same for 2024 for the water utilities. MOC Norton also recommended that the sewer utilities could be decreased by \$5,000 for next year's budget.

C.) Water Analysis:

MOC Norton recommended the board increase the budget line by \$5,000 over what was budgeted this year. Chief Administrator Carr said they are sending water samples every month, EPA has ordered testing, with little notice, boil water advisory for emergencies is quite costly. Those will happen next year, for various reasons. There is testing for lead and copper as well, which will require two rounds. There was more spent this year than was originally budgeted.

D.) Water & Sewer Subscriptions:

This line is for memberships to organizations that the town needs to be involved in. Examples are AWWA, Alliance of Indiana Rural Water, and IWEA. MOC Norton recommended to the board; the water budget should stay at this year's budgeted amount with no increase. He said the sewer budget could decrease by \$500.00 from this year's budget. Sewer side only attends IWEA.

E.) Annual Permitting Fees:

MOC Norton discussed with the Board that the fees will not go up next year. Recommends they leave the budgets in place for next year with no Increase.

F.) Water Sales Tax:

MOC Norton explained that this tax is based on sales from last year. Nashville's tourism will increase which will cause more water to be used at the State Park. It is a consumer's tax. He recommended increasing the budget amount to \$90,000.

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G.) MOC Norton stated we have three kinds of Insurance to budget for:

IPE- Workman's Comp, Multi-Peril (everything) and Vehicle Insurance. President Gould asked if they could get more clarity on this before they decide about budgeting.

H.) Rent:

Rent does not change. Same as this year's budget.

I.) Water Multi-Peril Liability Insurance:

MOC Norton explained the amount budgeted is the utility share of the large policy. Town Manager Jones said sewer utilities budget is \$15,000. MOC Norton asked Town Manager Jones the status of payment for Multi-Peril Liability. Town Manager Jones said it had been paid for this year.

J.) Water and Electric:

Several questions and discussion about this line item. The board will need to increase both water and electricity. MOC Norton said it is running much more efficiently. He made a recommendation to leave the insurance alone, right now. Town Manager Jones is working with Alicia on these. Vice President Brown agreed and said they could decide on this next meeting after they have all the information.

K.) Natural Gas: Water & Sewer budget \$400.00 each.

L.) Water Purchase- Consumption

MOC Norton said we are trending toward \$600,000 this year. He said the State Park estimated they would use about 70,000 gallons per day. They used 1,000,000 gallons in August and 1,300,000 gallons in September. MOC Norton recommended they increase the budget amount to \$700,000.

M.) Purchase of Water- Sewer

Increased the Budget by \$2,000.

N.) Communications:

This line item includes IT, Cell Phones, GPS Tracking Scada. MOC Norton recommended keeping the budget amount the same for water and sewer as it was for this year. Will need upgrades for monthly fee.

O) Vehicle Maintenance – Water & Sewer:

MOC Norton stated the vehicles are good right now. Bought them in 2020 and continued maintenance by staff. MOC Norton recommended the budget for each at \$6,000.

P.) Equipment Repair: Water & Sewer

Newer equipment for water utilities is expected to cost less for this year, recommended to budget \$4,000. Will need to increase the sewer utilities budget to \$18,000.

Q.) New Equipment- Water & Sewer:

MOC Norton recommended the budget amount for the water utilities stay the same as this year. The sewer budget will need to be increased by \$20,000 as they may need some new equipment for the sewer side.

After discussing each of the line items, the board agreed with the new budget lines proposed, except for the insurance portions of the budget, which discussions are to continue at the next meeting.

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MOC Norton is going to make a report for the board, which will show what the purpose is of the line items by the next meeting. He will work with Town Administrator Carr to get information he will need.

Town Manager Jones and MOC Norton, reported that Brown County Water is raising their rate by 3.02% due to the increase in the interest rate for their loan with the IFA. This increase is to begin October 1, 2023. Town Manager Jones and MOC Norton noted that we are only allowed to pass along the BCW rate increases to the State Park. Discussion of the process involved for the Town to amend the water rates and charges. Discussion. The Board agreed to wait until next year to do a rate increase after they have finalized the 2024 budget. They would like to look at Bloomington & Columbus as alternatives for purchasing water.

Next meeting is Friday, October 13, 2023, at 10:00 am. This will be a regular meeting and budget workshop to complete the 2024 budget.

Work Session Adjourned by President Gould at 11:13am.



President Pam Gould

11/14/2023

Date