NASHVILLE TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2019

ATTENDANCE: Council members present – President Jane Gore, Vice-President Alisha Gredy (left at 11:46am), Councilmember Nancy Crocker, Councilmember Anna Hofstetter and Councilmember Dave Rudd. Also in attendance – Utility Manager Sean Cassiday, Administration Manager Phyllis Carr, Police Chief Ben Seastrom, Clerk-Treasurer Brenda Young and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Debbie Ferry.

WORK SESSION - 10:00 am

1) CALL TO ORDER by President Gore at 10:00am.

2) 2020 BUDGET DISCUSSION

Clerk-Treasurer Young passed out a draft budget for discussion purposes. She explained the budget adoption process, the assessed value as certified for the past few years. She explained the increase in the tax levy for 2020 however the increase in tax levy will be offset by \$18,869.63 that will have to be taken off each year because of the thaw of the freeze by the County. The increase in our tax levy and the decrease because of the thawing of the freeze will make it a wash. She advised that the tax budget in the General and MVH funds will be essentially the same as 2019 and does not anticipate a tax increase at all for 2020. Clerk-Treasurer Young noted that we are in good shape in the General and MVH funds with healthy operating balances. She then explained the other revenues that help offset the property taxes.

Discussion. Possible employee wage increases of 1% for 2020, not increasing Town Council wages in 2020, moving some of the appropriations into the correct departments, leasing police vehicles, police officers on bicycles, encouraging officers to walk more, possibly reducing some costs, having a public facilities study to make sure we are utilizing our assets to the maximum use before determining any sale of our assets, possible work release program in part of our Police Building, approval of all hiring of employees even though they are included in the budgets. Residents and colleagues spoke regarding issues that they had listened to regarding Town Police budget cuts and their concerns, the Council heard verification about the Police Department and not cutting their budgets as there is a healthy General Fund budget to provide these services.

Police Chief Seastrom asked for permission to hire a replacement for Officer Barrow who is leaving and also to hire a part time officer. He has Officers that will be going to the Academy.

Councilmember Rudd made a motion to hire a new officer to replace Officer Barrow and also hire one part-time officer. Vice-President Gredy seconded the motion. All were unanimously in favor of the motion.

President Gore apologized to Chief Seastrom and the Officers for the spiraling of this budget cut discussion. The Council and audience applauded the Police Chief and his Officers.

Police Chief Seastrom asked to spend \$5,000, if he has the amount left in his budget, to give \$1,000 to each officer next year. The Council was in agreement if the funds are available.

Council agreed to have another Budget Work Session on September, 24th, 2019 at 4pm. The Public Hearing will be held on 10/17/2019 and the adoption will be on 10/30/2019.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Rudd made a motion to adjourn the work session. Councilmember Crocker seconded the motion. The work session was adjourned at 11:54am.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING SEPTEMBER 20, 2019

The audio recording made at the Town Council meeting on 9-20-19 is retained in the office of the Town Clerk-Treasurer.

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Clerk-Treasurer Brenda K. Young

President ane Gore

Vice-President Alisha Gredy

Councilmember Nancy Crocker

Councilmember Anna Hofstetter

Councilmember Dave Rudd