

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
FEBRUARY 3, 2021

Charles City city council met in a planning session on February 3, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Mayor Dean Andrews presided and the following council members were present: Keith Starr, Jerry Joerger, DeLaine Freeseaman, Phoebe Pittman and Phillip Knighten. Also present were city administrator Steve Diers and city engineer John Fallis.

General fund currently is set to end in a surplus of about \$48,000 after reimbursement of TIF items and some additional cuts in expenses. Debt service levy has increased due to CW Bridge project loan and one day items. The levy right now is at \$16.20803, which is eighteen cents higher than the current levy.

Outside agency requests were reviewed. We have received requests from ADC for \$42,000 and Community Revite for \$25,000 which are part of the separate development agreements we have with each agency. Following are what each outside agency requested: TLC \$150,000 over three years; Depot - requested \$25,000; Crisis Intervention - requesting \$1500; Museum - requested \$4440; Arts Center - requesting \$6000 and Cultural Equity Board - requesting \$1000. Council member Joerger asked how a reduction to \$100,000 would affect TLC's project and response was that would have to increase their loan and/or grant requests. The depot project is an urgent one since the railroad will demolish it if we can't raise the funding to move it. This is a very historical structure in town. Some concern over them coming back after it's moved and asking for city donation to do the renovation. Council member Pittman commented that TLC has developed a good plan for their project and feels they would have a bigger impact on the area than the depot project, but both are good projects. Mayor Andrews commented that the Cultural Equity board fits in nicely with the council's recently approved goals. Some question on who should submit the request for that funding since this group is actually under the umbrella of the Arts Center. Consensus was to fund them separately this year but maybe combine the requests next year. Some discussion on only funding Cultural Equity board at \$500 since they are new. Consensus also on holding any payments for both the depot and TLC until we are sure that their projects are a go. Since these payments won't be made until after July 1, we should know for sure by then on the status of these two projects. Mayor Andrews stated that if TLC does not expand their operations, they will be forced to close. Consensus on the following amounts: TLC- \$100,000 over three years, Depot- \$10,000, Crisis Intervention - \$1500, Museum - \$4440, Arts Center - \$3000 and Cultural Equity Board - \$500.

Fire station roof quotes have been submitted by Fire Chief Eric Whipple. Council asked if it really does need replacing and if we have had someone look at it to assess it. Council member Joerger asked if we could put an amount away this year toward this and look at it again next year and Council member Knighten agreed. A more definite report on the status of the roof was requested and consensus was to put \$25,000 into a fire reserve account for possible roof work in the next couple years.

Council member Starr commented that he thinks it's important to get an appraisal done of the art work at the library. Could we do just a third of the collection to get some idea of the values?

City administrator Diers commented that he worked more on the water fund and thinks we may borrow some money for the proposed water main loop and clear well project combined. He also added the Grove Street project to the street related capital improvements fund. We should be discussing renewal of the option tax soon, possibly in March. Staff has had good discussion with Fox Engineering on the WRRF project and the project is actually back on it's original schedule for completion. Foster Grandparents are hoping to be back in action by April 1.

City engineer Fallis commented that there is a pier up for the CW Bridge.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned.

Dean Andrews, Mayor

Attest:

Trudy O'Donnell, City Clerk