

A meeting to discuss the FY2022-2023 budget was held on June 1, 2022, beginning at 5:00 P.M., in the Town Hall Council Chambers.

THOSE PRESENT

**John M. Kirkland, Mayor
T. G. Gill, Vice Mayor (Absent)
W. H. Coleman
Bill Thompson
David M. Crowder
Paul “Ray” Cherry
Mr. Ronny Worley
Rhita M. Burton, Deputy Clerk
Shirley S. Bowen, MMC, Clerk-Treasurer**

GUESTS

**R. H. Park III, WWTP Chief Operator
John M. Roberts, Maintenance Supervisor
Chief Nathan Bowen**

Upon opening the budget meeting, Mrs. Bowen, Clerk of Council and Treasurer, presented the preliminary FY 2022-2023 budget she had prepared.

Mrs. Bowen explained that even though the sewage fund was showing a deficit and wasn’t near what was expected from last year’s budget, due to less sewage usage from Microsoft, there was an ample and unexpected surplus in the general fund. She explained that due to this surplus, we had monies to use on things much needed in the departments of Maintenance, WWTP, and Police Dept., as well as, funds left for substantial raises, with the council’s approval. By doing this, it would mean a transfer of funds from the General Fund to the Water/Sewer Fund, which is a normal process in circumstances as this.

Mr. Roberts, of the maintenance department, Mr. Park III of the WWTP, and Chief Bowen, presented a list of items in their departments for the upcoming fiscal year. It was, also, the consensus of the council to donate \$10,000.00 to HBR, Inc., as an “arm of the town” in helping with various events and the planting of flowers in the bump-outs, and to donate \$40,000.00 to the Fire Department to help with the purchase of a new fire truck.


The council reviewed all of these requests, and gave their approval on most of the various department needs. As far as raises, Mrs. Bowen carefully and with much thought, presented the council with her fair assessment and request for raises in all departments, with the council agreeing to the amount of raises she submitted.

In this meeting, water rates were discussed due to the increase in the town’s rate going up by 10% from the RRSA for the new fiscal year. After some discussion, it was agreed to raise the in-town and out-of-town water rates by 5% of the minimum and also a 5% increase on any amount over 3,000 gallons. This would begin in July 2022, which would be the onset of our new FY 2022-2023 budget year. The new in-town water rate would increase from \$23.10 to \$24.26 for the first 3,000 gallons and over 3,000 gallons would increase from \$5.28 to \$5.54 per

month. The new out-of-town rate would be raised from \$33.65 to \$35.33 for the first 3,000 gallons and over 3,000 gallons would be raised from \$10.55 to \$11.08.

The council approved these water rate increases and advised Mrs. Bowen to have the new water rate increases, advertised twice in the next two (2) editions of the Mecklenburg Sun, on Wednesday, June 8th and Wednesday, June 15th, in accordance with Section §15.2.5136 of the Virginia State Code. After which, a public hearing would be advertised on June 15th, as well, and be held on Wednesday, June 22nd at 7:00 P.M. in order to hear comments on the new water rate increases and the FY2022-2023 budget, as required by law and pursuant to Section §15.2.2506 of the Code of Virginia. Mrs. Bowen advised the council that once all this had been done, the budget would have to be adopted seven (7) days later, which would be on Wednesday, June 29th, 2022, in accordance with Section §15.2-2503 & §15.2-2506 of the Code of Virginia.

With no further comments, concerns, or discussion the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 P.M.


Shirley S. Bowen, MMC
Clerk of Council & Treasurer
June 01, 2022


Mayor John M. Kirkland
Mayor