



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES

SPECIAL WORK SESSION
Pelham City Hall – Council Chambers
August 23, 2023 – 4:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Proper notice of a special called Pelham City Council Work Session was given in advance of such public meeting and the notice remained posted throughout the scheduled meeting.

Members of the Pelham City Council met August 23, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. The special called work session was held at Pelham City Hall in the Council Chambers and was open to the public.

Call to Order

The special work session was called to order by Council President Mercer at 4:34 p.m.

Record of Attendance

The following elected officials were present:

Council President Maurice Mercer
Councilmember Rick Wash
Councilmember David Coram
Councilmember Chad Leverett
Councilmember Mildred Lanier-Reed
Mayor Gary Waters

Media Present: None

Others Present: Residents, city department heads and city employees.

New Business – None

Old Business

1. Review and Discussion – FY2024 Operating and Capital Budgets

City Manager Gretchen DiFante gave a brief overview of tonight's budget review.

Finance Director Jamie Wagner reviewed the proposed FY2024 operating budget, including updates to the sales and use tax projections and adjustments to the Water and Sewer budgets based on increases in the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

City Manager DiFante reviewed the FY2024 budget recommendations from the city council.

a. Police Department

Lt. Joey Pitts provided the city council with information about the police department's vehicle fleet. Discussion followed between Lt. Pitts and the city council regarding the needs of the department.

b. Councilmember Coram: FY2024 Budget Suggestions/Recommendations

1. Police Department: Cut vehicle request from 10 to 7.
2. Fire Department: Six employees to man two emergency transport units.

c. Councilmember Leverett: FY2024 Budget Suggestions/Recommendations

1. Add Holland Lakes drainage project.
2. Pave parking lot at the Splash Pad.
3. Increase traffic camera thermal detection from five intersections to 10.
4. Increase residential paving budget from \$750,000 to \$1 million or \$1.25 million.
5. Increase matching funds for the Highway 52 flyover from \$250,000 to \$500,000.
6. Details about firefighter positions – EMS discussion.

d. Councilmember Wash: FY2024 Budget Suggestions/Recommendations

1. Add Holland Lakes drainage project.
2. Pave parking lot at the Splash Pad.
3. Increase traffic camera thermal detection from five intersections to 10.
4. Increase residential paving budget from \$750,000 to \$1 million or \$1.25 million.
5. Increase matching funds for the Highway 52 flyover from \$250,000 to \$500,000.
6. Details about firefighter positions – EMS discussion.

e. Councilmember Lanier-Reed: FY2024 Budget Suggestions/Recommendations

1. Police Department: Cut vehicle request from 10 to 6 units.
2. Blueberry Hill: Cut from FY2024 budget. (Note: Not a part of the FY2024 budget.)
3. EMS Transport: Cut to \$500,000.

f. Council President Mercer: FY2024 Budget Suggestions/Recommendations

1. Council Training and Travel: Increase FY2024 budget from \$3,000 to \$5,000 each.
2. Police Department: Cut vehicle request from 10 to 7 units.
3. Pave parking lot at the Splash Pad.
4. Increase residential paving from \$750,000 to \$1.2 million.
5. Add Holland Lakes drainage project.
6. Increase traffic camera thermal detection from five intersections to 10.
7. EMS Transport discussion.

Each councilmember spoke to their FY2024 Budget suggestions/recommendations for full consideration by the city council.

The consensus of the city council was to make the following recommendations for inclusion in the FY2024 operating and capital budgets.

1. Police Department Vehicle Purchases: 10 vehicles in the FY2024 Police Department budget.
2. City Council Training Budget: Remain at \$3,000 per council member.
3. Annual Paving Budget: Increase from \$750,000 to \$1,250,000.
4. Dog Park/Splash Pad Parking Lot: Add \$250,000 for the paving project.
5. Holland Lakes Drainage Project: Add \$375,000 for the drainage project.
6. Traffic Camera Thermal Detection: Increase from 5 to 10 intersections, estimated cost \$280,000.
7. Highway 52 Flyover: Increase matching funds from \$250,000 to \$500,000.

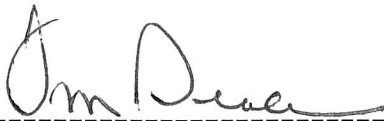
Discussion followed regarding the continuation of being good stewards of the city's monies and reviewing the sales and use tax revenues on an annual basis.

Councilmember Coram asked city staff to review city streets with on-street parking to ensure emergency vehicles are not having difficulty navigating the streets.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the special work session was made by Councilmember Wash and seconded by Councilmember Leverett. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote of those members present, and the special work session was adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 23rd day of August 2023.



Tom Seale, MMC, City Clerk/Treasurer



Maurice Mercer, President of the Council

