



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES

SPECIAL WORK SESSION Pelham City Hall – Council Chambers August 20, 2024 – 5:00 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 20, 2024 at 5:00 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 5:00 p.m.

Record of Attendance

The following elected officials were present:

Council President Maurice Mercer
Councilmember David Coram
Councilmember Rick Wash
Councilmember Chad Leverett
Councilmember Michael Harris, Jr.
Mayor Gary Waters

Media Present: None

Others Present: City department heads and city employees.

New Business

1. FY2025 Department Budget Review
 - a. Economic Development

City Manager Gretchen DiFante stated the significant reduction in the Economic Development budget is due to a lack of real estate purchases in FY2025. Economic Development Director Michael Simon presented the proposed FY2025 Economic Development budget to the city council for review and consideration.

He explained a new initiative is to purchase the Placer AI database. The database allows for the tracking of customer habits through geofencing. Mr. Simon said the bulk of the FY2025 budget increase is for the first year of Placer AI.

b. Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena

Executive Director of the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena Seth Greenberg presented the proposed FY2025 Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena budget to the city council for review and consideration. Andy Linton, Associate Executive Director, and Loredana Cretu, Finance Director, were in attendance. Mr. Greenberg stated revenues are up 9% and expenses are down 1+%. He discussed promoting ice activities in a non-traditional area and booking additional out-of-season events at the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena. Mr. Greenberg said he wants to work with the Parks & Recreation Department, Pelham Racquet Club, and Ballantrae Golf Club to increase participation in recreational activities. He mentioned several programs under consideration to increase revenues, including advertising. Andy Linton spoke to several ideas to reduce the number of menu items to keep the concession stand lines moving. Mr. Greenberg reviewed the anticipated FY2025 operational revenues and expenses. The city council spoke to the success the professional management with VenuWorks has brought to the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena. Mr. Greenberg thanked the city council for their continued support.

c. Ballantrae Golf Club

City Manager Gretchen DiFante noted Ballantrae Golf Club will make a \$25 profit in FY2025. General Manager Hal Brown presented the proposed FY2025 Ballantrae Golf Club budget to the city council for review and consideration. He discussed the FY2024 capital projects, including the repairs to the cart paths, bunkers, and clubhouse. He stated the focus in FY2025 will be to expand their food and beverage operations. He said there are 35 names on the membership waiting list. Mr. Brown reviewed the operational requests for FY2025, including fee increases across the board. He said Ballantrae Golf Course is on target to host 44,000 rounds on golf in FY2024, which would be a new record. City Manager DiFante and the city council discussed working with the Pelham City Schools to host golf tournaments in the future. City Manager DiFante stated a meeting will be scheduled to discuss the use of city facilities by the school system.

d. Pelham Public Library

Library Director Mary Campbell presented the proposed FY2025 Library budget to the city council for review and consideration. She said the largest expense is salary and benefits. She discussed technology updates, Spanish language media, digital enhancements, and grant opportunities.

2. Review City Council FY2025 Budget Meeting Schedule

a. August 21, 2024, 5:00 p.m.

City Manager, Mayor, City Council, City Clerk/Treasurer, and Fire

b. August 22, 2024, 5:00 p.m.

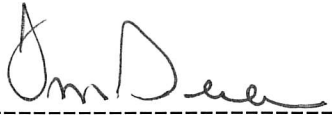
Communications, Parks & Recreation, IT, and Racquet Club

Old Business – None

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the special work session was made by Councilmember Coram and seconded by Councilmember Leverett. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote of those members present, and the special work session was adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 20th day of August 2024.



Tom Seale, MMC, City Clerk/Treasurer



Maurice Mercer, President of the Council

