

**JOINT CRA AGENCY/CITY COMMISSION BUDGET WORK SESSION**  
**July 20, 2015**

The work session was called to order by Mayor Steve Leary at 2:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, 401 Park Avenue South, Winter Park, Florida.

Members present:

Mayor Steve Leary  
Commissioner Greg Seidel  
Commissioner Sarah Sprinkel  
Commissioner Carolyn Cooper  
Commissioner Tom McMacken

Also present:

City Manager Randy Knight  
City Clerk Cynthia Bonham

City Manager Knight presented the proposed FY 2015 budget. He outlined the electric utility undergrounding efforts and the current electric rates. He stated in order to maintain undergrounding at \$3.5 million in FY 2016 without using reserves would require a 1.5% increase to the average electric customer's total bill. Discussion ensued regarding the need to expedite undergrounding and the proposed schedule and costs.

Mr. Knight then addressed stormwater utility revenue, the annualized revenue growth for the utility being about 1%, to maintain capital funding at \$650K each year would require about a 1% annual increase to rates, and that the City ranks 9<sup>th</sup> highest for rates out of 137 cities reporting (the City has many lakes as part of its municipal area that require maintenance). He provided graphs showing the stormwater fee revenue history and the stormwater CIP forecast scenarios. Mr. Knight answered questions posed by the Commissioners.

Mr. Knight provided a total millage comparison with other Orange County cities. He spoke about police statistics regarding emergency calls for service and the response times, routine calls for service and their response times, 911 calls answered within 10 seconds, and the number of 911 calls received FY 2014 through Q3 FY 2015.

Also provided was the assessed valuation consisting of the current year gross taxable value for operating purposes, the prior year final gross taxable value, the change in gross taxable value, and the current net new taxable value.

Mr. Knight provided the proposed general fund capital projects. He stated a discussion regarding Showalter will be forthcoming because of the School Board wanting out of their current lease. Other projects were brought forth by Commissioners that is currently not a part of the proposed budget. Mr. Knight spoke about the 30% goal in the reserves. Discussion ensued regarding the goal and if the 30% is realistic.

Mr. Knight provided the requests for organizational support as of June 30: Mead Gardens (\$85K); Historical Association (\$75K); United Arts (\$17K); Performing Arts Center (\$100K); Winter Park Day Nursery (\$24K); and Women's Club (\$10K – the request was made to the CRA). Comments were made regarding the funding requests.

City Manager Knight stated he would be providing the Commission with a spreadsheet like last year's where each Commissioner can provide their preferences to the budget.

Preferences brought forward this evening were as follows:

Commissioner Cooper: Unfreeze two Police Officer positions from the Special Operations Division (as recommended by Chief Railey); support the hiring of a City Architect, and the addition of a water tech to ensure all trees planted are watered or reallocate positions around to make sure this is covered.

Commissioner McMacken: Add more funds for planting of trees.

Commissioner Sprinkel: Keep the employee level at 500; make sure we are not purchasing City vehicles that we really do not need; heat Cady Way pool; and to continue with art activities and to coordinate those with City employees.

Commissioner Seidel: Electric undergrounding and look at medical insurance for employees and what was spent per employee since 2008.

Mayor Leary: Parks improvements (specifically Showalter) and a master plan for Ward Park; include more parking at the fields; electric undergrounding, WiFi connectivity along with electric undergrounding; and look into workforce housing for City employees.

Discussion ensued regarding the naming of parks and our policy when a person passes away. There was a consensus to bring the policy back for discussion.

City Manager Knight stated the tentative millage rate will be set next Monday.

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.



City Clerk Cynthia S. Bonham, MMC