

City of Mount Holly
Mount Holly City Council Budget Meeting
Monday, May 18, 2015
Council Chambers
6:30 pm

Call to Order

Mayor Hough called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. The following were present:

Mayor Bryan Hough	Danny Jackson, City Manager
Mayor Pro Tem Perry Toomey	Jamie Guffey, Assistant City Manager
Councilman Jerry Bishop	David Johnson, City Engineer/ Director of Utilities
Councilman Jim Hope	Ryan Baker, Fire Chief
Councilman David Moore	Mark Jusko, Recreation Supervisor
Councilman J. Jason Gowen	Miles Braswell, Director of Streets and Solid Waste
Councilwoman Carolyn Breyare	Don Roper, Police Chief
Attorney Kemp Michael absent	

Invocation

Councilman Moore led the Council, staff and attendees in prayer.

Set the Agenda

Councilman Gowen made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilwoman Breyare seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted in favor. (Motion carried)

Mr. Guffey advised that the Council has been given a balanced budget as required by law. He advised that there is no increase in tax, water or sewer rates. There is a 3% COLA for employees and one new position, a site inspector position that will be shared with Planning, Street and Utilities Departments. Mayor Hough asked if Mr. Jackson is included in the 3% increase. Mr. Guffey advised that Mr. Jackson is included as well as the part-time staff.

Mayor Hough advised that this is a solid budget and staff is to be commended for their work put into it. The rest of the Council Members echoed the Mayor's statement. Mr. Jackson thanked his staff for their efforts put forth in the budget process.

At this time, Mr. Guffey presented the Employee Recruitment Policy to the Council. He advised that this policy would not have an effect on the proposed budget but will go into effect on July 1st. The policy will be administered by the City Manager. Mr. Guffey advised that the longevity and vacation approval is geared toward all employees while the insurance benefit will be for executive level staff. It was the consensus of Council to move forward with the Recruitment Policy.

Mr. Guffey advised that he, Mr. Jackson and Ms. Otis met with Gaston County regarding tax collections. They made a good pitch and offered to collect the city taxes for ½ % of the levy. Mr. Guffey advised that staff recommends the City continue to collect taxes in house. Council agreed.

Councilman Gowen expressed his concern regarding the list of employee names and salaries that the Council received through a weekly update. He advised that he did not feel comfortable with the names attached to the salaries. Councilwoman Breyare advised that she requested the list to insure the entry level employees were making more than minimum. Mayor Hough suggested that next time the names be omitted and replaced with job titles.

Adjourn

With no additional items for discussion, Mayor Hough entertained a motion to adjourn. Councilman Bishop made the motion to adjourn the May 18, 2015 Council Budget Meeting. Councilman Gowen seconded the motion. All Council members present voted in favor. (Motion carried)

The meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.