

## **SPECIAL MEETING**

**May 16, 2023**

The Bessemer City Council met in special session on Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 2:00PM in Council Chambers. Proper notice was given.

### **Members Present**

Mayor Becky Smith, Council Members: Brenda Boyd, Kay McCathen, Dan Boling, Joe Will, and Brent Guffey. Also present were City Manager, Josh Ross and department heads. Council Member, Donnie Griffin was absent.

### **Call to Order**

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order and explained that this meeting was to discuss the proposed FY 2023-2024 budget.

### **2023-2024 Proposed Budget Review and Discussion**

City Manager, Josh Ross addressed Council about potential changes in the budget. The budget message and recommended budget was reviewed again. Per NCGS 159-12, the City Manager shall submit the budget to the governing board, and file a copy of it in the office of the clerk to the board where it shall remain available for public inspection until the budget ordinance is adopted. The clerk shall make a copy of the budget available to all news media in the county. The City Manager shall also publish a statement that the budget has been submitted to the governing board and is available for public inspection in the office of the clerk to the board. The statement shall also give notice of the time and place of the budget hearing. The proposed budget will be formally presented to Council at the Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup> meeting for adoption. At this time a public hearing will be held. City Staff will advertise the public hearing in accordance with NC General Statutes. The proposed budget does not pose a tax rate increase or decrease. The City Manager recommends keeping the City's tax rate at \$0.45 per \$100.00 of valuation. The revenue neutral rate is \$0.31 per \$100.00. The proposed budget has allocated funds to assist with the development of a plan for a Public Safety building. In the years to come, the Police and Fire Department will need a building to house their departments.

Light discussion was held to remove the solid waste fee for apartment units that have their own trash removal service.

### **Closed Session**

By motion of Brent Guffey and unanimous vote, City Council entered in to closed session to discuss a private sale of property for economic development purposes pursuant to NCGS158.7.1 at 3:03 PM.

By motion of Brenda Boyd and unanimous vote, City Council came out of closed session at 3:45 PM. No action was taken.

### **Council General Discussion**

Mayor Smith opened the floor for Council discussion. Council member, Dan Boling inquired about mailbox placement in the City. He stated that along 13<sup>th</sup> Street there are some protruding mailboxes.

**Adjourn**

By motion of Brent Guffey and unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 3:49 PM.

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Becky S. Smith, Mayor

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Hydeia Y. Hayes, City Clerk