

MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE APALACHICOLA CITY COMMISSION  
HELD TUESDAY, JULY 26, 2022, 5:00 PM AT THE APALACHICOLA COMMUNITY CENTER.

PRESENT: Mayor Brenda Ash Deborah Guillotte, City Clerk  
Commissioner Anita Grove Dan Hartman, Attorney  
Commissioner Despina George  
Commissioner Adriane Elliott  
ABSENT: Commissioner Donna Duncan

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Brenda Ash called the workshop meeting to order.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public comments consisted of the following: 1) Apalachicola Historical Society (AHS) requested \$10,000 for maintenance of Chesnut cemetery be put in 2022-23 budget and requested that rules and regulations agreement be drawn up between City of Apalachicola and (AHS); 2) Tree Committee - re-forestation monies and application fee – Finance Director will research.

Commissioner Anita Grove reviewed her budget line requests for the 2022-23 FY. See Attachment “A”.

Commission comments consisted of the following: 1) vehicle mileage tracking and cutting costs; 2) utility tax percentage a little low; 3) grant writer staff position; 4) millage rate being lowered; 5) accounting software; 6) Leslie Street repairs from the American Rescue Act Plan funds at next budget workshop; 7) inflation for material, supplies, etc., the department head recommendations were followed; 8); WWTP and DW emergency maintenance reserve in budget line item; 9) projected carry over from FY 2021/22 to this 2022/23 FY i.e., ARPA funds; 10) fee schedules; 11) maintenance plan for city assets and quarterly reports; 12) suggested five percent increase for employees; 13) stormwater issues maintenance line item; 14) American Rescue Plan Act; and 15) all cemeteries add a maintenance line item to budget.

Tentative budget workshop scheduled for Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup> at 4pm.

Mr. Gerspacher outlined the first proposed budget.

Revenues and expenses were outlined and discussed.

In a response to a question by Mayor Ash, Finance Director Mark Gerspacher stated he recommends the entire package. If the city can't do that, he recommends the hybrid option. The cost-of-living increase would not be given to employees receiving increase due to salary survey.

The Commission requested that Mr. Gerspacher proceed with the following for the next budget workshop: 1) salary study cost; 2) draft budget with millage rate options at current, roll back, and maximum figures; 3) figures for the public works position and grant writer position; and 4) to set a special meeting to adopt tentative millage rate on Tuesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>
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There being no further business Commissioner Adriane Elliott made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Despina George seconded, and the motion carried 4-0.

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Brenda Ash, Mayor

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Deborah Guillotte, City Clerk