

CITY OF FLOWERY BRANCH
Work Session
and
Budget Public Hearing
June 15, 2005 - 6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor Pro Tem Larry Pritchett, Council Members Jim Herold, Jan Smith, and Ed Lezaj, City Manager Chris Rainwater, City Planner James Riker, City Clerk Judy Foster, Asst. City Clerk Lou Camiscioni, Police Chief Gerald Lanich, Water & Sewer Superintendent Jimmy Dean and Public Works Director John Goddard.

OPEN MEETING: Larry Pritchett called the Work Session to order at 6:03 pm.

Ed Lezaj asked the City Manager if the public hearing was legal and had been advertised properly. Chris Rainwater reported that the meeting was being held in accordance with O.C.G.A. §36-81-5 and §36-81-6.

Chris Rainwater gave an overview of the budget along with comments made by the City Accountant Frank Henry.

PUBLIC HEARING

Proposed FY06 Budget: Public Hearing began at 6:12 p.m.

Henry Skipper suggested the two (2) minute limit on comments be waived. Mr. Skipper made comments regarding senior citizens on fixed incomes and questioned how they can afford to pay for water and sewer and property tax rate increases. Mr. Skipper also commented on the cost of the City Manager's salary and benefits. Mr. Skipper stated that the City was going to go bankrupt because there were too many employees on the payroll.

Allen Bryans suggested adding a vacuum trailer or truck to the capital budget to help with all the clogged drain pipes around the city which cause mosquitoes. Mr. Bryans stated that the budget was top heavy in salaries and the City cannot afford to pay all the increases at once. Mr. Bryans stated that the Police Department was doing a good job.

Mr. Bryans asked about the Sewer Treatment Plant expansion. Ms. Smith stated that Hall County would get 400,000 gallons and Flowery Branch would get 600,000 gallons out of the current expansion. Oakwood would purchase 400,000 gallons when the plant is expanded to two (2) million gallons.

Henry Skipper suggested the City purchase the property at 5509 Main Street for the Planning Department instead of leasing it. He stated that he could have bought the property for \$50,000. Mr. Skipper also suggested the City could use the Depot for the Planning Department instead.

Public Hearing ended at 6:24 p.m.

WORK SESSION

The City Council had an opportunity to make their comments regarding the proposed budget.

ADJOURNMENT

Jim Herold made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Larry Pritchett seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with four (4) votes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.

Interim City Clerk

Date Approved

Mayor