

**BELTON CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP**  
**August 12, 2014 – 4:00 P.M.**

The Belton City Council met in work session with the following members present: Mayor Marion Grayson, Councilmembers Craig Pearson, Jerri Gauntt, Dan Kirkley, Guy O'Banion and Paul Sanderford. Mayor Pro Tem David K. Leigh was absent. Staff present included, Sam Listi, Jana Lewellen, Brandon Bozon, Susan Allamon, Mike Huber, Gene Ellis, Aaron Harris, Cynthia Hernandez, and Paul Romer.

1. Call to order. The Mayor called the workshop to order at 4:00 p.m.
2. Conduct Budget Workshop for the following:

A. Presentation of Hotel/Motel Fund Annual Report and Fiscal Year 2015 Budget

Finance Director Brandon Bozon reviewed revenues, expenditures, and fund balance for the Hotel/ Motel Fund. Mr. Bozon indicated year to date revenues are up 6% from last year. Mr. Bozon stated that the FY 2015 proposed budget includes \$5,000 for City purchase of US and Texas flags for antique-style light poles, directional visitor signage, flags for antique-style light poles and Patriot Plaza flag maintenance/replacement. The Chamber budget request of \$162,200 is an increase over last year, to cover these additional purchases also including some additional staff support.

Stephanie O'Banion, President/CEO of the Belton Area Chamber of Commerce, thanked the City for its support and partnership. Mrs. O'Banion gave special thanks Judy Garrett, Director of Marketing and Tourism Sales and commended her on a job well done. Mrs. O'Banion went on to present the Chamber's annual report, to include strategic goals and areas of focus. Judy Garrett gave an overview of marketing and advertising, sales and support, and services activity during the past year.

B. Presentation of Belton Economic Development Corporation Annual Report and Fiscal Year 2015 Budget

Finance Director Brandon Bozon reviewed the BEDC's revenue projections and historical sales tax trends, and reviewed the debt service and projected cash balance for the Corporation. BEDC Director Cynthia Hernandez reviewed the BEDC's activities in FY 2014, projects underway and presented proposed line item expenditures for the BEDC.

C. Presentation of Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) Fund Budget

Finance Director Brandon Bozon reviewed revenues, historical TIRZ taxes, expenditures, and debt service for the TIRZ Fund. Mr. Bozon reviewed the proposed capital project list shown below, budget for FY 2015 to include a new personnel request for a retail coordinator, and indicated the TIRZ Board recommended approval at its meeting on July 15th. Mr. Listi also provided a brief overview of the eligible project categories for the allocation of TIRZ funds.

▪ Downtown Beautification	\$100,000
▪ North Main Sidewalks, 22 <sup>nd</sup> to Sparta	\$ 30,000
▪ South Main Sidewalks	\$225,000
▪ SH 317/River Fair Widening	\$ 40,000
▪ SH 317/24 <sup>th</sup> Design Report	\$ 10,000
▪ Capital Contingency	\$ 33,861
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$438,861</b>

D. Discuss General Fund Budget and Tax Rate

Finance Director Brandon Bozon provided an overview of city needs to include:

- Two Patrol Officers
- Three Street Maintenance Workers
- One Parks Maintenance Worker
- Increase Belton AUSA Conference Attendance
- Employee Retention
- Fire Training Lieutenant

Mr. Bozon presented Council requests and provided the management response as outlined below:


- Increase FY 2015 sales tax projection
  - Originally proposed 5% growth over FY 2014 budget: Increasing that projection to 6%
  - Through June, sales tax is 76% of FY 14 budget
- Revisit expenditures for potential FY 2014 funding
  - Purchase proposed FY 2015 Police Tahoe with FY 2014 funds
- Evaluate contracting out mowing/additional parks labor
  - Provide seasonal help for parks and streets departments
    - Assist in meeting new needs as a result of the Nolan Creek trail extension and creek project
    - Right of way mowing


- Examine engineering costs
  - Bulk of engineering fees relate to specialized and/or large scale projects funded by funds other than the General Fund
  - General Fund Budgets (Planning and PW) for other engineering support have already been reduced in the FY 15 budget by \$15,000 overall, \$10,000 of which impacts the General Fund (FY 14: \$90,000; FY 15: \$80,000)
- Decrease Capital Equipment Fund for FY 15
  - Proposed budget \$100,000
  - Decrease approximately \$15-\$25K
- Budget additional funds for Strategic Plan: Compensation Study Implementation
  - Proposed budget \$100,000

Mr. Bozon provided four potential options along with management's alternatives to include no tax rate change (\$0.6895), and a 1 cent increase (\$0.6698).

Council commended staff for hearing their requests, and appreciated staffs efforts in implementing the needs of the city into the proposed budget.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

  
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Marion Grayson, Mayor

ATTEST:  
  
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Jana Lewellen, City Clerk

