

June 30, 2022

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEWISTON, IDAHO, met in a Special Budget Session on Thursday, June 30, 2022, at the Bell Building Second Floor Conference Room at 215 D Street. Council President Liedkie called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

City Council meetings are recorded live. To view the full video, go to <https://livestream.com/lewiston/events/3725902/videos/231647550>

I. CALL TO ORDER

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Johnson (5:20 p.m. via Zoom); Council President Liedkie; Councilor Blount; Councilor Forsmann; Councilor Schroeder; Councilor Tousley; Councilor Kleeburg

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Tousley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

IV. BUDGET ITEMS:

A. LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE

City Clerk Ravencroft reviewed the executive budget, which includes the City Clerk and Deputy City Clerk positions. The line item for salaries has slightly increased, due to the Deputy City Clerk position moving to full time. The total budget proposed is \$251,010, with a savings of \$2,500.

Due to technical issues, Mayor Johnson joined the meeting at 5:20 p.m. via Zoom and reviewed the Mayor's budget, which is proposed at \$140,110. Continuing, Mayor Johnson ran through the legislative budget for City Council, which is proposed at \$113,130.

Next up, Mayor Johnson reviewed the Community Relations Service Contracts. The total service contracts proposed are \$253,170. Mayor Johnson explained the Council could decide to modify or eliminate the contracts, if they so choose.

Public Information Officer Maurer reviewed the public information office's budget, which is proposed at \$141,830. She is requesting a budget increase of \$4,400 to include additional printing costs.

B. LEGAL

City Attorney Gomez reviewed the fixed costs, semi-fixed costs and discretionary costs of the Legal Department. The Legal Department has taken over the Police Department public records requests and in-house prosecutions. Cost savings of \$7,250 were found in the discretionary budget, which brings the proposed budget for 2023 to \$15,550.

C. POLICE

Chief Hurd presented the Police Department budget. The projected 2023 budget has an increase of \$3,074, due to the Axon Contract increase. Chief Hurd was able to save \$66,000 from the elimination of a records position.

D. FIRE

Chief Myklebust reported a reduction of \$71,760 to the Fire Department budget and explained that revenue was projected at \$3.2 million. Chief Myklebust then informed Council that a firefighter from Fire Station 2 has recently been diagnosed with an illness that may have been prevented, due to certain exposures. Continuing, Chief Myklebust explained there have been a total of five firefighters diagnosed with cancer after retiring and requested that Council fund \$400,000 to the Fire Department to ensure protection to the firefighters, if they decide not to fund Fire Station 4.

E. REVENUE ITEMS

City Treasurer Gordon informed Councilors that there would be several ordinances and resolutions related to the budget. She then reviewed the revenues related to property taxes, state shared revenues, liquor apportionment, highway user fees and reserves. She explained that since the directors did a great job cutting their 2023 budgets by 2%, they were able to provide a 0% property tax, rather than a 3% increase.

F. REVIEW SCHEDULE OF BUDGET DOCUMENTS, PUBLIC HEARING NOTICES, PUBLIC HEARING AND READINGS

City Treasurer Gordon reviewed the four actions Council would be taking related to the budgets. The Fiscal Year 2022 amending ordinance, Fiscal Year 2023 appropriations ordinance, Fiscal Year 2023 property tax certification ordinance, and the Fiscal Year 2023 forgone resolution.

G. CLOSING COMMENTS

Mayor Johnson responded that the budget work has only begun and there is a strong foundation. He said staff has done a great job and thanked everyone for all their hard work.

V. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

A. CITY COUNCILOR COMMENTS

Councilor Forsmann requested a presentation regarding painting fire hydrants. Councilor Tousley responded he will be speaking with the person and he would bring additional information to Council.

Councilor Liedkie encouraged people to pay attention to agendas, attend meetings and testify on bills.

B. MAYOR COMMENTS

Mayor Johnson and Chief Hurd announced a new hire on July 5th, with a swearing-in on July 6th.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Lewiston City Council, Councilors Schroeder and Forsmann moved and seconded, respectively, to adjourn the June 30, 2022 budget session. The motion carried 6-0 and the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:49 p.m.