

MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2015-2016 BUDGET AND
TAHLEQUAH CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2015 - 7:00 PM
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 111 S. CHEROKEE AVE.

1. Mayor Nichols called the meeting of the City Council **to order** at 7:00 pm in the City Council Chambers at 111 S. Cherokee Avenue.

2. City Clerk Deb Corn called the **roll** as follows:

Present:	Councilor Ward II	Dr. Charles Carroll
	Councilor Ward III	Stephen Highers
	Councilor Ward IV	Joshua Bliss
Absent:	Councilor Ward I	Diane Weston

Others present: City Attorney Park Medearis, Assistant City Administrator Kevin Smith, Administrative Assistant Amy Scott, Police Chief Nate King, Emergency Management Director Mike Underwood, News Media Josh Newton.

3. **PUBLIC HEARING:** A Public Hearing was held for comments from the public on the FY 2015-2016 Tahlequah City Budget. Phil Jones asked about the \$400,000.00 that should go into general maintenance of the streets. Mayor Nichols assured him that there was a little over ½ a million dollars in the proposed budget for the maintenance of the streets.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**
There were no comments from the public.

5. Councilors asked questions and make recommendations for the budget. Councilor Bliss wanted the budget to reflect that the Emergency Management Director would be at Step 2 instead of 1. He also had a question on the salary of the Solid Waste Services Foremen and if the 35 raise would affect the hourly employees. The answer was that the 3% would not affect the hourly employees or the union employees. Councilor Bliss also asked about DL Scanners for the Police Department and adding a custodial position. Councilor Carroll questioned why Solid Waste Services fringe benefits were higher than other departments. The answer was that they have higher workers comp and they have more older employees who get higher longevity. Councilor Carroll also wondered what the School Resource Officers do during the summer. Chief King said they work long hours during the school so they have comp time that they use in the summer. Councilor Carroll also wanted clarification on the construction at Fire Department #2. Councilor Highers recommended that we add 2 new police officer positions instead of 3 and use the extra money to offset the cost of equipping them and to raise the police secretary position to an executive assistant position. Councilor Highers also wanted clarification on the reserve funds and the golf course improvements. No action was taken to **adopt** the FY 2015-2016 Tahlequah City **Budget**.

No action taken by Council.

6. Councilor Carroll made the motion and Councilor Highers seconded to approve a General Fund Budget **Reallocation** in the amount of \$1,260.87, to approve step raises for May and June 2015.

Vote: Ayes: Carroll, Highers, Bliss

Nays: none

Motion carried.

7. **PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Councilor Highers made the motion and Councilor Bliss seconded to exit regular session and enter into executive session at 7:31 pm.

Vote: Ayes: Highers, Bliss, Carroll

Nays: none

Motion carried.

❖ Discussion on the 2015-2016 **contract** with **FOP** Lodge 201, as provided in O. S. Title 25, Section 307 (B) (2).

8. Councilor Bliss made the motion and Councilor Highers seconded to **reconvene regular** meeting at 8:28 pm.

Vote: Ayes: Bliss, Carroll, Highers

Nays: none

Motion carried.

9. No action was taken on the 2015-2016 **contract** with **FOP** Lodge 201.
No action taken.

10. Councilor Bliss made the motion and Councilor Highers seconded to **adjourn** at 8:29 pm.

Vote: Ayes: Highers, Bliss, Carroll

Nays: none

Motion carried.