

**CITY OF BUCKEYE
COUNCIL WORKSHOP
APRIL 22, 2014
MINUTES**

**Executive Conference Room
530 E. Monroe Ave.
Buckeye, AZ 85326
3:00 p.m.**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Acting Mayor, Vice Mayor Orsborn, called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m.

Members Present: Councilmember Garza (arrived at 3:28 p.m.), Councilmember Strauss, Councilmember Hess, Councilmember McAchran, Councilmember Heustis, and Vice Mayor Orsborn (excused at 4:41 p.m.; returned at 4:42 p.m.).

Members Absent: Mayor Meck.

Departments Present: City Manager Stephen Cleveland, City Attorney Scott Ruby, City Clerk Lucinda Aja, Assistant to Council Carol Conley, Public Works Director Scott Lowe, Police Chief Larry Hall, Fire Chief Bob Costello, Community Services Director Cheryl Sedig, Economic Development Manager Len Becker, Human Resources Director Nancy Love, Development Services Director George Flores, City Engineer Scott Zipprich, Technical Services Manager Greg Platacz, and Finance Director Larry Price.

2. Discussion of Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget (Estimated time – 2 hours)

Staff Liaison: Larry Price, Finance Director

District No. All

Mr. Price noted that his presentation would provide an overview of the General Fund; additional workshops are scheduled to discuss the proposed budget further.

The presentation of the Fiscal Year (FY) 14-15 General Fund Budget Proposal and a slide depicting last year's projections indicated revenues are growing less than anticipated and spending is less than anticipated. A chart displaying City Construction Sales Tax Revenues was presented and a timeline of Single Family Residential Permits Issued from March, 2011 through March, 2014 along with a chart of Combined Property Tax Levies and Rates. A summary of City revenues, revenue sources, and revenue uses was provided. Mr. Price informed Council the proposed budget is balanced and includes a 3% increase in total General Fund sources from the previous year. A spreadsheet representing budget information drafted in February, 2014 was discussed. A 10% increase in healthcare premiums is anticipated, although a savings to healthcare premiums will be realized. A list of highlights in the draft were presented, including: retention of all current positions and a continuation of current service levels, addition of ten new positions, purchase of Jones Ford property (subject to appraisal, inspection, and permitting), the new Library, Skyline Park, Rodeo Grounds Operation, and the Ambulance Certificate of Needs (CON) application. General discussion was held regarding the Ambulance CON application. A possible one-time 1% bonus for each employee was discussed. Mr. Price noted 76% of revenue is expended on employees. Mr. Cleveland provided information regarding various merit programs in other municipalities and the impact of revenues on those programs; the goal of the City is to maintain a standard merit program. General discussion was held related to employee compensation. The list of authorized employee positions was part of general discussion compared to recurring

revenues. An overview of revenues will be provided for Council review. Clarification was provided by Mr. Ruby regarding contractual obligations included in the draft of the proposed budget.

3. Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilmember Hess and seconded by Councilmember Strauss to adjourn the 5:48 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Jackie A. Meck, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lucinda J. Aja, City Clerk

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Regular Council Meeting held on the 22th day of April, 2014. I further certify that a quorum was present.

Lucinda J. Aja, City Clerk