

**CITY OF BUCKEYE  
COUNCIL WORKSHOP  
APRIL 21, 2015  
MINUTES**

**City Council Chambers  
530 E. Monroe Ave.  
Buckeye, AZ 85326  
3:00 p.m.**

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

Mayor Meck called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Members Present: Councilmember McAchran, Councilmember Heustis, Vice Mayor Orsborn (excused at 4:00 p.m., returned at 4:02 p.m.), and Mayor Meck.

Members Absent: Councilmember Garza, Councilmember Strauss and Councilmember Hess.

Departments Present: City Manager Stephen Cleveland, Assistant City Manager Roger Klingler, City Attorney Scott Ruby, City Clerk Lucinda Aja, Deputy City Clerk Summer Stewart, Assistant to Council Carol Conley, Police Chief Larry Hall, Fire Chief Bob Costello, Finance Director Larry Price, Human Resources Director Nancy Love, Public Works Director Scott Lowe, Development Services Director George Flores, Economic Development Director Len Becker, Information Technology Director Greg Platacz, Community Services Director Cheryl Sedig, and Government Relations Manager George Diaz.

**2. Presentation and Discussion of the Proposed 15/16 Fiscal Year Budget  
Staff Liaison: Larry Price, Finance Director**

Mr. Price provided an overview of the proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2015/2016 budget and discussed revenues and expenditures that have not been accounted for as figures are not yet available. The operating budget financial policy was presented and addressed. The proposed budget includes a cost of living allowance for existing employees in the amount of 1.84% of annual wages, with an anticipated cost of \$560,676, along with a one-time only bonus in the amount of 3.16% of annual wages, with an anticipated cost of \$962,898. Mr. Price clarified fund uses and estimated expenditures; draft proposals are determined by taking FY 13/14 audit expenditures, estimated revenues and estimated expenditures for FY 14/15, and estimated FY 15/16 balances. A table depicting the draft budget was presented. General fund sources and uses along with expenditures were summarized. General fund transfers with respective amounts were listed and include Automation – ERP, vehicle replacement reserve, risk management retention, senior center, Economic Development 6.25 funds, and Gila River matching grants. Operating expenses account for 76% of non-recurring revenues. A table itemizing general fund revenues was presented and described. The proposed budget includes an increase of 8.61% in revenue sources. Mr. Price stated a majority of operating revenues comes from sales tax. Combined property tax levies and rates were summarized. City sales tax revenues and sources were described; figures are tracked on a monthly basis. General fund uses are projected to increase by 8.19%; uses include personnel services, professional/contractual services, and debt service. Vice Mayor Orsborn requested a schedule representing the 7.75% increase in personnel services be provided for review. Councilmember Heustis requested estimates for employee step increases be provided for review. General discussion was held regarding wage increases. Personnel services account for 75% of general fund operating expenditures. Proposed authorized positions are listed; there are no proposed positions to be added from the revised FY 14/15 budget for FY 15/16. A list of general fund items not included in the proposal were listed and include asset replacement/depreciation reserves, annual street maintenance requirement, impact fee subsidy, additional positions requested, new census revenue, security fence for Jones Ford property, transient lodging tax revenue, and additional primary property tax levy revenue. Future community budget

information meeting dates were provided. Clarification was provided regarding requested and proposed reclassifications; if an employee's current salary is within the reclassification step structure, that employee will not receive a wage increase; if an employee's current salary is below the reclassification step structure, that employee will be placed at step one of the new classification step structure.

**3. Presentation and Discussion Regarding the Certificate of Necessity to Provide Ground Ambulance Services to the City of Buckeye**

Chief Costello provided an overview of the Certificate of Necessity (CON) to provide ground ambulance services. The process and timeline for obtaining the Certificate was provided and discussed. The Certificate will allow the City to provide and charge for ambulance services. Moving forward, the ability to take patients to an appropriate facility will be expanded. Reasons for obtaining the CON were listed and discussed. Important requirements for obtaining the CON from the Arizona Department of Health Services (AZDHS) include having a fit and proper fire department, an existing unmet need, financial health of the City and Fire Department, and reasonable proposed general public rates. The Fire Department has submitted 1,544 pages of documentation to AZDHS as of this date. Proposed rates are listed with a base rate of \$1,100 and a \$15.00 mileage rate. Future anticipated action was summarized. General discussion was held regarding ambulance services currently provided and the area services are provided to. The Community Paramedicine Program was described and discussed; the program will improve the community's access to preventative health services. The trial program is tentatively scheduled to begin May 15, 2015 and the Fire Department will track progress of each patient to monitor success.

**4. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Orsborn and seconded by Councilmember Heustis to adjourn the meeting at 5:06 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

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Jackie A. Meck, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Lucinda J. Aja, City Clerk

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Council Workshop held on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2015. I further certify that a quorum was present.

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Lucinda J. Aja, City Clerk