



GATE CITY TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
May 14, 2019
156 E. JACKSON ST.
6:30 PM

I. PUBLIC HEARING MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:36 P.M. BY: Mayor - Frances Perry

II. ROLL CALL – Deputy Town Clerk – Lisa Loggans

	PRESENT:	ABSENT:
Mayor, Frances Perry	X	
Vice Mayor, Robin Richards	X	
Council Member, Allan “Cotton” Roberts	X	
Council Member, Roger Cassell		X
Council Member, Wallace W. Ross, Jr.	X	
Council Member, Ron Kindle	X	
Town Manager, Greg Jones	X	
Town Attorney, Michele Brooks	X	

Others present: Larry Sturgill, Debbie Kindle, Father Drake, Marley Brooks, Chief Terry Sivert, Officer Ethan Penley, Ethan’s Friend: Mary Jones, Officer Lucas Shelley

III. NEW BUSINESS

• FY 2019 PROPOSED BUDGET AMENDMENT

Town Manager Greg Jones stated that some projects have been removed from the 2019 budget and put into the 2020 budget because they will not begin until then. This includes the Manville sidewalk project which will take place in 2021. Town Manager Greg Jones also stated that some have been adjusted to reflect where the project is now in terms of progress.

Council Member Wallace W. Ross, Jr. asked what the dating is on the unaudited 2016, 2017, and 2018? Town Manager Greg Jones stated that the audited columns reflect numbers that the auditors have come up with, while the unaudited for 2018 is what will be discussed during the council meeting following the public hearing. Town Manager Greg Jones stated that in following years, 2018 will turn from unaudited to audited. Council Member Wallace W. Ross, Jr. asked what the variances in council salaries are made up of? Town Manager Greg Jones explained that the \$4,000 is only the salaries through February 28 and does not encompass the whole year. Town Manager Greg Jones also stated that the \$6,000 is simply a forecast of where the total is expected to be at the end of the year.

Council Member Wallace W. Ross, Jr. asked why travel expenses were varying from year to year? Town Manager Greg Jones stated that this comparison is still made between a full year versus half a year and will have to be looked at in equal proportions. Council Member Ross asked if a budget amendment will reflect an increase in gas expenses, hotel expenses etc.? Town Manager Greg Jones stated that a change from the original budget is not recommended because a large increase is not expected.

Council Member Wallace W. Ross, Jr. asked what the variances are in the office administration salaries? Town Manager Greg Jones stated that what has been spent so far up to February 28, 2019, is \$36,861 and we are forecasting spending to be \$60,000. We originally budgeted \$63,372; however, we are going to change that back to \$60,000 and the \$3,372 will be spent on overages elsewhere.

Council Member Wallace W. Ross, Jr. asked what the benevolence category listed for the fire department consists of? Town Manager Greg Jones stated that the fire department gets billed for water; the benevolence is to help offset the water. Town Manager Jones stated that this is funding to help cover this. Council Member Ross asked exactly how much water is the fire department using? Town Manager Greg Jones stated that he did not know the exact amount but that if Mr. Ross would like to request that information, he would be happy to get it for him. Council Member Ross moved on to the next question.

Council Member Wallace W. Ross, Jr. asked what the budget for maintenance and repairs on equipment will be for 2019? Town Manager Greg Jones stated that \$11,000 was budgeted originally; however, the forecast shows that the Town is planning to use only \$4,000 of it. Town Manager Greg Jones stated that \$4,000 will be budgeted for maintenance and repairs of equipment for 2019.

Council Member Wallace W. Ross, Jr. asked what amount is budgeted for highway and streets and street improvements? Town Manager Greg Jones stated that the original budget called for \$46,500 for street improvements; however, this has been increased to \$56,400 in order to represent new street lights and GPS software for equipment.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE

V. PUBLIC HEARING CLOSES AT 6:51 P.M.

Frances Perry – Mayor

Deputy Town Clerk – Lisa Loggans