

June 29, 2015

The Town of Warsaw Board of Commissioners held a budget special meeting on June 29, 2015 at 7:30pm in the conference room of the Town Hall.

Present:

Mayor Russell Eason  
Commissioner Tommy Jones  
Commissioner Dr. Owen Martin  
Commissioner Al Searles  
Commissioner Scotty Smith  
Commissioner Joal Smith

Also Present:

Town Manager, Shawn Condon  
Public Works Director, Ivey Knowles  
Wellness & Recreation Director, Josh Crowell  
Police Chief Eric Southerland

Mayor Russell Eason opened the meeting, and turned the meeting over to the Town Manager. The Manager briefly reviewed the major points of the proposed budget: No increase in the ad valorem property tax. The rate would remain the same at \$0.55 per \$100 valuation. There would be a \$5 vehicle fee added in the proposed budget. The Manager explained this motor vehicle fee is included in the Town's ordinance, however, the Town has simply not enforced or collected this fee for several years. If approved, the motor vehicle fee would be collected by the state and distributed to the Town. Includes an overall budgeted reduction of 4.5 FTE regarding personnel, which would be done through a combination of attrition and RIF. Also, during the next budget year, the Manager and staff would review other areas for possible cost reductions. No increase in water, sewer, stormwater, or garbage rates for in-town citizens and customers.

There is a proposed sewer increase for commercial/industrial users outside of the corporate limits. The reasoning behind this increase is the need for sufficient revenue in the Town's Water & Sewer fund to cover operating and debt service costs, as well as Water & Sewer reimbursable costs housed in the General Fund. Currently, there are not sufficient revenues in the Water & Sewer fund to cover all of the reimbursable costs to the General Fund. Therefore, the portion of costs not being covered by Water & Sewer revenues in the General Fund are being covered by property taxes. Since the greatest potential impact on the Town's water/sewer infrastructure comes from commercial/industrial sewer, it is recommended that any increase in fees to help cover this gap come from increased charges on commercial/industrial users outside the corporate limits.

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The Manager explained that in order to enforce the existing \$5 motor vehicle fee that is currently in the ordinances and in the proposed budget, the Board would have to pass the attached resolution.

Commissioner Joal Smith made a motion to pass the resolution authorizing the \$5 motor vehicle fee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tommy Jones. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Joal Smith made a motion to pass the FY 2015-2016 Budget as presented. Commissioner Tommy Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Joal Smith made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Al Searles. The motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

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Mayor

Attest

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Town Clerk