

The City Council of the City of Mattoon held a Budget Work Session in the Council Chambers of City Hall on February 26, 2021.

Acting Mayor Graven presided and called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

The following members of the Council answered roll call physically present: YEA Commissioner Dave Cox, YEA Commissioner Rick Hall, YEA Commissioner Preston Owen, YEA Acting Mayor Sandra Graven.

Also physically present were City personnel: City Administrator Kyle Gill, Finance Director/Treasurer Beth Wright, Public Works Director Dean Barber – Audio, Arts & Tourism Director Angelia Burgett – Audio, Fire Chief Jeff Hilligoss- Audio, Deputy Police Chief Sam Gaines- Audio, Parks/Lakes/Cemetery Superintendent Kurt Stretch, Technology Director Brian Johanpeter – Audio, Police Captain Ryan Hurst – Audio, and City Clerk Susan O’Brien.

PRESENTATIONS, PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Acting Mayor Graven opened the floor for Public comments from the floor and audio attendance with no comments.

The City Council and City Staff will review budgetary items in preparation for the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget.

Administrator Gill opened the workshop and reviewed the preparations for the budget, reductions, obstacles, employee benefits, healthcare costs graph, healthcare comparisons, calendar-year deductible mas, healthcare contributions comparison, Fire & Police Pension Employer contributions to pensions, property tax levied for City vs pensions, budgeted revenues, budgeted expenditures, budget options, HB1810 video gaming local fee, HB0865 Non-Home Rule ROT rates, sales tax, costs of new employees; and thanked the Department Heads for their budgets. Council discussed the budget items. Mr. David Phipps inquired about the increases in pension and positive year swing with responses from Treasurer & Director Wright, Administrator Gill and Commissioner Owen. Mr. Trent Seiler questioned the debt payments with Treasurer & Director Wright explaining the debt payments. Mr. Bart Owen inquired if the Fire Department’s retro pay was included with Administrator Gill responding no. Acting Mayor Graven opened the floor for further questions. Mr. Robb Perry inquired as to the reducing wages and increasing percentage of insurance. Administrator Gill and Commissioner Owen explained negotiations and non-union employees. Mr. Alex Walker inquired as to the addition of Public Works employees and replacement with Acting Mayor Graven and Commissioners Cox and Owen responding. Mr. Perry inquired as to the taxes with Commissioner Owen responding with the different taxes. Mr. Phipps inquired about the LGDF (Local Government Distributive Fund) percentage. Commissioner Owen and Treasurer & Director Wright explained the fund and IML projections.

Commissioners and Acting Mayor Graven commented on the budget and efforts by Administrator Gill, Treasurer Wright and Department Heads.

Director Barber reviewed the Water Fund, Sewer Fund, Mid-town TIF, Capital Projects Fund, I-57 TIF and MFT including the explanations of the funds, highlights of last year and future projects. Mr. Bart Owen inquired as to the MFT with Director Barber stated the restrictions of MFT. Mr. Dustin Hay inquired about reduction of Department Head salaries and increases in insurance rates. Commissioner Owen explained effects on the budget and negotiations. Mr. George Gullion inquired about insurance rates, Water & Sewer Funds, and loss of experienced workers with Commissioner Owen explaining the

Water & Sewer Funds as being self-supporting. Administrator Gill, Acting Mayor Graven and Director Barber explained the use of technology to support experience of workers.

Acting Mayor Graven called for additional questions from the Public in person and online with no response.

Acting Mayor Graven seconded by Commissioner Hall moved to adopt Resolution No. 2021-3127, approving the continuance of a Local State of Emergency due to the Coronavirus (COVID – 19).

CITY OF MATTOON, ILLINOIS

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-3127

DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY

Pursuant to the authority vested in the office of Mayor by the Illinois Municipal Code Section 5/11-1-6, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act Section 3305/11 and Ordinance No. 2020-5430 of the City of Mattoon, I, Sandra Graven, Acting Mayor of the City of Mattoon do hereby declare that a Local State of Emergency exists as of this date, February 26, 2021, and shall continue until such time as provided in Ordinance No. 2020-5430.

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the outbreak of COVID-19 to be a public health emergency of international concern and on March 11, 2020 declared a worldwide pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public health emergency for the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Illinois has issued a disaster proclamation on March 9, 2020 due to the impact of the COVID-19 virus and has activated the State Emergency Operations Center; and

WHEREAS, the State Emergency Management Agency has declared a public health emergency due to the impact of the COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, the City Administration has coordinated its response with other Coles County governmental entities.

The nature of the emergency is related to the COVID-19 virus which is causing or anticipated to cause widespread impacts on the health of members of the community.

During the existence of the Local State of Emergency, the Mayor shall execute such authority as provided under the Illinois Municipal Code, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act and Ordinance No. 2020-5430.

This Declaration of Local State of Emergency shall be filed with the City Clerk as soon as practicable.

I, Sandra Graven, whose name is signed to this instrument, being first duly sworn, signed and executed the instrument as the Declaration of Local State of Emergency, and that I signed willingly, and that I executed it as my free and voluntary act for the purposes therein expressed.

/s/Sandra L. Graven
Sandra L. Graven, Acting Mayor
City of Mattoon, Coles County, Illinois

Acting Mayor Graven declared the motion carried by the following vote: YEA Commissioner Cox, YEA Commissioner Hall, YEA Commissioner Owen, YEA Acting Mayor Graven.

Acting Mayor Graven opened the floor for questions from the Public. Mr. David Phipps inquired as to the next step in the budget process. Administrator Gill explained further review of the budget with a budget presentation at the first meeting in April and adoption at the second meeting in April.

Commissioner Hall seconded by Commissioner Cox moved to adjourn at 9:47 a.m.

Acting Mayor Graven declared the motion carried by the following vote: YEA Commissioner Cox, YEA Commissioner Hall, NAY Commissioner Owen, YEA Acting Mayor Graven.

/s/Susan J. O'Brien
City Clerk