

## ***Town of La Conner***

Town Council Special Meeting  
October 10, 2023, 5:00 p.m.  
Upper Maple Center, 104 Commercial Street  
And by Zoom

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Present: Councilmembers Carlson, Dole, Chamberlain and Wohleb

Also Present: Administrator Thomas, Finance Director DeGoede, Public Works Director Lease, Planner Davolio, WWTP Operator Wynn and Sgt. Holmes of the Sheriff's Department.

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**This meeting was held electronically on Zoom. Information to join was posted at Town Hall and on the Town Website.**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hayes for the 2024 Budget Discussions focusing on the Sewer Fund, Compost Fund and the General Fund.

**Councilmember Wohleb moved to excuse Councilmember Taylor. Motion seconded by Councilmember Chamberlain. Motion carried 4/0.**

**Councilmember Taylor joined the meeting at 5:05 p.m.**

### **Sewer and Compost Funds:**

Plant Operator Wynn discussed the Capital Projects planned for 2024 as follows:

#### **Sewer:**

- \$50,000 New roofs and interior paint for the RAS and Emergency Generator buildings.
- \$50,000 I&I (Clarifier #1 Rehab & 50% shard cost for the Polymer System).
- \$200,000 Sewer Plant Upgrade Project (\$163,000 covered by a grant).
- \$50,000 Water Pump set aside.

#### **Compost:**

- \$250,000 Replace Posts in Compost Building.
- \$50,000 Sweeper for the Loader & 50% shard cost for the Polymer System.

### **General Funds:**

Finance Director DeGoede pointed out the items for Council discussions, with the main focus on funding for the Fire Hall roof and HVAC. It was the consensus of the Council as follows:

- \$300,000 Fire Hall Roof funded by \$100,00 Cell Tower Bonus & \$200,000 from REET 1.
- \$60,000 Fire Hall HVAC funded by the Coronavirus Grant
- \$4,156 Civic Plus ADA Website Program will not be in the 2024 Budget.
- Increase the Compost Utility Tax from 7% to 10%

Also discussed was the probable addition of auditing costs, uncertain wage increases due to upcoming negotiations, and funding an emergency siren alert that staff will do further research on.

Finance Director DeGoede reviewed the changes since the last meeting with a staff update of removing the \$52,000 Garden Club exterior painting in the Facility Fund. The Street Fund still needs some adjustment, but staff is working on initiating a Transportation Benefit Tax to bring in more revenue for street maintenance.

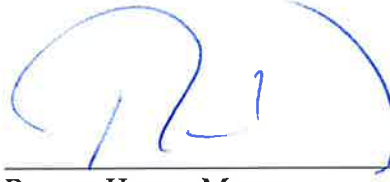
There were further discussions on funding The Maple Hall HVAC and if it qualifies for using the Coronavirus Grant. Staff will research this as well.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 5:37 p.m.



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Maria DeGoede, Finance Director



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Ramon Hayes, Mayor