

**CITY OF JOHN DAY  
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING  
JOHN DAY, OREGON**

June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**BUDGET MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Beth Spell, Budget Committee  
Sarah Brown, Budget Committee (Virtual)  
Heather Swank, Budget Committee  
Eric Bush, Budget Committee

**COUNCILORS PRESENT:**

Heather Rookstool, Mayor  
Katrina Randleas, Councilor  
Ron Phillips, Councilor  
Chris Labhart, Councilor  
Sherrie Rininger, Councilor  
Dave Holland, Councilor

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Don Gabbard, Fire Chief

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Judy Schuette  
Shannon Adair  
Tori Stinnett  
Jim Spell  
Justin Davis

**Agenda Item No. 1—Call Budget Meeting to Order**

Mayor Rookstool called the budget meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**Agenda Item No. 2—Roll Call and Attendance**

Mayor Rookstool noted that all budget committee members were present as well as all council members, Anna Bass (City Recorder) and Interim City Manager Rick Allen.

**Agenda Item No. 3—Additions or Changes to Regular Agenda**

No additions or changes to the regular agenda were made.

**Agenda Item No. 4—Election of Officers**

- a. **Chair**—Sherrie Rininger, Councilor

*Councilor Labhart made a motion to elect Councilor Rininger as the chair. Eric Bush seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

- b. **Vice Chair (optional)**—No Vice Chair

- c. **Secretary**—Sarah Wright, Secretary

### **Agenda Item No. 5—Budget Message**

The income projected in the General Fund is very close to last year, most income sources are stable with a projected increase in property taxes around \$10,000. Expenses continue to rise at a faster rate than resources. This required the City as they move forward into the next year, to evaluate how all departments are providing services.

The budget as required is balanced. There were challenges and tough choices to balance the budget by all parties. Rick Allen had proposed some allocations for a contract to enhance our Sheriffs staffing, however that was not possible and had to be removed during the process. General Fire and liability insurance costs are estimated to increase by 23% in this proposal. Due to the elimination of the Community Development Director position, the estimated revenue from the Ford Family Foundation of \$100,000 was eliminated from the budget.

### **Agenda Item No. 6—Budget Presentation & Committee Review**

On page 14 the Sewer Fund is out of balance by \$1,000. With that Anna Bass will adjust the operating contingency because that is where the adjustment is.

### **Agenda Item No. 7—Public Comment on Proposed Budget**

Shannon Adair, John Day has a concern about cutting the Office Manager position, Community Development Director and Planning Official. She hopes that the council will look for ways to bring some of those positions back.

Tori Stinnett, Director of Grant County Economic Development wanted to know what the City plans to do with the Ford Family Foundation. Mayor Rookstool stated the City doesn't have the budget to fill that position at this time. This position would have been someone who helped with planning, community development, and downtown revitalization and the City could not provide the wages. Councilor Holland hopes that next fiscal year they can plan to fill these positions. Stinnett hopes that it can come back at some point because there has been so much work put into it and it's beneficial to the community.

Justin Davis, John Day asked what the number was the council was looking at when they were doing cuts. Anna Bass stated that one of the funds was almost \$500,000. They were reminded of an audit adjustment that was made last year, when that audit adjustment was reversed this year it made up almost all of that.

### **Agenda Item No. 8—Budget Committee Deliberations**

There were no budget committee deliberations.

### **Agenda Item No. 9—Approval of Budget**

***Councilor Randleas made the motion to approve the presented amended budget for 2023-2024. Beth Spell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.***

### **Adjourn Budget Meeting**

***Councilor Holland made a motion to close the John Day budget committee meeting. Eric Bush seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.***

Respectfully Submitted:

Rick Allen  
Interim City Manager

ACCEPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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Heather Rookstool, Mayor