

**FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**REGULAR SESSION**  
**OCTOBER 31, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mike McDermott at 6:00 PM. Present at roll call were: Mayor McDermott, Dave Roelli, Steve Pickett and Ray Spellman. Absent: None. Also present was: Phil Risseeuw.

Motion by Roelli second by Pickett that the meeting notice and agenda were properly posted. Motion carried. Motion by Pickett second by Spellman to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion carried.

Under new business, discussion was held concerning a funding request from the Darlington Chamber / Main Street Program toward the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event. A copy of a letter from Kristen May, Darlington Chamber / Main Street Director was included in the agenda packet. The letter lists the committee members assigned to this event, and a list of possible activities for the event. The Darlington Chamber / Main Street organization is requesting \$4,000.00 from the City toward the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event. After discussion and consideration, motion by Pickett second by Spellman to recommend to the Council the approval of this funding request from the Darlington Chamber / Main Street Program as presented. Motion carried.

The overall 2024 City budget was then presented for review and consideration. A copy of the 2024 City budget worksheet was included in the agenda packet, along with a letter of explanation and a revised 2024 Police Department budget. The proposed budget includes all of the department budget requests that were presented at the previous meeting of this committee, except for the amended Police Department budget that included in the agenda packet. The 2024 proposed budget calls for total revenues of \$3,019,375.00 and total expenses of \$3,019,375.00. In order to balance the 2024 budget, \$169,014.00 from the City's surplus funds were used.

It was then reported that due to the increases in shared revenue and highway aids, the Department of Revenue informed municipalities who normally qualify under the expenditure restraint program, that for 2024 municipalities do not need to comply with the consumer price index expense increase limit as in previous years.

Discussion was then held concerning the proposed 2024 City budget. The six-page spreadsheet was reviewed page by page. The following changes were made to various budget line items:

- The Ritter Wellness Center membership line item was increased \$10,000.00 from \$70,000.00 to \$80,000.00.
- The surplus applied line item will be adjusted based on total changes to the proposed budget.

- The Celebrations expense line item was increased by \$4,000.00 from \$13,000.00 to \$17,000.00 to include the funds for the Darlington Chamber / Main Street Program 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event.
- The Library expense line item was decreased \$7,894.00 from \$167,894.00 to \$160,000.00.
- The Wellness Center expense line item was decreased \$15,000.00 from \$123,620.00 to \$108,620.00.
- The Street Machinery Outlay expense line item was increased \$25,000.00 from \$25,000.00 to \$50,000.00.

After discussion and consideration, it was the consensus of those present to incorporate these changes into the overall 2024 City budget. A copy of the updated overall 2024 City budget worksheet is attached to these meeting minutes for reference. Aaron Stauffacher arrived at the meeting at 6:50 PM.

The 2024 City budget advertisement was then presented for review and consideration. A copy of the proposed budget advertisement was included in the agenda packet. The proposed budget advertisement will be amended to include the changes listed above. After discussion and consideration, motion by Roelli second by Pickett to approve the 2024 City budget advertisement as presented and amended, and recommend approval of the budget advertisement to the City Council. Motion carried.

Motion by Roelli second by Spellman to go into closed session in accordance with Section 19.85 (1) (c) Wis. Stats., to review applications received for the Director of Public Works position, and if appropriate select applicants to interview for the position; and Section 19.85 (1) (e) Wis. Stats., to consider a proposal from the Darlington Professional Police Association. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Roelli second by Pickett to reconvene to regular session in accordance with Section 19.85 (2) Wis. Stats., to adjourn the meeting. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried.

There being no further business for this meeting, motion by Roelli second by Spellman to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 PM. Motion carried.

CITY OF DARLINGTON

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Philip A. Risseuw, Clerk-Treasurer