

Nowthen City Council
August 11, 2022
Budget Work Session II

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pilon called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm

Present: Council Members Blake, Greenberg, Alders, and Rainville.

Also in attendance: Administrator Lehner, Interim City Administrator Boyles, Deputy Clerk Johnson, Fire Chief Schmidt, and Public Works Supervisor Joe Glaze

2. The purpose of this work session is to learn more about the Fire Department and Public Works needs as they pertain to the 2023 Budget.

3. Fire Department

Discussion regarding Professional Services provide to the Fire Department.

Discussion regarding Repairs and Maintenance to the building and equipment.

Discussion regarding additional training for our current fire fighters and future fire fighters.

Note: Many of Nowthen calls are medical and it is recommended that fire fighters are EMS trained, especially since medical help is sometimes a significant distance away. Additionally, our new Assistant Chief and Captains could benefit from additional leadership education in preparation for the city to run its own Fire Department without the assistance of the City of St. Francis' Fire Department leaders as the contract is expiring in a year and a half.

Discussion regarding staffing. The Fire Department would like the council to fund hiring at least 5 more firefighters in the next year. This is a tough pull in this work force environment, but the fire department is working diligently at recruiting.

Discussion regarding the Bond Spreadsheet – where are we with the expenditure's spreadsheet, what are acceptable expenditures to be drawn from the bond? The items drawn from the bond must have a life span at least 10 years and what is the balance yet to spend? Dave to work with Lori and Natalie to finalize this worksheet.

4. Public Works 6:02 PM

Discussion on repairs of equipment that need to be completed – tires on equipment, road grader is currently in the shop, etc.

Discussion – can we pre-buy fuel? Can the fire trucks fill with off-road Diesel that public works uses? Does Public Works use "coupons" on Mondays to fill at Bill's? Joe will work with the Fire Department to give them access to the off-road diesel fuel stored at the city maintenance building.

Discussion – Costs for gravel road maintenance. Joe will identify roads that need gravel and estimated costs for 2023. Joe will identify roads that will receive dust control – (not gravel the same year as he cannot grade after calcium chloride is applied, it just scrapes the dust control away) – and estimated costs for 2023. The city council would like a policy as to which roads receive the dust control, how is it determined and justify the costs. Also, a policy as to which roads are due for additional gravel maintenance and estimated cost for 2023. Joe will also put together a Bi-Annual plan for roads and equipment. Note: 1/3 of the Nowthen Roads are county roads.

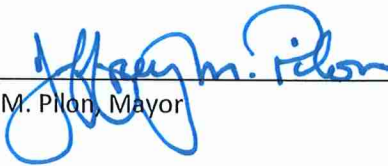
Administrator Lehner will check in the Capital plan for Sodium Street patching and/or crack filling.

The work session adjourned at 7:46pm

Respectfully submitted,



Scott Lehner, City Administrator



Jeffrey M. Pilon, Mayor