

**City of Tifton**  
**FY2021 Budget Workshop**  
**May 21, 2020**  
**11:45 AM**  
**Tifton City Hall**

**Attendees**

Mayor Julie Smith

Vice Mayor Wes Ehlers

Council Member Jack Folk (via webex)

Council Member Johnny Terrell

Council Member M. Jay Hall

Pete Pyrzenski, City Manager

Dana Chancey, Finance Director

Jessica White, City Clerk

**Call to Order**

Mayor Julie Smith called the meeting to order.

**Presentation of the Proposed FY2021 Budget**

Mr. Pete Pyrzenski opened by mentioning the budget was prepared based on the previous year revenues, but mentioned the current uncertainty in tax collections may affect the final budget. The presented budget totaled \$45,727,380 for all funds. He reviewed the General Fund budget, revenues, and departmental budgets.

He informed the Council that the current year is showing a large decrease in fines and forfeitures and this revenue will need to be watched closely in the coming year. He mentioned the finance department is currently fully staffed and they are planning on bidding auditing services this upcoming year. He reviewed the Police Department Budget, and mentioned the department has six (6) open positions. The PD budget also included additional funding for training and inmate housing. The Council briefly discussed potential alternative options for inmate housing. The Fire Department budget was reviewed, and the department currently has one (1) open position. He mentioned the department is applying for a grant to hire three (3) additional firefighters per shift. Lastly he mentioned the desperate need for a new ladder truck for the Fire Department. Pyrzenski mentioned the truck is a very costly item and the city would need to effectively plan for the capital need. ESG submitted a request for an overall increase for all departments, but the City is currently negotiating the proposed increase for the public works department. The Senior Center budget was updated to correctly account for contract labor positions so that fund increased for the year.


Mr. Pyrzenski reviewed the Hotel/Motel Budget and stated the proposed 2% Hotel Motel Tax increase was included in the budget. He also reviewed the SPLOST and T-SPLOST funding budgets and projects.

Mr. Pyrzenski mentioned the city is not anticipating an increase in health insurance costs and mentioned the city's loss ratio has decreased from 170% in 2017 to 71.69% in 2019. For retirement it was recommended to continue funding at the current level.

Lastly Mr. Pyrzenski reviewed budget scenarios which could impact the upcoming year's funding and he anticipates additional cuts will have to be made to balance the budget as a result of the tax revenue shortfall.

After the budget was presented, Council briefly reviewed and discussed. A Public Hearing on the FY2021 Budget will be held on June 1, 2020 at 5:00 PM and the Budget is set to be adopted at the Council Meeting on June 15, 2020. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 5:20 PM.

Respectively Submitted,

  
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Julie Smith, Mayor

  
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Jessica White, City Clerk