## City of South Daytona City Council Budget Workshop Minutes Tuesday, August 9, 2022, at 5:00pm

City Council Chambers, 1672 S. Ridgewood Avenue, South Daytona, Florida and FaceBook Live (www.facebook.com/CityOfSouthDaytona)

**Item A1. Opening. Call to Order:** Mayor William C. Hall called the City of South Daytona Budget Workshop to order at 5:00 pm.

## Item 2. Roll Call:

**Present:** Mayor William C. Hall, Vice-Mayor Doug Quartier, Councilman Brandon Young, Councilwoman Lisa O'Neal, Councilman Eric Sander, City Manager James L. Gillis, Jr.

**Not Present: None** 

## Item B. PRESENTATION – Summary of Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Budget

City Manager Gillis thanked the Council and recalled that each councilmember spent at least two hours reviewing the budget, line by line with him over the last week. He said those meetings were very valuable and really contributed to the budget composition and direction. He noted the copious amounts of feedback, questions, and input received during those meetings which has been incorporated into this budget. Mr. Gillis said this budget is based on maintaining the millage of 7.75 mills which was set at the July 26, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting. This budget is geared to reducing debt, maintaining reserves, focusing on our ageing capital and improvement of city assets and facilities as well as encouraging new, quality development, he explained.

Finance Director Jason Oliva presented the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2022/2023.

City Manager Gillis elaborated on the undergrounding of utilities along US 1. Mayor Hall asked the cost of the undergrounding which Mr. Gillis answered approximately one million dollars per mile. Councilman Young commented on the project.

Mayor Hall expressed his concern with the plan for the proceeds from the Cell Tower sale and encouraged a stronger plan that does not incrementally diminish the 2.75 million dollars provided by the sale of the Cell Tower. City Manager Gillis suggested identifying property acquisition for future expansion of municipal buildings. Mayor Hall discussed the need for the city to replace an aging public works complex and police department in the near future.

## **Item C. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Mayor Hall asked for remaining city debt which Finance Director Oliva answered less than five million dollars.

Councilman Sander said it was brilliant and he noted watching other city budget workshops and how many are utilizing reserves to balance their budgets.

Councilwoman O'Neal agreed that the budget presented was well planned.

Councilman Young discussed trends including 27 new homestead properties where 72% of homes receive a Homestead Exemption. He discussed the housing community is comprised of 24% rental housing. Councilman Young conveyed his expectation to maintain a sense of community as the city moves forward.

Councilman Sander discussed the July Council meeting and the city manager evaluation. He encouraged the Council to consider a tangible way to express their gratitude to the City Manager.

Councilman Young said he shared the spirit but would take a different approach.

Vice-Mayor Quartier thanked City Manager Gillis and Finance Director Oliva for spending so many hours with the council going over the budget and that it was put together in an easy-to-understand format.

Monday, September 12, 2022, at 6:00 pm will be the first hearing for the budget and millage. Final adoption is set for Tuesday, September 27, 2022, at 6:00pm.

**Item D: ADJOURNMENT:** Mayor William C. Hall adjourned the City of South Daytona Budget Workshop at 5:56 pm.

Community Redevelopment Agency Meeting (C.R.A.G) to follow at 6:00pm.

Deputy City Clerk, Becky Witte