

DECEMBER 2, 2019

A workshop was held at the M.S. Bailey Center at 5:00 PM with Mayor Bob McLean presiding with Councilmembers Cook, Jenkins, Kuykendall, Neal, Roth and Walsh. The City Manager was also present. Local news media present was Brian Whitmore from the Clinton Chronicle, Randy Stevens from WLBG and Monty Dutton from GoClintn.com. Notice was emailed to all local news media on November 27, 2019.

INVOCATION	The invocation was given by Mr. Bill Cannon.
PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE	Mayor McLean asked Council and the audience to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS	Mayor McLean stated that the next item on the agenda is a workshop to consider Capital Improvement Projects to submit to the Sales Tax Commission. Mayor McLean recognized Mr. Bill Cannon, City Manager. Mr. Cannon stated that Mr. Thomas Higgs, Assistant City Manager, would present the Capital Improvement Projects. Mr. Higgs stated that the projects presented tonight were determined by each department and what each department considered a critical need. Mr. Higgs stated that costs attached to each capital item are an estimate. Mr. Higgs stated that
POLICE DEPARTMENT	the first department is the Police Department. Mr. Higgs stated that the Police Department need eight patrol cars and the estimated cost is \$48,000 per car, two K-9 vehicles with a cost of \$68,000 per car, and sixteen 800-System Radios with a cost of \$3,000 per radio. Mr. Higgs stated that this list would be part of a Capital Improvement Plan and outside the budget. Mayor McLean stated that the Police Department has been trying to change their radio system for some time. Mayor McLean stated that the Police Department could no longer use the current radios to communicate and Mr. Cannon stated yes. Mr. Cannon stated that all of the agencies are going toward the 800-System Radios. Mr. Higgs stated that the 800- System Radios provides the Police Department with a dedicated digital channel that provides secure public information. Mr. Higgs stated that the IT Department needs network equipment for a cost of \$200,000, IT security for The City's buildings for a cost of \$250,000, a complete Fiber Ring for a cost of \$80,000, rewire DPS for a cost of \$20,000, and a GIS Printer for a cost of \$10,000. Mr. Higgs stated that the next department is Utility Billing and their Capital Improvement items are three vehicles for a cost of \$90,000, training certification costs of \$20,000, and demolition for a cost of \$100,000.
IT DEPARTMENT	
UTILITY BILLING INSPECTIONS	

PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Higgs stated that the next department is Utilities and Public Works. and their critical needs are decorative lightening from Carolina Avenue to Pine Street and South Adair for a cost of \$321,000, a small galvanized line change out for a cost of \$300,000, improve hydrant flow and pressure issues for a cost of \$500,000, upgrade Whitten Center utilities for a cost of \$2,000,000, a system loop for a cost of \$120,000, and Sewer System stabilization for a cost of \$150,000. Councilmember Jenkins asked if the Sewer System stabilization was related to the SC DHEC Consent Order and Mr. Meadors, Public Works Director, stated yes. Mayor McLean asked if the galvanized pipe change out related to changing out the old pipe lines and Mr. Meadors stated yes. Mr. Meadors stated that the galvanized pipe is original to the system and needs to be upgraded. Mayor McLean asked what is included in the Whitten Center upgrade and Mr. Meadors stated that would include Whitten Center's Water System. Mr. Higgs stated that these projects have been prioritized into four phases. Mr. Higgs stated that Phase I would include retrofit the Police

PHASE I

Department for a cost of \$500,000, decorative lightening for a cost of \$320,000, IT security for a cost of \$63,000, three Police cars for a cost of \$120,000, one inspection vehicle for a cost of \$30,000, and three Police 800-Radios for a cost of \$12,000. Mr. Higgs stated that the total cost in Phase I is \$1,045,000. Councilmember Walsh stated that the project to retrofit the Police Department would happen if the City decides not to build a new building or renovate the current building and Mr. Higgs stated yes. Mayor McLean asked if this retrofit would include a new court room and Mr. Higgs stated yes. Councilmember Kuykendall asked if the City wants to build a new Police Department and Mr. Higgs stated no. Mr. Higgs stated that the City would retrofit a current facility to accommodate the Police Department. Councilmember Walsh stated that this would be a Capital Improvement Project if the City decides not to tackle this project first and Mr. Higgs stated yes. Councilmember Kuykendall asked if Mr. Meadors would expand on the decorative lightening. Mr. Meadors stated that this project would extend the decorative lightening down South Broad Street. Councilmember Kuykendall asked if this would include putting the utilities underground. Mr. Meadors stated that the City's utilities would go underground but the City is still waiting on Charter and AT&T for their costs. Mr. Meadors stated that AT&T requires the City pay for the cost of their engineers to determine the cost of the project. Mr. Meadors stated that this requirement would cost the City about \$5,000. Councilmember Walsh stated that putting the utilities underground does not have to be accomplished before the paving of South Broad and Mr. Meadors agreed.

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Councilmember Cook asked if the cost to retrofit the Police Department is an estimate and Mr. Higgs stated yes. Councilmember Cook asked which part of the current Police and Fire Building would be the Police Department. Mr. Cannon stated that the City would utilize the M.S. Bailey Center to house the Police Department. Mr. Cannon stated that the City has over 6000 square foot available to house the Police Department. Mr. Higgs stated that the City would like to move the Police Department to the M.S. Bailey Center and renovate the current Fire Department.

Councilmember Cook stated that it was not cost effective to move the Utility Billing Department into that part of the M.S. Bailey Center but the City is looking into moving the Police Department. Mr. Cannon stated that the City could have moved the Utility Billing Department but it would have cost the City approximately \$156,000 to upgrade that area to fit the Utility Billing Department. Mr. Cannon stated that the City cannot afford to build a new Police and Fire Building so this is an alternative to the issue. Councilmember Cook stated that the City could have a secured Court System in this area and Mr. Cannon stated yes. Mr. Cannon stated that if School District 56 moves to Bell Street then the City would have plenty of room for the Police Department and the Court System. Mr.

PHASE II

Higgs stated that the projects in Phase II are a new Fire Department for a cost of \$2,500,000, IT security for a cost of \$63,000, small galvanized line changes for a cost of \$300,000, three Police cars for a cost of \$120,000, one inspection vehicle for a cost of \$30,000, and three Police 800- Radios. Mr. Higgs stated that the total cost of Phase II is \$3,025,000. Mr. Higgs stated that Phase II would renovate the Fire Department as well as the Fire Substation. Mr. Cannon stated that the City needs to add about another 1000 square feet to the Fire Substation because the City needs to improve the living quarters at the Substation. Mr. Higgs stated that

PHASE III

Phase III includes a new Fire Truck for a cost of \$500,000, the Whitten Center upgrade for a cost of \$2,000,000, three Police cars for a cost of \$120,000, one inspection vehicle for a cost of \$30,000, three Police 800- Radios for a cost of \$12,000, and IT security of a cost of \$63,000. Mr. Higgs stated that the total cost of Phase III is \$2,725,000. Mr. Higgs stated that Council could prioritize the projects into two phases. Councilmember Jenkins stated that the City purchased a Fire Truck recently. Mr. Higgs stated that since these projects are divided into phases then the Fire Truck purchase would be five years in the future. Councilmember Roth stated that the City has already set up a rotation for the Police cars. Councilmember Roth stated that by adding these vehicles to this Capital Improvement Project would save the City money and Mr. Higgs agreed.

PHASE IV

Mr. Higgs stated that Phase IV includes an upgrade of the hydrant flow pressure issues for a cost of \$500,000, three Police vehicles for a cost of \$120,000, one Inspection vehicle for a cost of \$30,000, three Police 800-Radios for a cost of \$12,000, and IT security for a cost of \$63,000. Mr. Higgs stated that the total cost of Phase IV is \$725,000. Mr. Higgs stated that Council could use this list during the budget workshops to determine which projects to tackle. Mayor McLean stated that he would like to add a project to the list which is to add a sidewalk from Presbyterian College on South Adair to Jacobs Highway. Mayor McLean stated that Mr. Stovall, former City Manager, worked on this project. Mr. Cannon stated that City staff would look into the cost of the project. Councilmember Roth asked Mr. Walter Hughes, City of Clinton's Representative on the Sales Tax Commission, if the projects discussed tonight was in line within the guidelines of the Sales Tax Commission and Mr. Hughes stated yes. Mr. Hughes stated that the only capital item that may be in question is the vehicles. Councilmember Roth stated that the Sales Tax Commission would be looking at projects that affect the quality of life and Mr. Hughes agreed. Mr. Hughes stated that the Sales Tax Commission would meet for the first time in two weeks to sort out the procedures. Councilmember Roth stated that if the Capital Projects are accepted then the Sales Tax Commission moves forward with these projects until the funds run out and Mr. Hughes agreed. Mr. Hughes stated that if the Sales Tax Commission is in the middle of a project and the funds run out then the City is responsible for finishing the project. Mayor McLean asked if the Sales Tax Commission has determined how the funds would be dispersed throughout Laurens County and Mr. Hughes stated that has not been discussed. Mr. Hughes stated that if the timeline for the projects is eight years and the funds are raised in six years then the projects are complete. Councilmember Roth asked if that would afford the City the opportunity to request funds for other projects if the money is available at an earlier date and Mr. Hughes stated that he would look into that question. Councilmember Cook asked Mr. Hughes to get clarification on what constitutes a Capital Improvement Project. Councilmember Cook stated that he did not want the City to submit Capital Improvement Projects that the Sales Tax Commission would not accept. Councilmember Walsh stated that Council may wish to look at the budget to start addressing some of these Capital Improvements. Mayor McLean stated that the City is limited in how many Capital Improvements the City could budget because the City does not have the funds to pay back the bonds. Councilmember Cook stated that this list of Capital Improvements allows Council to determine what the critical needs are and how the City would fund the projects whether through the budget, bonds, or funds from the Sales Tax Commission.

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Mr. Cannon stated that Council would start looking at the City's budget in February. Mr. Cannon stated that 52% of the City's property does not pay property taxes. Councilmember Cook stated that IT security has to be a priority because it would only take one tragedy to see how important IT security is. Councilmember Cook stated that the City cannot spend more than is available but at some point Council must determine which projects is a priority. Mayor McLean stated that Cities combine resources and share IT security which spreads out the cost for the security. Councilmember Cook asked Mr. Meadors where the City stands in completing the SC DHEC Consent Order. Mr. Meadors stated that the City is making progress. Mr. Meadors stated that the City is applying for a RIA Grant and a CDBG to help with the upgrades. Mr. Meadors stated that the City has problems with the Water and Sewer Systems not only in the Consent Order area but all over the City. Councilmember Cook asked if the City has a deadline to complete the Consent Order and Mr. Meadors stated no. Mr. Cannon stated that the City would receive \$250,000 from the State to go toward the Consent Order projects. Councilmember Walsh asked where the City stands regarding the library. Mr. Cannon stated that Council does not see the library on the Capital Improvement Projects list because the library is a Laurens County project. Councilmember Roth stated that the City would still incur expenses for the library and does the City know what the expenses are. Councilmember Roth stated that in the past Laurens County would furnish the City a library if the City provided the land. Mr. Cannon stated that Laurens County would own the new library for five years in order to claim the tax credits. Mr. Cannon stated that at the end of the five years Laurens County would deed the library to the City along with \$100,000 to help with future maintenance costs for the library. Councilmember Roth stated that Laurens County does have an option to buy the library and Mr. Cannon agreed. Councilmember Roth also stated that CSX would be willing to make that area a quiet zone through a private public partnership for \$500,000. Councilmember Roth stated there is a cost to the City for the quiet zone and Mr. Cannon stated yes. Councilmember Roth stated that the City does not know the cost for this new library even if it is being funded by the Sales Tax Commission. Councilmember Roth stated that currently the City pays \$1850 per month to lease the building for the library. Councilmember Roth asked what is the lease for the new library. Councilmember Roth stated that the library is a wonderful idea but the City does not know the true cost for this library. Councilmember Neal asked who is responsible for paying the library personnel and Mr. Cannon stated Laurens County.

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Councilmember Roth stated that Council needs clarification concerning the new library. Mr. Cannon stated that he would contact the developer concerning the library.

ADJOURN

With there being no further business before Council motion was made by Councilmember Cook to adjourn and seconded by Councilmember Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR