

**City of Troy, Missouri**  
**Budget Workshop**  
**Thursday, June 3, 2021**  
**6:30 P.M.**

Present for the meeting were Aldermen Detert, Dunard, Grimstead, Horner, Norman, Jones and Mayor Sconce. Also present were Police Chief Taylor, Treasurer Flinn and City Clerk Schneider. There were several staff and citizens present.

Mayor Sconce opened the Budget Workshop at 6:30 p.m. and declared a quorum present. Several citizens were present at the workshop.

Treasurer Flinn relayed notes on “What’s changed since the May 25<sup>th</sup> Budget Workshop.”

Alderman Detert requested an additional budget workshop to further discuss the need for six police officers and purchase Durango vehicles instead of Charger vehicles. Detective Chris Voland added that the Durango was an 8-cylinder engine that stored more equipment with higher resale value.

Alderman Grimstead would like to hire two officers now with a review in January. Alderman Norman said the City had been leaving it “as-in” for a long time now and suggested that all do a ride along with an officer. Alderman Jones said he talked with citizens and one big concern was that the citizens did not feel enough law enforcement was on the streets and if the Board decides to hire six officers that the police department needs to show the citizens that it helps to hire more officers. Chief Taylor said more officers will help the call load coverage and make the department proactive again with community programs.

Mayor Sconce said the Board needs to decide on what budget number that it can live with by looking at the red numbers which indicates spending more money than taken in. The Board needs to pass a responsible budget. Mayor Sconce said that adding a \$600,000 red number to the budget is deficit spending.

Alderman Grimstead said to take a conservative approach since inflation, economy and new President are unknowns. Alderman Grimstead said if reserves are depleted then the Board would have to turn around and terminate officers the following year. Alderman Norman asked about CARES Act money and Mayor Sconce answered the balance remaining is \$259,000. There is \$2.9 million dollars in Rescue Act money over two years but it is allocated differently for water, sewer and broadband and final rules are still pending. Alderman Grimstead said with administration changes, inflation going up, building less houses, prices going up, that he prefers the conservative approach. We have

to watch out. Alderman Grimstead said we do not want to do a \$300,000 budget amendment increase mid-year, plus this is \$1 million hit to the budget.

Alderman Detert wanted four officers plus two more in January and Durango versus Charger which increased the budget by \$6,000 from last workshop. Alderman Horner asked how many miles are put on a patrol car per year and Chief Taylor responded approximately 20,000 miles. Alderman Detert said 20,000 vehicles go through the intersection per day with three officers per squad.

Alderman Dunard wanted to hire four officers now and two more in January citing public safety was the first impression of the town and agreed to change to Durango and take money from General Fund Reserves-CARES Act to pay for the vehicles.

Discussion on community programs by the police department was citizen academy, police explorers and Back to the Streets but not enough officers for these programs.

Alderman Grimstead wanted Item 13 for Audio-Visual separated and leave in Audio only and put in \$4,000 for a speaker system from General Fund Reserve. Alderman Grimstead offered free installation.

Alderman Detert polled each Alderman individually on hiring six officers with four in July and two more in January. There was consensus.

The Mayor adjourned the Budget Workshop at 7:13 p.m.

ATTEST:

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City Clerk

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Mayor Ron Sconce