

CITY OF COOPER
CITY COUNCIL MEETING – BUDGET WORK SESSION AND SPECIAL MEETING
AUGUST 20, 2024 – 5:00 PM

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: DARREN BRADY; MAYOR, DAVID PHILLIPS, LINDA BARNES, JOSH HOSKISON IN PERSON, DIANE STEGALL VIA ZOOM

OTHERS PRESENT: EMILY HOWSE, ASHLEY COLVIN, MARSHALL LYNCH, LISA CARTER AND TANNER CRUTCHER

ABSENT: CITY ATTORNEY, JAY GARRETT AND SCOTTY DEATHERAGE

AGENDA ITEM #1

Mayor Darren Braddy called the meeting to order and Darren also voiced the prayer.

AGENDA ITEM #2

Mayor Darren Braddy presented the updated version of the 2024-2025 proposed budget. Mayor Braddy went over each line item that had been updated since the last meeting. Mayor Braddy stated that the insurance for the employees had gone up, line items for TESRS buyback time warrant and SAFER Grant plan had been implemented into the updated budget.

There were no council objections to the proposed 2024-2025 budget that was presented.

No action was taken or needed on the budget discussion.

AGENDA ITEM #3

Mayor Darren Braddy presented to the council that the SAFER Grant that has been awarded to the City of Cooper needed action of approval or disapproval of acceptance at this time. Tanner Crutcher stated that this grant would pay for three full time fire fighters for three years and after three years it would be the responsibility of the city to assume one third, which would amount to around \$80,000.00 (Delta County and Delta County ESD would be responsible for the remaining two thirds) of the cost to continue the three full time positions. Tanner stated that this was a great opportunity for the city and the county but he did not want the council to accept the grant if the city did not think they would be able to continue their portion after the three-year grant period was complete. Tanner stated that Delta County and Delta County ESD had committed their portion, Tanner stated that it would be a struggle for the county but he was confident it could be accomplished. Emily Howse stated that there was \$60,000.00 budgeted in the upcoming 2024-2025 proposed budget to be earmarked for this purpose only and \$60,000.00 would be moved the next two consecutive years which would build up funds for when the SAFER Grant ended. It was the consensus of the council to accept the SAFER Grant.

Josh Hoskison made the motion to approve the acceptance of the SAFER Grant. Linda Barnes seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #4

Mayor Darren Braddy presented to the council that the proposed tax rate to be published needed to be decided and voted on. Mayor Braddy stated that the 2024-2025 proposed budget was prepared using the proposed effective tax rate of .649272, that is prepared by the Delta County Tax Office. It was the consensus of the council to publish the proposed effective rate of .649272 to be voted on for approval at the September 9, 2024 public hearing and regular council meeting.

Diane Stegall made the motion to approve the proposed effective tax rate of .649272 to be published and to be voted on for approval at the September 9, 2024 public hearing and regular council meeting. David Phillips seconded. Vote: David Phillips, Linda Barnes, Diane Stegall and Josh Hoskison voted Aye. There were no Nays. Scotty Deatherage was absent and did not vote. The proposed effective tax rate of .649272 was approved to be published.

AGENDA ITEM #5

David Phillips made the motion to adjourn. Josh Hoskison seconded. Vote unanimous.

TIME: 5:55 PM

APPROVED:



DARREN BRADDY, MAYOR
CITY OF COOPER

ATTEST:



EMILY HOWSE
CITY SECRETARY