

**TOWN OF ASTATULA
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
SUMMARY MINUTES**



**BUDGET WORKSHOP
MONDAY AUGUST 21, 2023
2023-2024 BUDGET**

Having been duly advertised as required by law, Mayor Mitchell Mack called the workshop to order at 5.39 pm. Mayor Mack led The Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present:

Mitchell Mack, Mayor
Stephen Cross, Vice-Mayor
Gayle Sikkema
Zane Teeters

Absent:

Orita Issartel

Also Present:

Graham Wells, Town Clerk
Wally Hoagland, Police Chief

The Mayor opened the meeting and introduced Kevin Sheely, Ray Villagas and Mike Kelly from the Lake Area Economic Development (LEAD) Partnership and asked them to step forward and address the council on what the group seeks to achieve and how it can help the town of Astatula.

Kevin Sheely took the floor and described it as a public/private partnership the fell into three categories.

1. Business Attraction
2. Business Retention – Barriers to Growth
3. Business Creation – Entrepreneurship

Following a solid presentation and a question-and-answer period with the board, the Mayor thanked them for coming. Further discussion then ensued between the board members it was decided not to pursue any further action at this time.

The Mayor then went over the proposed budget for the transportation Fund. He highlighted that 50% of the staff cost for public works was put into the Transportation budget for Right-of-way maintenance. The personal costs reflected the increase in wage and hours for Heather and also moving Scott to full-time with the corresponding health insurance costs. The total expenditures are shown below.

Personal Services			
Employee Wages	34,528	Public Works Staff Wages	
Payroll Taxes	2,641	7.65% of Total Wages	
Retirement Contributions	4,685	Florida Retirement System - 13.57% of Total Wages	
Health Insurance	7,602	Florida Blue \$1,236 pm for 9 months plus \$1,360 for 3 months (July-Sept)	
Operating Expenditures			
Professional Services	4,500	Locates	
Utilities	22,500	Town Street and Traffic Lights	
Repairs & Maintenance	9,000	Traffic Light Maintenance; Tree Trimming	
Operating Supplies	600	General Supplies	
Fuel	1,200	Fuel for Mowing of Right-of-Way	
Road Materials & Supplies	1,343	Road Patch; Millings	
Road Signs & Paving	0	Road Paving and Striping; Street Signs; Speed Signs	
Total Expenditures	88,600		

The Clerk emphasized that to balance the budget of expenditures against the \$88,600 in Revenue from Local and 9th cent gas taxes, and State Revenue Sharing, there was no amount for paving and signage. If paving was required, then it would have to be funded from Infrastructure. There being no questions from the board, the Mayor moved on to the infrastructure fund.

The budget provides for an estimate of \$230,000 in revenues from Discretionary Surtax. The proposed budget for expenditure is shown below.

Capital Outlay

Council	4,000	Council Table: Computer for Mayor
Town Hall	7,526	Copier Lease; Furniture for Clerks Office
Public Works	14,000	Exmark Lawnmower
Physical Environment	12,000	Fence for Cemetery
Parks & Recreation	40,000	Community Center Parking Lot
Parks & Recreation	<u>15,000</u>	Icemaker; Furniture; Storeage Shed
	92,626	
Unappropriated funds	<u>137,374</u>	Carry Forward to Future Year
Total Expenditures	230,000	

There was discussion on the proposed lawnmower purchase, the paving of overflow parking lot at the community center and three entry monuments. It was agreed that \$40,000 would be added for the town entry signs, \$15,000 for cameras at the community center, and \$26,000 for a vehicle lift for public works. The \$5,000 for the icemaker would be removed as this would be leased through the general fund.

The Clerk went over the figures for the Enterprise Fund. He said that it is very difficult to predict the revenues as he must take into account the effect of transferring homes from LGI, whose bills are very high, to residents once they are sold where the usage would be much lower. There was no guarantee that Tula Parc would have any new homes in the next fiscal year as the water treatment plant was a year out. He added that all the variables had been carefully looked at and that he was comfortable with his projections.

Vice-Mayor Cross asked if we were covering our expenses on water right now. The Clerk replied that with the current usage from LGI, it was definitely washing its face. \$20,000 from the \$80,000 loan from the general fund had already been repaid and it was anticipated that the remaining \$60,000 would be repaid by the end of the year.

The Mayor gave an update on the proposed expansion of the water plant to deal with future growth. The emergency call box was also discussed and the chief gave an update on the speed radar in the school zone and progress on the grants that had been applied for.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Mitchell Mack, Mayor

ATTEST:



Graham Wells, CMC Town Clerk

