

# Taylortown Town Council

Budget Public Hearing

June 11th, 2024

Town Hall

6:00 p.m. Open Session

## I. Call to Order

Mayor Gaddy called the meeting to order. He introduced the newest addition to the Taylortown Police Department, Christopher Thomas, to the public.

Christopher introduced himself to the public, briefly stating his age and where he lives. He graduated May 22nd.

Mayor Gaddy welcomes everyone to the Public Hearing, requesting everyone to join him in a moment of silence.

Mayor Gaddy reminds everyone that there were two budget workshops held and that the notice was published in the pilot as well as on the door of the Town Hall and Facebook. He notes that there has not been a public hearing on the budget in recent memory, and emphasizes the determination of the council to learn more about the operation of their government.

Mayor Gaddy notes that during this process going to the podium is not required, any questions can be asked from your seat.

Mayor Gaddy invites public comments.

## II. Public Comment

Marcella Alston: Brought forward concerns about a foul smell in “the daycare” (Miss D’s Angel’s Learning Center).

Adam Cheatam: Brings forward concerns and suggestions about lawn care for Taylortown and the pool.

Citizen inquires as to whether the alarm at the lift station works.

William Green asks clarifying questions about the policy regarding public comments.

## III. Budget Public Hearing

Ms. Cole states that the budget is the same as it was in 2023-2024, with a few amendments being made.

She also goes onto explain the council stipends and what they are used for, and suggests the stipends for councilmembers increase.

Ms. Cole breaks down the mechanism for which checks are signed and deposits are made, citing Mayor Gaddy, Mayor Pro Tem Moody, and Councilwoman Cotton as those who are able to sign checks, and Mayor Gaddy as the finance officer.

There is a conversation about hiring of town hall employees, including the vacant positions of water clerk and town clerk.

Ms. Cole answers questions about who and what makes up the administration department in Taylortown; She also breaks down each department that was decided on by council and the difference between those employees that are hired by the town and those that are contracted by the town.

Ms. Cole breaks down the salaries of the employees, and explains how expenses are broken down in each category; she explains how benefits are factored into salaries.

Ms. Cole explains staffing and training in the police department and its relation to policy; she also speaks on updating the policy manual.

Ms. Cole answers questions regarding the budget and sanitation. Council discusses sanitation costs.

The total proposed/suggested budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year is \$1,285,517.00.

Mayor Pro Tem Moody discusses some suggested rates for the pool, and lays out a plan for Taylortown citizens and those they sponsor to be discussed later.

Mr. Blanton lays out the proposed budget and fees, breaking it down by category.

Mr. Blanton speaks about the importance of balancing both revenue and expenses for the town in the proposed budget.

Ms. Cole discusses the cemetery and the suggestion that council think about their fees for purchasing plots. It is brought to the attention of council that policy decisions need to be made regarding the purchasing plots in the cemetery.

There was no proposed change in water and sewer rates, nor in property taxes.

Council acknowledges:

“We assembled this day, June 11th, 2024 for this public hearing”.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Moody

Second: Councilwoman Parker

Mayor Gaddy - Yes

Mayor Pro Tem Moody - Yes

Councilwoman Cotton - Yes

Councilwoman Parker - Yes

Councilman Taylor - Yes

Mayor Gaddy: “Budget Ordinance for 2024-2025 has been approved by council.”

Mayor Pro Tem Moody announces that the Juneteenth celebration is on Saturday.

The Budget Public Hearing is adjourned.