

**WINCHESTER BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING HELD  
MAY 16, 2022 9:00 A.M.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Commissioner Reed**

**INVOCATION - City Manager Flynn**

**PRESIDING:**

Mayor Edallen York Burtner

**PRESENT:**

Commissioner JoEllen Reed  
Commissioner Shannon Cox  
Commissioner Kitty Strode

Commissioner Joe Chenault was absent and excused.

City Manager Mike Flynn, Finance Director Michelle Lucas, Deputy City Clerk Dianna Layne, Human Resources Director Tammy Shelton, Purchasing Officer Teresa Henry, and the City Clerk were present.

Upon determining that a quorum was present for the transaction of business, Mayor Burtner called the May 16, 2022 special budget work session to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission Chambers of City Hall.

**BUDGET WORK SESSION**

**Fire/EMS Departments**

Fire Chief Chris Whiteley presented his FY 2023 budget request to the Commission. He stated there were 40 approved positions for the fire side of the department and 19 approved positions on the EMS side. He stated in the last few months there had been 16 new hires, full and part-time.

Chief Whiteley noted there were a few big-ticket items the Fire/EMS Department was requesting, including a drone, a new truck and trailer for the Bluegrass Emergency Response Team (BERT), and a structural collapse camera. He stated Nick Riggs was in the process of completing grant applications for the Office of Homeland Security for these three items, and if awarded, the City’s match would be 10% for each item, a total cost of \$16,332.

Chief Whiteley stated he is requesting under an alternate proposal, the split of the Fire and EMS into two different departments with the EMS Department under the umbrella of the Winchester Fire Department. He noted he would recommend a total of 56 fire personnel and a total of 23 EMS personnel. There would be some issues that would need to be addressed before this split could happen, completing the equipment building, adding more housing to Ecton Station, among other issues. The proposal was a four-year plan with total number of requested personnel shown.

Chief Whiteley reported the fire stations had 10-year-old beds that were at the end of their use and requested funding from both the Fire and EMS budgets to purchase new beds. He

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stated he would work with community partners on seeing if they could donate mattresses for the new beds. If this could not be done, he stated the funds for mattresses would come from both Fire and EMS budgets.

Also present were Fire Marshall Joe Wheeling, EMS Major Jacob Allen, BC Scotty Bell, and BC Matt Blose.

**Police/Communications Department**

Police Chief Kevin Palmer stated that Communications had 15 approved positions and noted there was one retirement of a Communications Officer coming in the next few weeks. He stated that there are 39 approved positions for the Police with 36 positions for Officers and three administrative positions.

Chief Palmer reviewed his department’s requests for new communication workstations and a Vesta 911 Answering System as these are at the end of use due to 24/7 use. He requested new MDT computers for new officers, which each officer is assigned one computer, either mobile or desktop.

Chief Palmer requested the purchase of new vehicles which would be bought under the state contract prices. Those vehicles purchased in the FY 2023 budget would also include a new vehicle for the Codes Enforcement Officer.

Those also present: Captains Craycraft, Hall, and Campbell.

**Engineering Tech Department**

Engineering Tech Daron Stephens reviewed his budget requests for FY 2023. He noted the Capital Projects that were scheduled for FY 2023 were Fulton Road, Seventh Street, Vaught Road Stormwater Remediation, and Frontier Way.

Mr. Stephens noted the Community Sidewalk Project which had been budgeted in FY 2022 had been a great program and he requested an additional \$10,000 to expand this project. He stated those using the repayment system of the program had paid back what they owed.

**ADJOURN**

With no further business, on motion by Commissioner Cox, seconded by Commissioner Strode, and with unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned.

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Edallen York Burtner, Mayor

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Joy L. Curtis, City Clerk