

Working Session – 6:00 PM

At 6:00 PM Mayor McNinch called the Working Session of the Denton Town Council to order on this date, leading everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and thanking everyone for coming.

Attendance:

Mayor McNinch, Councilman Lister, Councilman Branson, Councilman Taylor. Councilman Johnson was absent.

Staff in attendance included: Scott Getchell, Mark Chandler, and Karen Monteith.

Discussion was held on the following:

Small Business Administration Presentation

Ms. Liliana Tschanett from the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA) came before the Council to announce and answer questions pertaining to the New Federal Disaster Relief Loan Funds now available to businesses affected by the economic impact from the Key Bridge collapse. Affected businesses may apply for up to \$2 million dollars in low interest loans, applications will be accepted through December 30, 2024. Joining Ms. Tshanett was Ms. Evette Jeffrey.

Ms. Tschanett asked for the Town's support in providing awareness to businesses in the area by pushing information about the SBA Loan Program on the Town's website, social media and through any local media channels.

Town Attorney Appointment

Mr. Scott Getchell, Town Administrator, initiated discussion recommending the appointment of Mrs. Lyndsey Ryan as the Town Attorney. Mrs. Ryan has been the acting attorney since the passing of Mr. Drummond. This item will be placed on the June agenda for consideration.

Denton Volunteer Fire Company

Representatives from DVFC came before the Council to discuss the use and designation of the Town's annual contribution to the fire company. DVFD Members in attendance included Fire Captain Dennis Porter, President Todd Berneski, Fire Chief Scott Sefton, Deputy Fire Chief Doug Higgs, Treasurer Ron Wieber, Assistant Treasurer Kerry Sefton, Asst Secretary Mary Berneski, Asst. Fire Chief Thomas Frankhouser and Lifetime Member Bobby Fearins.

Mr. Porter and Mr. Berneski shared that the Town funds are currently being utilized for operational cost, utilities, insurance, debt payments, etc. Concerns were discussed on the effects of the Town restricting and designating what funds can be used right now in the middle of their year, when the plan is to use the funds on operations, not paying off a particular debt. The Fire Dept. works on a calendar year basis, while the Town's fiscal year is July to June.

The Mayor and Council members expressed that as stewards of the Town Funds, they are seeking for an increase in accountability; a plan for future liabilities; the fire dept. to establish a designation for how future Town funds are to be used and for tangible items. Also, to receive reports to support contributions being paid.

Mr. Porter and Mr. Berneski will work on restricting and designating what the Town funds are used for in FY25 and provide reports.

Staff was instructed to place the disbursement of the remaining FY24 allocation on the June agenda for consideration for approval.

2024-09

Enterprise Funds Budget Review

Mr. Getchell presented the FY25 Water, Sewer, and Highway Fund Budgets, along with an Organizational Chart for each Department, 5-year capital outlay, street project and water project cost summaries. Discussion was held on each Fund and the budget will be placed on the June agenda for consideration of adoption.

Miscellaneous

Mayor McNinch announced a Memorial Day Parade will be held on Friday, May 24th at 6PM.

With no further business to discuss, Mayor McNinch adjourned the Working Session at 7:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Karen L. Monteith
Clerk-Treasurer*