

**Palmetto City Council
Budget Workshop
September 16, 2002 4:00 PM**

Elected Officials Present:

**Larry Bustle, Mayor
Mary Lancaster, Vice Mayor
Shirley Bryant, Council Member
Tamara Cornwell, Council Member
Charlie Grace, Council Member
Brian Williams, Council Member**

Staff and others present:

**Karen A. Conion, City Clerk
Garry Lowe, Chief of Police
Capt. Clyde Hedrick, Captain
Allen Tusing, Public Works Superintendent
Jim Keranen, Finance Director
Bill Hawthorne, CPA Associates
Diane Ponder, Administrative Assistant**

Mayor Bustle called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

Vice Mayor Lancaster opened the meeting with a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

Chief Garry Lowe recognized Explorer Post 62 for being named number one in the state in crime prevention.

Chief Lowe also introduced new officers, Randy Hodo, Chris Reyes and Chris Leister.

Reviewing the budget to date, Mayor Bustle informed Council expected revenue, at 4.6645 mills, is \$7,523,863 and expenses will be \$8,151,135. \$627,272 will be taken from the reserve account resulting in expected net revenue of \$51,989. Mayor Bustle also discussed the items he and the Department Heads restored to the budget and the tiered salary plan ranging from 3 to 4%.

Of the Items Returned to the Budget, Council cut the following:

***Traffic Counters was reduced \$810 (deleted \$810)
Speed Trailer was deleted (8,000)
Security at Public Works was reduced to \$7,863
Informant Drugs Buys was deleted (\$3,000)
Community Outreach was deleted (\$2,000)
ArcInfo/Arc View Training was deleted (\$9,000)
PHC-Electronics Equipment, Decorating Supplies was deleted (\$3,000)
Tuition Reimbursement was deleted (\$1,000)***

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Department Head Increases reduced to \$2,000 (deleted \$2,000)

Discussing the additional Building Inspector who will also assist with Code Enforcement, Mayor Bustle will contact the CRA to determine if the Board Members will consider help funding the expense.

It was consensus of Council to fund the employee pay increase, using a tiered percentage of 4% for employees earning below \$25,000, 3.5% \$25,000 to \$45,000 and 3% for employees earning over \$45,000.

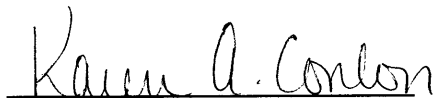
In addition to the percentage increase, police officers will receive a tiered increase of \$4,000 for officers, \$3,000 for corporals, \$2,000 for sergeants and \$1,000 for lieutenants, captain and chief. This additional pay increase reduced the overtime budget by 40% and changed the pay period to 86 hours.

Staff was instructed to reduce Travel & Per Diem and Technical & Training by an additional 10%.

Council discussed the proposed Uniform Policy developed by the Department Heads. Council discussed the City supplying the initial shirts to Group III after which it would be the responsibility of the employee to purchase. Mrs. Lancaster stated once again that she did not want to purchase clothing for office personnel, suggesting a dress code for these employees should be developed and enforced. She also commented that if one department is provided the shirts all departments should be provided the same benefit. Mrs. Conlon suggested the City should standardize the shirts that will be purchased. No definitive action was taken on the Uniform Policy.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Minutes approved: October 7, 2002



**Karen A. Conlon
City Clerk**