

**April 15, 2020  
Budget Committee Meeting #1  
City of Gaston  
Zoom Videoconference**

**I.** Budget Committee Meeting called to order at 7:07 by Mayor Meeker. Those present at the meeting are:

Brent Whittaker, Budget Committee Chair: Present  
Andrew Sewall, Budget Committee Co-Chair: Present  
Mario DePiero: Present  
Bill Martin: Present  
David Meeker: Present  
Sarah Branch: Present  
Suzy Whittaker: Present  
Don Richter: Present  
Ruben Lopez: *absent*  
Brian Wilhelm: *absent*  
Mike Marr, Accountant: Present  
Sgt. Ray, Washington County Sheriff's Office: Present  
Wenonah Blanchette, City Recorder: Present

**II. 2019-2020 Supplemental Budget Review:** Recorder Blanchette asked for questions on the 2019-2020 Supplemental Budget and announced the City's accountant Mike Marr is available to answer questions as well. Mike Marr made note of some minor corrections to the document explaining the goals behind adopting the supplemental budget as being the opening beginning fund balances for most funds to match with actual opening balances and adjustments for the benefit of the General Fund. Councilor Sewall had questions about financial monthly reports provided by Mike Marr which includes "supplementary" information and is different from the Supplemental Budget that the budget committee is reviewing now. From discussions had regarding the monthly supplementary Councilor Sewall agreed to approve of the recommended changes reclassifying engineering expenditures to the capital outlay expenditures.

Recorder Blanchette asked Council to select dates for upcoming budget committee meetings, appoint a committee chair and co-chair before moving to the regular meeting. David Meeker called for volunteers to serve as chair or co-chair with none heard. The Recorder suggested to nominate Bill Martin, Sarah Branch nominated Suzy Whittaker no action taken. City resident Brent Whittaker suggested budget committee members begin reviewing the budget document and schedule meetings for May with the hopes that convening the meeting in public can occur. Sarah Branch asked to send the letters for selected resident's budget committee participation and budget documents at the same time.

**III.** Brent Whittaker volunteered for the budget chair with consensus from Council having Brent Whittaker as budget chair and Andy Sewall as co-chair. Several budget committee members requested to have a paper copy of the budget mailed or available for pick up and agreed to reconvene the budget committee to May 13, 2020 at 7PM. Meeting adjourned at 7:45PM.

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Chairman Brent Whittaker

Attest:

  
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City Recorder Wenonah Blanchette