

**May 9, 2016**  
**Budget Committee Meeting #4**  
**City of Gaston**

**Budget Committee Present:** Chairperson David Meeker, Mayor Tony Hall, Jerry Spaulding, and Don Richter. City Recorder Wenonah Blanchette

**Absent:** Chris Jeffries and Richard Sager.

**I.** Chair Meeker opened the Budget Committee meeting at 6:00 pm.

**II. 2015-2016 Committee Budget Review:** Chair Meeker informed the committee that they will not be doing a line by line read of the budget. At this time Chair Meeker asked committee members if there were any suggestions with changes or corrections with the updated budget.

**III.** Mayor Tony Hall explained to committee members the need to hire an accountant to complete the audit reports for 2013, 2014, and 2015. After holding a phone conference on April 29 expecting to be updated with the audits, it was discussed that there was not sufficient information to continue moving forward with those audits at this time. To move forward hiring a 3<sup>rd</sup> party accountant to review the finances from Springbrook and prepare the information to them is what is necessary to proceed. Pauly Rogers recommended hiring Michael Marr, an accountant who currently works with other local governments on a monthly basis is best suited to address this problem. Discussion was heard amongst the committee regarding ongoing issues with Springbrook, problems with the program, costs associated with hiring an accountant and monthly costs for continuing services with Michael Marr on a regular basis. Cost associated with an ongoing monthly fee for preparing statements are approximately \$75 per hour but the ongoing monthly charge would be anywhere between \$200 and \$500 or no more than \$4-5,000 annually. Marr recommended the City uses QuickBooks for the finances and hire him on a monthly basis to provide the Council with finance reports. The following changes to the budget are as follows:

1. Increase page 2, line 2 by \$2,000.
2. Increase page 2, line 13 by \$14,000 and remove the word "Springbrook."
3. Increase page 12, line 3 by \$2,000.
4. Increase page 16 line 18 by \$7,000

Motion was made by Tony Hall and seconded by Don Richter to "hire the accountant recommended by Pauly Rogers, Michael Marr, to help the auditors with the 2013, 2014, and 2015 fiscal year. This also includes hiring him on monthly basis to provide Council with financial reports." Motion carried with aye votes heard from: Hall, Richter, Meeker, and Spaulding. Nay:0.

No further comments were heard at this time.

**IV. ADJOURNMENT:** Chairman Meeker called to close this budget committee meeting at 7:05pm. Next Budget Committee Meeting will be June 8 at 6:30pm. Meeting adjourned.

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Chairman David Meeker

Attest:

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City Recorder Wenonah Blanchette