

BUDGET BRIEFING – PARISH
THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 2024; 1:00 P.M.
705 W. University Avenue, Council Auditorium
Wrap-Up

Council members in attendance: Ken Stansbury (Parish District 3 – Finance Chair), John Guilbeau (Parish District 4 – Finance Vice-Chair), Donald Richard (Parish District 2), and AB Rubin (Parish District 5)
Absent: Bryan Tabor (Parish District 1)

Administration staff members in attendance: Mayor-President Monique Boulet, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Rachel Godeaux, City-Parish Attorney Pat Ottinger, Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Karen Fontenot, Chief of Staff Christina Dayries, Policy Advisor Yancy LeGrande, Budget Manager Denise Deville, Chief Budget Analyst Deosha Matthews, Senior Budget Analyst Jason Gilbert, Traffic, Roads & Bridges Director/Interim Public Works Director Warren Abadie, Parks, Arts, Recreation & Culture (PARC) Director Timothy Sensley, Lafayette Fire Chief Robert Benoit, Scott Fire Chief Chad Sonnier, Broussard Fire Chief Bryan Champagne, Carencro Fire Chief David Mouton, County/Extension Agent Charles Hebert, and staff members representing these and other departments/agencies

Council staff members in attendance: Veronica L. Arceneaux (Clerk of the Council) and Joseph Gordon-Wiltz (Assistant Clerk)

(Time 1:11) Finance Chair Ken Stansbury called the budget briefing to order. He then asked John Guilbeau to offer the invocation and AB Rubin to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Stansbury welcomed everyone to this budget briefing on the proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025 budget. Citizens were instructed that a speaker form should be filled out in order to address the Council and be submitted to Council Clerk Veronica L. Arceneaux. He stated that the proposed budget document has been posted to the LCG website on the Finance page and that public comment would be held immediately following each department’s budget review. Chair Stansbury identified the two (2) possible actions that could be taken during the Wrap-Up briefing. A Council member may propose changing the budget by: (1) a general amendment, when the entire Council agrees on a recommendation/proposed amendment or (2) a separate amendment, when a Council member objects to a recommended budget change. Chair Stansbury announced that Bryan Tabor would be unable to attend today’s briefing.

NEW FINANCE “HOUSEKEEPING” AMENDMENTS:

Chair Stansbury recognized CFO Karen Fontenot for an overview of additional amendments for consideration that have been compiled by Finance, which were made as follows:

- ****GENERAL AMENDMENT BY STANSBURY** – To adjust vehicle capital items in Public Works from purchase to lease, 8/29/2024 Amendment #34 (Parish), as provided by Finance**
- ****GENERAL AMENDMENT BY GUILBEAU** – To adjust vehicle capital items in Traffic, Roads & Bridges from purchase to lease, 8/29/2024 Amendment #35 (Parish), as provided by Finance**
- ****GENERAL AMENDMENT BY RUBIN** – To fund increase in transportation/housing charges for JDH as required by state mandate, 8/29/2024 Amendment #36 (Parish), as provided by Finance**
- ****SEPARATE AMENDMENT BY GUILBEAU** – 10% salary increase for five Parish Council

Members for current term, 8/29/2024 Amendment #37 (Parish), as provided by Finance. Rubin originally offered this as a general amendment.**

City-Parish Attorney Pat Ottinger offered an explanation on the Home Rule Charter provision for invoking the 10% salary increase for Council members. Clerk of the Council Veronica Arceneaux added that the option would be given for Council members to decline acceptance of their individual increases.

GENERAL AMENDMENTS:

Chair Stansbury requested that Council members review General Amendments and indicate whether they would like to make any changes, which were made as follows:

- ****GENERAL AMENDMENT BY RICHARD – To change VFD funding allocation, 8/29/2024 Amendment as prepared by Finance****

SEPARATE AMENDMENTS:

Chair Stansbury requested that Council members review the Separate Amendments and indicate whether they would like to make any changes, which were made as follows:

- **Rubin withdrew Separate Amendment #1 – 10% salary increase for Parish Councilman AB Rubin for the current term.**

WRAP-UP ITEMS:

Chair Stansbury announced that the following Wrap-Up items have been requested to be pulled by the respective Council members: **10, 28 & 29**. He then provided the option to review Wrap-Up items for which Council members will need to propose new amendments or for which more discussion will be needed (or additional questions): N/A. All other Parish Wrap-Up items had already been addressed.

► Comments from the Public

- No citizens signed in the address the Council.

Chair Stansbury declared the conclusion of today's briefing and stated that final adoption of the proposed 2024-2025 budget will be held on Thursday, September 12, 2024 at 5:15 p.m. during a special joint Council meeting, with a special LPPA meeting immediately following. He added that the wrap-up budget review for joint Council items is scheduled for 2:00 p.m. today and that the wrap-up budget review for City Council items is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. today. There being no further business, the briefing was adjourned at 1:27 p.m.