

**TOWN OF TALLULAH FALLS
STATE OF GEORGIA
BUDGET WORK SESSION
255 MAIN STREET, TALLULAH FALLS, GA 30573
WITH VIDEO CONFERENCE STREAMING AVAILABLE FOR THE PUBLIC
JUNE 18, 2020, 6:00 PM**

MINUTES

The Budget Work Session for June 18, 2020 of the Town Council of Tallulah Falls, Georgia was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Mike Early. Social distancing protocols were observed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. A simultaneous live-stream view of the meeting was available through YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCytr3V3naaBwBwlzBlg-y8A> and had been previously circulated to the media and citizens through e-mail notification and the Town's website. The public was also able to participate in the meeting via Webex with Meeting #794 499 414.

PRESENT WERE: Mayor Mike Early
Mayor Pro tem Larry Hamilton
Councilperson Joey Fountain
Councilperson Craig Weatherly
Town Clerk Linda Lapeyrouse
Police Chief Tonya Elrod

PRESENT VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE: Councilperson Deb Goatcher
Public at large – see attached list

WORK SESSION:

A motion was made by Councilperson Weatherly to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Fountain and unanimously approved.

Mayor Early made a statement regarding his recommended budget. The budget recommended lowering the Clerk's salary, increasing police presence, and addressing Town Hall hours of operation. Mayor Early explained that his recommendation had nothing to do with the current Clerk but felt the salary was out of sync with other small municipalities.

The Mayor and Council then reviewed each department's line-item budget. Changes to the Mayor's recommended budget included leaving the salary of the Clerk at the current rate, increasing the salary of the Police Chief to \$55,000, and leaving part-time police salaries at \$12,000 until such a time as the GCIC program is implemented and able to support an additional salary. Councilperson Goatcher stated the importance of investing in your employees.

The budget will be modified to reflect the discussion from the work session and will be advertised to the public. A public hearing will be scheduled at least one week prior to adoption of the budget.

There being no other business before the Council, a motion was made by Councilperson Fountain to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Weatherly and unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda Lapeyrouse". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Linda Lapeyrouse, Town Clerk