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**CITY OF HAMLET  
BUDGET SESSION  
HAMLET CITY HALL- COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
201 MAIN STREET, HAMLET, NC 28345  
TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025  
5:00 PM  
Minutes**

**Governing Body Present:**

Mayor	Amy Guinn
Mayor Pro-Tem	Abbie Covington
Council Member	Eddie Martin
Council Member	Oscar Sellers
Council Member	Tony Clewis
Council Member	Maurice Stuart

**Staff Present:**

City Manager	John Terziu
Assistant City Manager	Mackenzie Webb
Finance Director	Edna Miles
City Clerk	Heather Hawks

**Others Present: Allen Cox, Doc Sylvain, LKC engineers**

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Guinn called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

Mayor Pro-Tem Covington motioned adopting the amended agenda. Council Member Stuart provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. Consider awarding Dellinger Inc. as the contractor of choice for the Water Treatment Plant Project**

City Manager Terziu stated bids were received for the Water Treatment Plant project on Wednesday, May 14th, 2025. The project will replace aging water plant infrastructure and includes the construction of a new filter building, 2 new clearwells, associated yard piping, and site improvements. The existing filter building and old clearwells will be demolished. Three bids were received with Dellinger out of Monroe being the lowest bidder at \$11,989,300.

Mayor Pro-Tem Covington stated she was concerned because she had never heard of Dellinger, Inc.

Adam Kiker from LKC Engineering responded, stating we have worked with Dellinger, Inc. many times over the last decade, and they have a strong reputation for quality work in our region. The LKC team discussed the project with representatives of Dellinger, Inc. to review the details of their bid and their plan for a successful project. Based on these conversations, we believe they can complete the construction in a clean and timely fashion. Funding for this project is originally provided by an American Rescue Plan Act grant (Project No. SRP-D ARP-0319). Based on the low bid amount, there is a shortfall in funding for the project in relation to the ARPA grant. The City of Hamlet also received \$4,925,000 as part of direct appropriation under SL2023 134. The City has the option of using funds from direct appropriation to cover the budget shortfall, which totaled \$3,429,885. Utilizing these funds will allow the City to award the contract to the low bidder and complete the project's entire scope.

Adam Kiker stated the following actions need to be approved through adoption of Resolution 2025-10 by council:

- Approve the project bid information package by the NC Division of Water Infrastructure to award the contract and use SRP-D-ARP-0319 funds.
- Approval by the NC Division of Water Infrastructure for allocation of SL2023-134 funds to close the budget gap.
- Issuance of the Authorization to construction permit by the NCDEQ/Public Water Supply Section (permit is under review currently).

Council Member Martin made a motion to approve Dellinger, Inc. as the contractor for the Water Treatment Plant Rehabilitation and adopt Resolution 2025-10, Council Member Sellers provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **4. Consider proposed Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget in preparation for adoption June 10, 2025**

City Manager Terziu presented updated budget information and addressed questions.

Mayor Pro-Tem Covington inquired about: YTD figures, Utility and Telecom tax, ABC Store revenue, and employee raises.

Edna Miles noted: YTD figures go through March 31<sup>st</sup>, the Utility/Telecom tax comes quarterly from the state, we received a second payment from the ABC Store in the amount of \$10,000, and 4% COLA for Fire and Police are included with market pay for all other employees.

Council Member Stuart stated he would talk to the General Manager from the ABC Store to find out about their payment schedule to the City of Hamlet.

Mayor Pro-Tem Covington asked for an update on Tedder Trash and our sanitation employees. She stated our employees should be protected from losing their retirement and insurance.

City Manager Terziu stated he has been in close contact with Tedder Trash about the rates. He added Tedder Trash will absorb some of our employees; the city's revenue will increase approximately \$175,000 and our sanitation will dissolve. Lastly, he stated we will do our best to protect our employees during this transition.

Council Member Stuart asked about the General and Enterprise Fund.

City Manager Terziu stated there is a slight negative impact on Enterprise Fund due to emergencies like the Charlotte Street sewer line break.

Council Member Stuart commented 44% for Powell Bill seems low.

Edna Miles clarified that 44% reflects the total expenses already spent.

Mayor Pro-Tem Covington asked whether the city retains Powell Bill funds if they are unspent.

Edna Miles confirmed that the city does retain unspent Powell Bill money.

Mayor Pro-Tem Covington opposed increases in governing body salaries, especially when citizens are facing higher taxes and utility costs.

Council Members Clewis, Sellers and Martin agreed to not increase governing body salaries.

City Manager Terziu emphasized their focus on market pay to make sure everyone was taken care of, including council. Lastly, he noted that the budget is in good shape overall.

#### **5. Consider accepting Richmond Community College SRO offer for continued support**

City Manager Terziu stated he and Assistant City Manager Webb met with Brent Barbee of RCC to discuss the SRO position. Mr. Barbee stated the top amount RCC can do right now for the SRO position is \$75,000.00.

Council Member Martin made a motion to approve Richmond Community College SRO offer for continued support in the amount of \$75,000.00, Mayor Pro-Tem Covington provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **6. Authorize City Manager to use up to \$90,000.00 in Enterprise Fund Balance to repair Oak St. - McKinnon St. Sewer collapse**

City Manager Terziu stated a sewer line collapsed at Oak and McKinnon Street intersection which includes approximately 230' of sewer line more than 12' under the ground. We are currently seeking bids through the informal bidding process and have received one so far.

Council Member Clewis made a motion to approve the appropriation and expenditure up to \$90,000.00 in enterprise fund to fix the Oak St sewer line, Council Member Sellers provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **7. Motion to Adjourn**

Council Member Sellers motioned, seconded by Council Member Clewis to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously at 6:08 pm.