

TOWN OF STOCKTON

18 North Johnson Street

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SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

DATE: June 6, 2018

TIME: 7:00 pm

Call to order – 7:03pm

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call

Thomas Karjola-Mayor- Present
Judy Bori-Councilwoman- Present
Vicki Nash-Councilwoman- Present
Nando Meli-Councilman-Present
David Nutzman-Councilman- Not Present

Others in Attendance

Cliff Voss
Steve Oblad

3. Public Comments

No questions asked

4. Open budget public hearing

Mayor Karjola- Motion to go into our public hearing – Seconded Councilwoman Bori

This is a public hearing having to do with our budget that we are planning to pass by June 30th. This is an extra public hearing so that the public can give final input before next week. Mayor Karjola says we will be having another public hearing in next week's Town Council meeting. There are only two members of the public here tonight, Cliff Voss and Steve Oblad.

Steve Oblad asked Mayor Karjola to explain what his thoughts are with the power point we did last week. Say if we were short roughly \$50,000 are you going to raise it so we can be covering that? Mayor Karjola says he wants to raise it by the \$53,000 that we are short; we need to raise it more than that to be able to get to where we need to be. However, we need to think about the folks that are at the lower end of the economic spectrum. Steve then asked Mayor Karjola if we have a number as far as how much households are going to go up. Mayor Karjola says he will not be able to give out that number until the certified tax rate comes out. However, we should be able to go over that in our next Town Council meeting next week and give a rough estimate as to how much it will be.

Councilwoman Nash said we get \$60,000 now a year for taxes even if we had to raise it by 100% that's still only \$7,000 more than what we need for the budget. The Mayor stated that we need to put money aside for training, equipment or for when vehicles break down, etc.

Steve Oblad- With the Council members that we have here tonight, including Mayor Karjola, do each one of you have a different view on how to move forward with this? What are your opinions and thoughts? Councilman Meli said in the years past, and something he's trying to work on now is grant money. Some Mayors in the past have taken over some of the money and it has been depleted like we are now and they've went for grant money. Councilman Meli is trying to go through that avenue and see

if we can get some money that way we won't have to raise taxes 100%. The previous administration has spent more money than what was going in. We will not be getting any grants before we have to pass this budget Mayor Karjola said.

Councilwoman Bori- Without a budget we can't function, it is illegal in the state but if we can come up with money we can actually go back next year and take down the taxes a little. Maybe within a few years we can offset some on the increase.

Mayor Karjola- We have to get to a zero, we have to have a balanced budget. Another thing we can do is instead of raising this property tax number up by \$53,000 we can raise it up by \$28,000 and take \$25,000 out of PTIF. Councilman Meli asked if there is any way that we can operate on \$113,000 for 12 months? We raise taxes \$53,000 and collect \$60,000 which is about 25% of the budget. Mayor says we will need a lot more than that. Councilman Meli asked if we can pass a budget that's only good for 180 days? The total budget is roughly \$323,000. We need \$52,000 more so we will only have roughly \$270,000. This should get us by for about 9 months. Mayor Karjola says there is no way we can get an extension that he is aware of and we're not going to. Councilwoman Bori says that with the way grants work, we have to have the money to pay for the grant and they will reimburse us. We don't have the money for that.

Councilwoman Nash said we have to do something. Mayor Karjola said that we will be having another meeting after we close the public hearing where we can discuss if we want to get the whole \$53,000 from tax increase only or partially from PTIF. Mayor Karjola said we will not be raising water rates at this time.

5. Close budget public hearing

Motion to approve of the public hearing- Mayor Karjola

Seconded- Councilwoman Nash

Unanimous Approval

Motion passed

6. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn- at 8:03pm- Mayor Karjola

Seconded- Councilwoman Nash

Unanimous Approval

Motion passed

By: Ashlee Wanlass

Town Clerk/Recorder

THOMAS KARJOLA

Date

Ashlee Wanlass

Date

MAYOR

TOWN CLERK/RECORDER

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