

**Town of Riverdale Park**  
**Special Work Session Minutes**  
**May 16, 2022**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**In Attendance**

Mayor Alan K. Thompson  
CM Aaron Faulx, Ward 2  
CM David Lingua, Ward 3  
CM Karen Mejia, Ward 5  
CM Hala Mayers, Ward 6

John N. Lestitian, Town Manager  
Jessica Barnes, Town Clerk/Director of Administrative Services  
Ryan Chelton, Development Services Director  
Gentry Jones, Deputy Director of Finance Services  
Ivy Lewis, Director of Public Projects and Services  
Paul Smith, Director of Finance and Employee Services

**Absent**

CM Richard Smith, Ward 1  
CM Thomas Sadiq, Ward 4

**Call to Order**

Mayor Thompson called the Special Work Session to order at 7:01 p.m.

**Agenda Approval**

There were no changes to the agenda or stated conflicts of interest.

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**Discussion Item**

Revisions to FY2023 Proposed Budget

Town Manager Lestitian reported that staff had recently learned that the Town had not received grants that were anticipated in the FY2023 Proposed Budget and that there would be significant increases in Municipal Center Project budget due to the rising costs of supplies and the need to replace and/or repair the fire systems in Town Hall and the Department of Public Work building. Town Manager Lestitian stated that as discussed during the budget development process, budgets are developed, strategically, based on the information known at the time. Town Manager Lestitian stated that new information was recently available for the FY2023 Proposed Budget, and the goals remained to be fiscally responsible, transparent, and to deliver visible and impactful change to the community.

Town Manager Lestitian stated that the staff team met and after careful review, developed a proposal that included all but one CIP project moving forward and no tapping into reserves due

to the continued economic uncertainty. Town Manager Lestitian stated that the staff team had met with Finance Committee Chair CM Lingua to walk through the proposal.

Town Manager Lestitian noted that the Town had received confirmation that it would receive \$100,000 in tree planting money for Adam and Emily Plummer Park.

Town Manager Lestitian also discussed a proposal, separate from the CIP, to transfer \$4,000 from the Office of Administrative Services (OAS) Special Projects line item to the Mayor and Council Special Projects line item to support pollinators.

Deputy Director of Finance Services Gentry Jones provided a detailed overview of the proposed changes to the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) budget.

Development Services Director Ryan Chelton discussed the adjustments made to the 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Taylor Road Linear Park project due to the Town not receiving an anticipated grant. Town Manager Lestitian explained that the project would move forward but the improvements would not be made in FY2023. CM Lingua asked about the survey related to the 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Taylor Road Linear Park and Town Manager Lestitian provided an overview.

Town Manager Lestitian discussed the addition of \$100,000 to the Adam and Emily Plummer Park project as the result of a grant awarded to the Town by the County for tree planting. Public Projects and Services Director Ivy Lewis, in response to a question from Mayor Thompson, stated that she expected to have the park nearly completed by the end of FY2023. CM Faulx thanked the staff for moving the project forward and expressed appreciation for the staff's efforts. Mayor Thompson agreed and stated that he was happy to have confirmation of the grant, in writing, from the County.

Town Manager Lestitian discussed the adjustments made to the CSX Fence project. Mayor Thompson noted that a correction was needed to the CIP page with regard to FY2023 revenue and expenditure.

Director Lewis discussed the adjustments made to the Municipal Center Renovations project related to the anticipated increase in costs.

Town Manager Lestitian stated that there were no changes to the DPW Renovations project except for an adjustment to the project scope.

Director Lewis discussed the adjustments made to the Building Demolition and Parking Lot Development project.

Director Lewis discussed the phasing of the Pedestrian Way and Queensbury Road Security project and alternative funding sources.

Town Manager Lestitian discussed the adjustments made to Vehicle Acquisitions for the Police Department related to FY2024.

Director Lewis discussed the adjustments made to Vehicle Acquisitions for the Department of Public Works.

CM Lingua asked about the adjustments made to the scope of the DPW Renovations project. Director Lewis explained that staff were still hoping to move forward with minor project adjustments and that the elements of the project had not changed but the design may need to be adjusted to fit the budget.

Town Manager Lestitian stated that, if there were no objections from the Council, Director Smith and Deputy Director Jones would move forward with updating the budget ordinance, which would primarily impact the fund balance sheet as most of the changes were within the CIP budget. Town Manager Lestitian asked if there were any concerns related to the transfer of \$4,000 from the OAS budget to the Mayor and Council budget. There were no concerns or objections from the Council.

Mayor Thompson asked, on behalf of another Council Member, if there could be a concerted effort to repaint items such as crosswalks in the next fiscal year and if a budget adjustment would be needed. Director Lewis discussed the current efforts to repaint roadway markings and stated that approximately 50% were repainted each year within the budget. Director Lewis stated that an increase may be needed in the future when the roads in Riverdale Park Station became the Town's responsibility. Mayor Thompson asked about the estimated cost to repaint roadway markings each year and Director Lewis stated that she would have an estimated cost at the next Council meeting. Town Manager Lestitian stated that the repainting of roadway markings was not a matter of funding or supply issues but rather staffing challenges impacting DPW operations over the last 15 months.

#### **New Business**

There was no new business.

#### **Unfinished Business**

There was no unfinished business.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.