CITY OF DARLINGTON BUDGET WORKSHOP
MONDAY MAY 18, 2020 AT 6:00 PM (ZOOM DIGITAL MEETING)

The budget workshop was held via Zoom.

PRESENT AT THE ONLINE (VIA ZOOM) BUDGET WORKSHOP

Mayor Curtis Boyd, Howard Garland, Councilpersons Elaine Reed, Sheila Baccus, John Milling, John Segars, Bryant Gardner, and Howard Nettles. Also present on the zoom meeting was City Planner Lisa Rock, Fire Chief Patrick Cavanaugh, Police Chief Kelvin Washington, Lee Andrews, Mr. Kinsaul, Alex Gainey.

PRAYER

Prayer was led by Mayor Boyd.

Mayor Boyd opened the meeting at 6:03 PM.

MR. GARLAND

Mr. Garland opened the meeting with a few housekeeping notes: He said as of July 9th our 60-day window for having virtual meetings will expire on that emergency ordinance that was passed earlier so we will need to update that in case we need to have virtual meetings during the summer. Also, we responded to a survey from the Municipal Association of South Carolina they have been asked by the state to conduct a survey among municipalities as to what type of expenses they have incurred from COVID-19 pandemic so we submitted that last week. Mr. Garland said he does expect some type of reimbursement, but it would not be during the 2019 2020 budget year. Councilman Howard Nettles asked Mr. Garland what sort of expenses we have incurred? Mr. Garland said some expenses are for payroll, some is for personal protective equipment for the fire, police, and street departments. They also had the Servpro company that came in and cleaned the building when we thought one of the employees were infected. Mr. Garland said the City of Darlington is well versed in applying for reimbursement from the feds due to the many floods and hurricanes we've had over the last five years.

Mr. Garland started with the schedule of revenues for the City of Darlington explaining any increases and any decreases in the revenue line items. Mr. Garland said he decrease the business licenses by 5% for the 2021 budget year over the current year because he feels there is going to be a drop down in revenues due to COVID-19. He said there is really no good model for that as far as what to go by, but he consulted with nearby towns and they all were putting in 5%. He said it could be lower and it may end up not being as bad. Mayor Boyd asked Mr. Garland if we had anyone that could physically go and start checking on business licenses? Mr. Garland said, "We do. We have the capability through the ordinance that is written that the police department can check for business licenses". Mayor Boyd asked, "Does it have to be the police department"? Mr. Garland said it could also be the Codes enforcement department. Councilwoman Elaine Reed wanted to know why the business license amount went down. Mr. Garland said that was the reduction we are anticipating due to COVID-19. Mr. Garland said he

reduced line item 4010 because he's not sure when Georgia-Pacific will be putting in for their permits. He said that court fines have been reduced to around $150,000. Mayor Boyd asked if there is somebody out there besides Alex Gainey that's able to help him with building permits because he has too many jobs to do. Mayor Boyd said he rode down S. Main St. and saw somebody building on Sunday. He asked if there is somebody that can stop by and make sure they have a building permit? Mr. Garland said we use David Wilkes on Tuesdays and Thursdays and we were going to contract with Safe Built to come in and help us with our building permit program. Mr. Garland said that is what we are doing short term, using Mr. Wilkes on Tuesdays and Thursdays, but as far as what we do for the coming budget year, when we get into the permits department, I would feel a little better about discussing personnel as we move into each department specifically. Mr. Garland continued going line item by line item explaining the differences explaining increases or decreases. He said we have 6 SRO's and the school district has been generous enough to pay for the SRO's for the remainder of the school year so we will not have a loss of revenue in that line item. Mr. Garland said downtown retail is the rent that we collect for the retail spaces that the City of Darlington administers as a part of the original deal that Mayor Tony Watkins put together in 2007 and 2009. He said this includes the retail spaces at the Chamber, at the hair salon, the tax preparation office, the cell phone store, the dress shop and we also have a retail space where "Our Pat" is located on Cashua Street. Mr. Garland said franchise agreements is up over $80,000 due to the City of Darlington working out an agreement with Duke Energy to make their franchise payments quarterly rather than annually. We also collect franchise fees from Spectrum Cable and also Dominion Energy. Line item 4310, which is State Aid is decided by the state legislature and they decide how much money they give to each municipality. Mr. Garland said Homestead Exemption revenue is up slightly this year. This is where people over the age of 65 can apply for a $50,000 exemption on their home. Our local option sales tax comes from the penny tax that was passed years ago at the county level and we give that break to residents in Darlington County. Our accommodation tax is down severely due to one of our motels being closed for a considerable amount of time for renovations. Mayor Boyd asked Mr. Garland about the approximate $400,000 increase in sanitation fees? He wanted to know if that is the projection where they are raising the sanitation fees. Mr. Garland said, "Yes, he has that figured in in case they approve the six dollar per household increase". Sale of property and the sale of cars was projected at 125,000 which included the sale of the administration building, but we will be keeping that for right now. Under miscellaneous revenues which is $180,000, Mr. Garland said those funds include money from the Fire Department Equipment Grant, Hurricane Florence reimbursement, body cameras for the police department, and it includes money for the roof that we had done at the Carnegie Library. It also includes money from Pee Dee Electric for the playground at Bowen Manor. The hospitality tax and beautification line item are for the position that is in Lisa's department and that money is taken directly from the hospitality fund to reimburse the general fund for any expenses and salaries related to that position. Mr. Garland said revenue fund #4441 is the Stormwater Fund which is a new account and he has budgeted $347,000 for the upcoming budget year. He said the stormwater department will have two employees which Alex Gainey will discuss when he does his presentation tomorrow night. Councilwoman Baccus asked about the $10,000 restitution payment that was made. Mr. Garland said that's money that was paid back by the former Clerk of Court as a part of a deal

that was worked out in her sentencing. Councilman Milling said he had to pay his car taxes this year and as he was looking at what he was paying he saw that the county had a fee of approximately $35-$40 and the DMV had a fee of $30-$35 and it had a place on the tax notice for the city, but it had no dollar amount there. Councilman Milling wanted to know what those fees were and is that space available for a city fee? He said he is assuming those are road and maintenance fees that are being collected and he didn't know if that was something that the City should be taking a look at. Mr. Garland told Councilman Milling that he was familiar with what he was talking about and he believes the county does charge for road and maintenance fees. Mr. Garland said he does think that it is permissible for the City to charge some type of road fee. He said he will be glad to take a look at that if that is something that Council wants to pursue. Councilman Milling said he knows that we are making some collections towards trying to get the city roads paved and he didn't know whether that was a good avenue to take a look at as you are developing your thought process. Councilman Bryant Gardner asked Mr. Garland if we are still projecting $77,000 for the road fund? Mr. Garland said he thinks it's more like $60,000 - $64,000 for that fund. Councilman Bryant Gardner asked Mr. Garland to educate him a little more on line item 4200 - Rent. Mr. Garland said when Harmon Baldwin was the county recreation director that's when this was started; that the recreation offices would be in the old Armory and the County would agree to pay us rent. They pay $450 a quarter or $1,800 a year. The rent that they are paying us now is based on 1970 rent numbers. Councilman Bryant Gardner asked if there was a way to renegotiate this? Mr. Garland said we get quite a deal from the county; there is about $180,000 in services and salaries that they pay for us that we don't have to pick up because they staff a lot of our staff that we use. Councilman Gardner said, "If you feel that's fair, then we'll trust you". Mayor Curtis Boyd asked Mr. Garland about line items 4220 and 4250. He wanted to know if we are breaking even on that or if we are making any money? Mr. Garland said, "We are probably down a few thousand dollars because we waive the rent the last two months". Mayor Boyd asked, "On average, are we breaking even or making any money?" Mr. Garland said, "I think we are probably $2,000 to $3000 to the good but that depends on whether folks pay their rent on time or not". Mayor Boyd asked, "So, if they are all rented, we are basically breaking even"? Mr. Garland said, "that is correct". Mr. Garland said that was the Landmark Asset Services Dwayne Anderson deal from 2007 Phase 1 and 2009 Phase 2. He said they control the apartments and the City has the retail spaces. Councilwoman Sheila Baccus asked who does the upkeep on the apartments? Mr. Garland said the apartments are run by Landmark. He said we have nothing to do with the apartments except when somebody calls and wants to know if there is an apartment for rent, we will give them the number for the Landmark office on Orange Street. Councilwoman Elaine Reed asked Mr. Garland what the revenue is (Line item 4220 & 4260) that we are receiving because he said it's some sort of rental fee, but it's not rental it's something else"? She said it seems low to her anyway. Mr. Garland said they are supposed to be paying us back for rentals. He said those agreements are very complicated and they are called "wedding cake financing" because there's different tiers to it. Mr. Garland said he will try to explain it without getting too involved. Mr. Garland said the Landmark Asset Group used grant money from the State of South Carolina and from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG); and also money from the City of Darlington to build those apartments and they agreed to pay us back on Phase 1 starting in 30 years from 2007, so the first payment will be coming back to the City of Darlington for Phase 1

apartments in 2037. Phase 2 apartments was started in 2009 and they were supposed to start making payments in 2010 and in 10 years they have paid three times claiming that they haven't rented out the apartments fully. Mr. Garland said he has every idea that if Landmark is still around in 2037, what they are going to end up doing is giving those apartments back to the City of Darlington and let the City of Darlington deal with it because the way it is structured is they rehabbed those buildings in 2007 & 2009 and they got the historic tax credits on rehabbing those historical buildings and now they are using the rent from these buildings to help maintain other buildings in other areas. Councilwoman Reed said that gives her more clarity, but she's like Councilman Gardener, is there any way we can renegotiate something because that seems like we are losing all the way around. Mr. Garland said, "To defend Tony and that council, those buildings were going to fall down, and the city made what they thought was the best decision at the time to keep those buildings functioning". Mr. Garland said it did accomplish its goal of keeping those buildings usable where they will hopefully be around in 2040 and 2050 for use in another function. Councilman Bryant Gardner said, "I think they did great with the apartments, but we may need to renegotiate the partners". He said if they are not making the payments three out of 10 times, then at some point isn't there a legal way we could go back on it saying that they are not for fulfilling their end of the bargain and maybe we can take over ownership"? Mayor Curtis Boyd asked, "How do you make three out of 10 payments"? Mr. Garland said according to the agreement, which is rather lengthy they can take those payments and put them on the back end of the deal. He said he was upset about that and he didn't make payments to them for two years. There were also some issues in the apartments as far as mold and folk flushing the toilets that would overflow so they had to clean up some of those retail spaces recently. Mr. Garland said they have responded better now than they have in the last few years but as far as re-negotiating, that would be quite a chore because you would have to look at not just aspects of where they are not paying, but you have to look at both the Phase 1 and Phase 2 deals because they are both different and they both involve multi-year repayments of grants that were tied to both of those projects. Mayor Boyd asked, "How much do they pay us $20,000, correct"? Mr. Garland said, "Yes, when they do pay us". Mayor Boyd asked Mr. Garland how much are we supposed to be paying them? Mr. Garland said we pay them the retail rent and we give them operational support for the water bills which council agreed to in 2005. The water department sends them about $8400 a year and help them write down the water bills; there's also property tax relief that they get every year. Mayor Boyd asked Mr. Garland how do they write down a water bill? Mr. Garland said if the water bills are over a certain amount they only pay up to a certain amount and then we have to pay everything over that. He said this was part of the agreement. Mr. Garland said if he recalls correctly, Tony Watkins, Dwayne Anderson and Rodney Langley all went door to door to the retail spaces begging people to be a part of that project. Some people said yes, and some said no. Mayor Boyd said he is still confused, and he is sure there is a legal avenue, but if you owe me $20,000 and I owe you $40,000 why can't I write you a check for $20,000 and go ahead and collect my 20,000"? Mr. Garland said it involves different pots of money and you can't mix the retail money with the apartment money versus the payment money that comes from a different pot. Mr. Garland say they drew from five different pots of money for the Phase 1 and Phase 2 projects. Mayor Boyd said this is something that we do need to take a look at. Councilman Bryant Gardner asked Mr. Garland who is the person that he could call? Mr. Garland said he could call Landmark Assets, the

company in Winston-Salem. Councilman Bryant Gardner said maybe we should have Kevin look into this a little more or have some questions for them. Mr. Garland said Kevin could look at it, but we probably need a strong real estate person to look at it. City Attorney Kevin Etheridge said he doesn't mind looking at it because if they didn't adhere to what they said they would do it could definitely be revisited. Mayor Boyd said, "Yes this is something we definitely need to take a look at".

WATER & SEWER BUDGET - MR. KINSAUL

Mr. Kinsaul started with the revenues in the water department explaining any increases. Mr. Kinsaul said, "Under the assumption that we go forward with the rate increase, he is showing an increase in revenue for the water and sewer fees. He said the next big item is where we charge capital on each bill each month and we are projected to come in almost on target. Mayor Boyd asked Mr. Kinsaul about the increase in capital fees from $90,000 to $115,000. Mr. Kinsaul said some of the increase will be from Georgia specific and some will be from new taps. Mayor Boyd wanted to know what the capital fees are for. Mr. Kinsaul said capital fees are based off the meter size on your business or residence. Mr. Kinsaul said it's a $2 fee on residences and it goes up based on the size of the meter. Councilwoman Reed asked if this was the capital fees or the meter fees? Mr. Kinsaul said meter fees is something similar that was put on some of the old larger meters years ago and it's still only a couple of them that's never been changed. Mayor Boyd asked if the meter fees were just on commercial accounts? Mr. Kinsaul said, "Yes. It was a special fee on some of the old commercial accounts". Mayor Boyd asked, "If somebody connects now, do they have a meter fee on their account"? Mr. Kinsaul said, "Yes, but it will go under the capital fee". Councilwoman Reed said, "So let me get this clear, you were saying in capital fees right now that all residential and the newer commercial? Mr. Kinsaul said that's basically most everybody; that's the new residential and new businesses. He said there's only a few old commercial accounts that this still applies to. He said everybody is paying capital fees. Councilwoman Reed asked if there was any other fee other than that? Mr. Kinsaul said the capital fee is the only fee besides the water bill. Mayor Boyd asked about line item 4525 and what it's for. Mr. Kinsaul said at one time it used to be customer deposits but it's not anymore. This is where the customer pays a $50 service fee for new service. Mayor Boyd said, "So that's only about five people". He said from $5000 to $250 is a big drop. Mayor Boyd asked, "That should be where you're collecting when people sign up to get water, correct? Mr. Kinsaul said yes. Mayor Boyd said, "So you're telling me you only collected $250 for people signing up for water along with miscellaneous fees"? Mayor Boyd asked, what is a miscellaneous fee? Mr. Kinsaul said probably a temporary connect. Mr. Kinsaul said he'll probably have to check on that. Mayor Boyd said Sheila said the other day that one of her friends had to pay $50 and then turn around and had to pay another $50. Mayor Boyd said he knows he paid $50, so too many people didn't pay in advance. Mr. Kinsaul said, "I guess that's a bad number". Councilman Nettles asked Mr. Kinsaul if he could check on that number and get back to them tomorrow? Mayor Boyd asked, "Last year you all projected $2500 and you collected $36,000 for new meters"? Mr. Kinsaul said, "That's a bad projection probably". Mr. Kinsaul said we worked off some bad numbers for about three years. Councilwoman Baccus asked about the penalties and where do they come from? Mr. Kinsaul said late fees. Councilwoman Baccus said, "So you charge them a late fee and you charge them $50 to reconnect"? She said if they can't pay

$50 how do they expect them to be able to pay $100. Mr. Kinsaul said, “Yes, if you don’t pay by the 15th of the month you pay a late fee and if you go 2 months without paying, you pay a $50 reconnect fee”. Councilman Milling asked, “From a practical standpoint, who puts the information in here like the $260 and just these numbers in general”? He asked who puts that information in? Mr. Kinsaul said Howard filled out the form. Councilman Milling asked, “And Howard would’ve gotten that $260 from where”? Mr. Garland said, “That would’ve come from a report that was generated whenever I asked Ms. Pridgen for a look at the revenues and expenditures. Councilman Milling asked if there is any review before it gets to them? Mr. Garland said, “Yes Sir. We look at that and go over that in the six-month, eight-month, and 10-month periods. Councilman Milling said, “I was wondering when Freddie said that was a bad number and that it needed to be looked at, I was wondering if anybody picked up that it was a bad number before tonight”? Mr. Garland said, “The only thing I know to do with that is go back and look at whatever the numbers that we get from Ms. Pridgen on the print out”. Mr. Garland said that’s what we go by and it is what is actually put into the software when we get a printout. Councilman Gardner said, “My question would be if you’re generating a printout from the software, would the number be coming from the software or is it actually manually taken from somewhere and plugged in”? Mr. Garland said the numbers that you see tonight come from those reports that are generated whenever he asks Ms. Pridgen for a report and it’s the same report that are in the council packets each month. Councilman Howard Nettles said, “It just seems like we are not doing our due diligence and making sure those numbers are accurate”. He asked, “Is it a typo or is it simply just misinformation”? Mr. Garland said we will have to check on it tomorrow. Mr. Garland said this is why we do those things and go over them. Mr. Garland said he has met several times with the different department heads and gave them the numbers to look over to see if they seem accurate and he also asked them to consult with their folk in their different offices. Mr. Garland said that is the check and balances that we have. He said they get the numbers from Ms. Pridgen and then we go over the numbers several times; and then we have a department head meeting to cover revenues and expenditures before we present it to you. Councilman Howard Nettles said, “Which is a concern because we have been using the same set of numbers for the last three years as was indicated earlier or you’re using that data, and we need to be sure that we’re making sure everyone is involved to make sure it’s corrected. Mr. Garland said what Freddie was referring to was the audit situation we had where Hill & Jordan left us high and dry one year with the audit and we got 10 months behind and the software that we use if you’re more than two years behind on your audit you can’t look at your numbers so we were having to guesstimate our numbers. Councilman Nettles asked, “And we are sure we are putting all the money in the right places, so they reflect that accordingly in the appropriate GL”? Mr. Garland said, “I believe so now that we can actually look at numbers”. This is the first time we’ve had those numbers available to us in three years. Mr. Garland said we were three years behind on our audit, we got caught up and did three audits in a 10-month period. Councilman Nettles said, “Perhaps the audits were done a little hastily, but that’s neither here nor there, we just need to make sure that the numbers are right going forward so we know what we’re working on if we’re voting toward something or trying to move in a certain direction”. Councilwoman Baccus asked if the numbers on the report are manually entered? Mr. Garland said the numbers that we get from Ms. Pridgen we enter them into the different departments based on what is on the actual numbers that Ms. Pridgen gave us. Councilwoman

Baccus asked, “So somebody had to manually key those in, and Mr. Garland said, “Yes, that’s correct”. Mr. Kinsaul went over the Summary of Expenses. Councilwoman Baccus asked, “Mr. Kinsaul 912-water distribution & maintenance is that where we pay to upkeep the wastewater plant”? Mr. Kinsaul said waste water is sewer treatment? Councilwoman Baccus asked, “If we were paying a half million dollars for waste water and sewer treatment to be done? Mr. Kinsaul said that was to pay all of his people. Councilwoman Baccus then asked about 914 C sewer collections & 914 T sewer treatment. She asked roughly how much do we pay for the upkeep of the sewer plant? Mr. Kinsaul said this is salaries. Mr. Kinsaul said 912 water distribution is the wells and water pipes. Councilman John Milling asked Mr. Kinsaul if 912 is salaries of $547,447 to all of the people who are a part of the water system? Mr. Kinsaul said, “Yes. 912 would include him, all the ladies in the office & a couple of the workers outside; 914 C includes Franklin Dowdy and another worker; and 914 T is the guy at the sewer treatment plant. Councilman Milling asked how many employees are we paying for the $795,000? Mr. Kinsaul said it was 12, but he’s down now. Councilman Nettles asked if a lot of that money was for overtime hours because he is understaffed? Councilwoman Baccus asked, “But 914 T is only for the sewer treatment plant, right? That has only one employee and he get $290,000? Mr. Kinsaul said you’re looking at expenses and he’s on the personnel services at the top. Councilwoman Baccus said that is what she was talking about from the start she was talking about expenses. Councilman Nettles asked, “If a lot of that is overtime in 912 & 914C and you have openings and fill those positions are you going to reduce that number exponentially? Mr. Kinsaul said it will some, but somebody is on call all the time and somebody has to cover the weekends. Mayor Boyd said, I agree with you on that, but at the same time we have seen where something is busted, and they are out there in the middle of the night working. Councilman Nettles said, “I understand that, but I would like to see the breakdown of what’s really overtime”. Councilman Gardner said he would be interested in seeing that as well especially if we are going to be doing these rate increases. Councilman Gardner said, “The breaks in our pipes are happening more frequently and we might want to look at the possibility of hiring a crew and their sole job would be laying new pipe and whenever we have a break we take them from laying new pipe to fixing the break; and then going back to laying new pipe so that we can work on this overtime and other issues that we have throughout the city”. Councilman Nettles said he agrees with that 100%. Councilwoman Baccus asked, “So the sewer treatment plant is maintained by our employees or who maintains the sewer treatment plant”? Mr. Kinsaul said we have one employee out there and also Davis & Brown. Sheila Baccus said, “So how much do we pay Davis and Brown for the plant”? Mr. Kinsaul said when we get further over into the expenses, he will get to that. Mr. Garland said Ms. Pridgen sent him a text and said that she does not enter the numbers for the water and sewer department and maybe the ledger numbers need to be updated and some of the charges may not be credited to correct account. Councilman Nettles asked Mr. Kinsaul to give him an example of what would be charged to line item 265 which is professional services. Mr. Kinsaul said DHEC requires them to do so many samples and they have to be done by a certified environmental lab and it includes any engineering work. Councilwoman Baccus asked if all of the professional services were paid out to one business? Mr. Kinsaul said, “Not necessarily. Some could have gone to Ervin Engineering, some could have gone to Lathan Consulting and some could’ve gone to Davis & Brown. Councilman Bryant Gardner asked about line item 272 special contracts, He wanted to

know about the special testing. Mr. Kinsaul said that was for additional tests required for permits and sampling that DHEC required. He said he could've put it under professional services, but it ended up under special contracts even though it really wasn't a contract. Councilman Nettles said, "For future reference you might want to do that because it looks like you are double dipping". Mayor Boyd asked, "Who is responsible for saying where it goes"? Mr. Kinsaul said I usually code most of the bills myself, so I have to take responsibility. Mr. Kinsaul said on the bond the payback line item, that is ongoing. Mr. Garland said the bond is for telemetric water meters that we had installed in 2012 which allows us to do a radio read of all of our water meter accounts. It also includes bond indebtedness that we had from the 1990s as part of the old bond for the waterline to go out to the Food Lion project. So, we rolled those two together to lower the interest rates several years ago. Mayor Boyd asked Mr. Kinsaul if there is anywhere that he thinks that things can be done better as far as expense. Mr. Kinsaul said not that he knows of. Mr. Kinsaul said we usually bid out big purchases, but as far as most of the expenses, there is not much that we can change. Councilman Milling asked, "When we get the new lift stations in line will that help with our expenses"? Mr. Kinsaul said, "Yes, it will help tremendously with overtime and maintenance on these pumps and probably electricity also". Mr. Kinsaul went over 914C budget. Councilman Nettles asked about line item 255 stormwater. He asked if any of the money for the vac truck comes from his department? Mr. Kinsaul said, yes, the vac truck, the camera and any other charges relating to stormwater. Councilwoman Baccus said, "You said something about getting a grant for Bowen Manor lift station, but I think the conversation came up a couple of months ago about a grant for Allen Street to solve this problem on Farm Street with this raw sewage coming up in the street. What's the status on that"? Mr. Kinsaul said we are going to try to work on that but until Lindsey with COG can get out and do surveys for that area, we can't work on that one, but Bowen Manor automatically qualifies. He said we have to redo that lift station for Georgia Pacific. Councilwoman Baccus said, "Well I think with raw sewage that lift station needs to be addressed because I'm pretty sure that DHEC has not been informed for 15 years of all that raw sewage coming up in the street; because that is a health hazard, a serious health hazard ". Councilwoman Reed asked what makes Bowen Manor automatic? Mr. Kinsaul said the type of housing it is, it automatically qualifies for low to middle income. Councilwoman Baccus and Reed both said it's the same thing on Farm Street. Mr. Kinsaul said they will have to go out and do community surveys and she (Lindsay from COG) had that on the plans but that was before COVID-19 came around. Elaine said at Pine Village where the raw sewage is, is a housing development as Bowen Manor but it seems like it's taking priority because of Georgia Pacific and not the residents of Allen Street and she would like to revisit that. Mr. Kinsaul said it's on the table but until Lindsay with the COG can get out and work the neighborhood, we can't do anything on that one. Councilwoman Baccus asked what's the difference between that neighborhood and Bowen Manor? Mr. Kinsaul said she has to go house to house and do surveys. Councilwoman Baccus said, "And she doesn't have to do that in Bowen Manor"? Mr. Kinsaul said, "No because that's all that's in there". Councilwoman Baccus said, "That is what Farm Street and the project over there is-low to moderate income". Mr. Kinsaul said. "I'm sure it is, but according to her she has to go do the surveys". Councilwoman Baccus said it sounds to me like you just put Bowen Manor ahead of Allen Street just because of Georgia Pacific. Mr. Kinsaul said the COG will work the CDBG where ever she can work it. Mr. Garland said, "What Freddie is saying some of

the areas that you're talking about and parts of Allen Street has residential houses and subsidized housing and we have to do community income surveys in those houses, and we have been limited by that due to COVID-19". Howard said all of Bowen Manor is subsidized housing. Mr. Garland said in that area that you're talking about there are residential houses in addition to Pine Village. Councilman Bryant Gardner said, "Bowen Manor is one development that's all federal housing whereas the other neighborhood has residential houses so they will have to manually go and figure the income on each individual house so that's the difference between the two neighborhoods if I understand correctly". Mayor Boyd said, "Bowen Manor was not pulled out because of Georgia Pacific. Bowen Manor is by itself and over here you got another neighborhood with houses, so they have to go in and do it. So, nobody has tried to pull out one over another because of Georgia Pacific". Councilwoman Baccus said there are some houses over there near Georgia Pacific. Councilman Gardner said they are not in the city limits, they are in the county. Councilwoman Baccus asked if the only people that will use that lift station was Bowen Manor? Mr. Kinsaul said Bowen Manor is all that is going in that lift station. Councilwoman Reed said, "And that will take priority over one that is larger than Bowen Manor". Mayor Boyd said, "I wouldn't say it took priority, but it was a quick, easy fix because nobody had to go out". He said. "We were already planning to go out into that area, and as they said, it was blocked because of COVID-19, but it is still on the table to go ahead and pursue it ASAP". Councilwoman Reed said, "As the elected official for that area that is suffering, we need a quick answer to the one that's in the most need which is Pine Village". Mayor Boyd said I would love to go out there and fix it and you would too, but we can't easily go out and fix it because they are saying we have to go out door to door because there are multiple homes in that area. Councilwoman Reed asked, "Does it have to be them that goes door to door because she will put on a mask, gloves, and a paint suit and go door to door because that's how bad it's needed". Councilman Gardner said, "Unfortunately, the need has nothing to do with the problem. The problem is one neighborhood is federally qualified and everybody knows it on the face of it and the other neighborhood has residential housing. And even though we may assume that it will qualify, you still manually have to go find out whether it qualifies or not. So, it's not that one got put in the secondary to the Bowen Manor because of the Dixie cup or anything it's just one of them has automatic qualification and the other one does not". Councilwoman Reed said, "All of this has been determined before; it's nothing new and just that they're coming up with it now. This isn't the first time we've heard that. It's just that there were other reasons presented as to why they had not addressed Allen Street. And now that we are able to address Bowen Manor, it's just taking over. I am putting it on the table letting you know because I represent that area as well. If there is a quick easy way to do it and all I'm hearing is that they need to go door to door to make that determination, I don't see why we can't work that because the same people are going door to door to the jobs, they done open everything and I am sure that the social distancing and wearing a mask would meet the guidelines". Mayor Boyd said, "Elaine, me, you, Sheila and whoever else wants to go with us, we'll go find out if we can start going door to door tomorrow. Councilwoman Baccus said, "I think the first thing we need to do is address DHEC with this problem and see what the law says and how serious this problem is with them and higher up because this has been going on for 15 years and that department and whoever didn't bother to do anything about it for the last 15 years or follow the law and report the waste every time it happened to DHEC. Then I think we need to address

DHEC first and find out where they stand on this issue". Mayor Boyd said we will address it. Mr. Kinsaul continued with 914 T department budget. Councilman Gardner asked Mr. Kinsaul about line item 277 which increased to $224,147. He asked if that would replace one bed? Mr. Kinsaul said that would repair bed 1A and 1B. Mayor Boyd asked "You're still coming under budget a good bit, right. Mr. Kinsaul said, "No, the way he is spending now, he's starting to do some repair work on Broad Street". Mr. Garland asked Mr. Kinsaul to give an update on East Broad Street . Mr. Kinsaul asked Davis & Brown representative to share information on that. The representative from Davis and Brown said that the engineering is being completed this week and they have some drawings for Mr. Kinsaul to review tomorrow to get his approval on what they call the common header line which is the sewer line that was not going to be as deep. He said that should be going out for bid next week. Mr. Kinsaul said we are waiting to hear from RIA about the grant. Mr. Garland asked, "How long do you anticipate the repair taking"? Michael from Davis & Brown said, "Honestly, it wouldn't scare me to say about six months". He said when you are digging that deep the weather has a major impact. He said If you tried to do it right now it would be very hard to get your select field which is the dirt that's got to go back under the highway. The dirt has to come from certain burrow pits, and it has to pass the perk test and then it has to be tested to make sure the compaction is there. Michael said the dirt will have to be put in in stages and then compacted and then starting the process again, so it is a long process.

Mr. Garland went to page 4 - Summary of Expenses for each department explaining any increases or decreases. Councilwoman Sheila Baccus asked what department 801 non-departmental is for? Mr. Garland said non-departmental is anything that we don't cover with the other departments. He said sometimes an employee may need counseling so we would charge counseling out of that. We use an internal accountant and fees are charged there. Also, we charge for the gym fees for Fitness World to that line item. If we have the city supper or a cookout, flowers for a funeral, those expenses are all charged to the account. Councilwoman Baccus asked, "So these gym fees, how is that going to work out this year because with that gym being owned by the Mayor, I don't think we are supposed to do that"? She asked, "How is that going to be done "? Mr. Garland said he can check with the Ethics Commission on that. He said I don't have a good answer for that and the best I can tell you is from a budgetary standpoint that Mayor Boyd could not vote on that line item because it would involve a business that he owns. Councilwoman Baccus said, "If I remember correctly, in the class that I was in, as far as ethics is concerned, that the city cannot use the services of a person that's on the council". Councilwoman Baccus said she will research it. Mr. Garland asked City Attorney Kevin Etheridge to give him a call tomorrow and they can look at that issue.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Howard Nettles made a motion to adjourn tonight's budget meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bryant Gardner to adjourn at 8:04 PM.

Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk & Treasurer