

**MEETING MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING
JULY 27, 2023
PROPOSED FY 2023-2024 BUDGET**

The members of the City Council of the City of Phenix City, Alabama met for a public hearing on the proposed budget for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 on July 27, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. EST, in the Council Chambers of the Public Safety Building located at 1111 Broad Street, Phenix City, Alabama. Upon roll call, the following councilmembers were present: Councilmembers Arthur L. Day, Jr., Vickey F. Carter, Steve Bailey, R. Griff Gordy and Mayor Eddie N. Lowe. Also in attendance were City Manager Wallace B. Hunter, Assistant City Manager Chan Gamble, City Attorney Jimmy Graham and City Clerk Melony Lee. The following Department Heads were present: Deputy Building Official Ray Rogers, Director of Engineering and Public Works Angel Moore, City Planner Terry Curry, Finance Director Labrita King Copeland, Fire Chief Kris Kennedy, Golf Manager Mike Barber, IT Manager Mike Bauer, Phenix City Russell County Library Director Tammy Henry, Municipal Court Clerk Ruby White, Parks and Recreation Director Todd Hughes, Human Resources Director Stephanie Chastain, Utilities Director Charles Woody, Public Safety Director Ray Smith, and Police Chief George Staudinger. Members of the media were present.

Mayor Lowe called the meeting to order and asked City Clerk Melony Lee to call roll. Upon calling roll, the following members answered present: Councilmember Arthur L. Day, Jr., Councilmember Vickey F. Carter, Councilmember Steve Bailey, Councilmember R. Griff Gordy, and Mayor Eddie N. Lowe.

Mayor Lowe delivered the invocation.

Mayor Lowe led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Lowe opened the floor to City Manager Wallace Hunter to begin the meeting.

City Manager Wallace Hunter thanked Mayor and Council, Department Heads, especially the Finance Department for their hard work on the budget. Mr. Hunter commented on the economic state of not only the city but the nation as a whole. Mr. Hunter spoke on City Clerk Melony Lee's upcoming retirement, and how much she has meant to the city.

City Manager Hunter called upon Finance Director Labrita King-Copeland to present the proposed 2023-2024 Budget Message to Council and the audience. Finance Director Labrita King-Copeland reviewed the Budget Message

BUDGET MESSAGE

Mayor Lowe thanked Ms. Copeland.

City Manager Hunter spoke on employee retention and recruitment – not only for employment with the city but also for businesses located in the city. He thanked everyone who is working hard during this period.

Mayor Lowe opened the Public Hearing and advised if anyone wanted to come forward and address council regarding the 2023-2024 Proposed Budget, now is the time.

Neither hearing nor seeing anyone come forward, Mayor Lowe closed the Public Hearing.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting thus adjourned at 7:13 p.m.