Work Session of the City Council, City of Farmington, New Mexico, held virtually using Zoom at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86381633795 at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 21, 2020. The virtually open work session was held in full conformity with the laws and ordinances and rules of the Municipality.

Upon roll call, the following were found to be present, constituting a quorum:

MAYOR	Nate Duckett
COUNCILORS	Linda G. Rodgers Sean E. Sharer Jeanine Bingham-Kelly Janis Jakino

constituting all the members of the Governing Body.

Also present were:

CITY MANAGER	Rob Mayes
ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER	Julie Baird
CITY ATTORNEY	Jennifer Breakell
CITY CLERK	Andrea Jones
DEPUTY CITY CLERK	Anita Vigil

PRESENTATION/FISCAL YEAR 2021 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Providing opening remarks, City Manager Rob Mayes informed the Council that the Fiscal Year 2021 ("FY21") preliminary budget is based on the "Level 2" budget scenario introduced at the May 12, 2020 regular City Council meeting that moderately predicted an annualized revenue reduction of 20 percent ($11.9 million deficit) as a result of the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Brief discussion ensued regarding the adoption of a 20 percent reduced budget, possible alternative sources of financial relief and the proposed budget review and adoption dates.

City Administration and Support

Utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, City Manager Rob Mayes reported that the overall budget for Administration and Support is only 2.46 percent of the total FY21 preliminary budget of $282 million and Administrative Services Director Teresa Emrich detailed the 6.9 percent ($41,575) budget reduction from FY20 to FY21.

City Clerk

City Clerk Andrea Jones highlighted the duties of the City Clerk's Office and pointed out that the City is mandated by State Statute to redistrict following the 2020 Census with an approximate cost of $22,000. Ms. Emrich indicated that including the redistricting obligation, the City Clerk's operating budget is only an increase of 2.3 percent ($4,901).

Municipal Court

Mr. Mayes briefly reviewed the responsibilities of the Municipal Court and Ms. Emrich reported that the proposed FY21 budget is reduced by 1.4 percent ($34,261) compared to FY20.

Library

Library Director Karen McPheeters answered various questions from the Council and she praised the Library staff's response to "getting back to basics" and rethinking processes to better serve the community during this pandemic. Ms. Emrich discussed the significant changes to the revenue funds that support the Library and she stated that the overall budget reduction for FY21 is 10.6 percent (429,350).

RECESS

Mayor Duckett called a recess at 10:36 a.m.

The meeting was reconvened by the Mayor at 10:50 a.m. with all members of the Council being present.

Legal

Continuing with the presentation, City Attorney Jennifer Breakell briefly illustrated the types of counsel that the Legal Department provides for the City and Ms. Emrich noted that the FY21 budget reduction of $11,720 is 1.5 percent less than the FY20 budget.

Economic Development and Outdoor Recreation Industry Initiative

Ms. Emrich discussed the overall budget reduction of $42,000 for Economic Development and Outdoor Recreation Industry Initiative ("ORII") and Economic Development Director Warren Unsicker briefly reviewed the current efforts and status of ongoing projects.

Information Technology

Ms. Emrich reported that the Information Technology ("IT") FY21 budget has been reduced by 15.1 percent ($296,949) compared to the FY20 budget and IT Director James Campbell provided an overview of his staff and their roles along with the IT Administration budget. Deputy IT Directors Evan Brimhall and Bobby Kimball provided the budgetary details of the Infrastructure, Technical Services, Geographic Information System ("GIS"), Applications and Help Desk divisions and answered various questions of the Council.

Administrative Services

Administrative Services Director Teresa Emrich briefly reviewed the duties of the Administration, Finance, Purchasing and Warehouse divisions and announced that the FY21 operating budget reduction of 4.8 percent is $47,477 less than the FY20 budget.

General Services

Ms. Emrich detailed the 4.6 percent ($211,104) operating budget reduction from FY20 to FY21 for General Services and General Services Director Edward Smylie provided a short recap of the broad range of services they provides to the City. He noted that they have been asked to take on additional facilities with reduced staff and he commended his staff's performance during this unprecedented time.

Red Apple Transit

Ms. Emrich reminded the Council that the Federal Transit Administration provided $2.1 million in grant funding to the Red Apple Transit ("RAT") as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic and General Services Director Eddie Smylie reiterated that Council authorized free ridership for the duration of the grant funding period.

Airport

Airport Manager Mike Lewis summarized the recent improvements to the airport's runway and he announced that the operation of the highly anticipated jet airline service with SkyWest will be postponed until the Spring of 2021 due to the severe decline in ridership as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Responding to Councilor Rodgers's question, Mr. Lewis stated that he remains confident in the operation of service with SkyWest and he pointed out that one of their representatives recently inspected the terminal to map out their necessary technology services. Ms. Emrich reported that a large portion of the Airport budget has been relieved by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security ("CARES') Act grant funding.

RECESS

Mayor Duckett called a recess at 12:08 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened by the Mayor at 12:20 p.m. with all members of the Council being present.

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs

Continuing with the presentation, Ms. Emrich provided a condensed review of the various budgets associated with Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs ("PRCA") and PRCA Director Shaña Reeves briefly reviewed the proposed FY21 budgets for the Administration, Parks Operations, Lake Farmington, Recreation Center, Sycamore Park Community Center, Indian Center, Lions Pool, Aquatic Center, Piñon Hills and Civitan Golf Courses, Bisti Bay at Brookside Park, Animal Shelter, Bonnie Dallas Senior Center, Civic Center and the Museum System divisions. Assistant City Manager Julie Baird provided additional information regarding the Museum System, noting that she has provided assistance due to reduced staffing. Concluding her presentation, Ms. Reeves announced that PRCA Administration has moved into their new building located at 600 Reilly Avenue and she thanked General Services and IT staff for their assistance.

Mayor Duckett publicly thanked Steve Nelson for his generous donation of the property located at 600 Reilly Avenue to the City.

Following brief discussion regarding the frustration caused by the State-mandated closure of the Museum System and other PRCA facilities, Councilor Rodgers commended Ms. Reeves and her staff on their dedicated efforts in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Police

Noting that the national Defund the Police movement has not been reflected in Farmington's overall response to local law enforcement, Police Chief Steve Hebbe reviewed the proposed budget reductions to overtime, training, ammunition, supplies and the cancellation of an in-house training conference and he discussed the associated impacts to the community.

Councilor Sharer and Councilor Rodgers expressed concern over cutting training funds in light of today's political climate. Following brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to direct staff to restore $50,000 to the Police Department for training expenses.

Concluding his presentation, Chief Hebbe thanked the Council for the restored training funds and he commended the Alternative Response Unit ("ARU") for being an asset in reducing unnecessary Police calls for service.

Fire

Ms. Emrich reported that the proposed FY21 operating budget for Fire has been reduced by 9.5 percent ($1,090,576) compared to the FY20 budget and Fire Chief David Burke reviewed the primary impacts to the Administration and Operation divisions, noting that the Fire Department has been fortunate in seeking other grants and supplemental funding programs.

Chief Burke reminded the Council that the Alternative Response Unit ("ARU") is a six-person reserves unit that operates seven days a week during peak call times with a driver and an EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) on duty and he announced that it has exceeded the expectations of partnering organizations in facilitating the response to COVID-19 and maintaining the Sobering Center operations.

Community Works

Community Works Director David Sypher briefly illustrated the essential services provided by Community Works department and he indicated that areas of concern in regards to the budget reductions include storm water improvements, bridge repairs and equipment that has exceeded its service life. Ms. Emrich provided a brief synopsis of the separate budget reductions for Community Works, Public Works, Water Enterprise, Wastewater Enterprise, and Sanitation.

Human Resources

Deputy Human Resources Director Jamie Waggoner succinctly summarized the responsibilities of Human Resources and Ms. Emrich noted that the FY21 budget reduction of $78,437 is 2.8 percent less than FY20.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Councilor Rodgers, seconded by Councilor Sharer to adjourn the meeting at 2:24 p.m. The roll was called with the following result:

Those voting aye:	Linda G. Rodgers Sean E. Sharer Jeanine Bingham-Kelly Janis Jakino
Those voting nay:	None

The presiding officer thereupon declared that four Councilors having voted in favor thereof, the said motion carried.

APPROVED this 11th day of August, 2020.

Nate Duckett, Mayor

SEAL

ATTEST:

Andrea Jones, City Clerk