Mayor Bell called the hearing to order at 5:00 p.m. City Administrator, Kelsye Hantz, took roll call with following members present: Councilwoman Brumley, Councilman Mertz, Councilman Zappone, Councilman Finfrock and Mayor Bell. City Treasurer/Fiscal Director, Trisha Hilderhoff, and City Solicitor, Zach Kansler were also present.

***Open Hearing-Summary Explanation-Bill No. 9, 2024 Budget***

Councilman Finfrock, “Well, considering that the Charter says that we have to give a budget message, that I am required to give a budget message, I’ve already done that at the November meeting when we introduced the budget, so I’m not going to go over an explanation of it. If anybody has any questions they can ask them. We do have to have this meeting every year, according to the Charter, which is probably my fault, but I didn’t realize that at the time. The meeting has to take place not less than seven days after the budget was introduced, and at least 14 days before the Ordinance is adopted, which is the December Council meeting. So, this is the right time of the year to be having this meeting. I had asked, you guys can overrule me if you want, but I had asked Angela and Kelsye when they put out a list of meeting dates for the year, if they would include this in that list of meeting dates, to have it on this particular Monday. We’ll address all the thousands of people that care to hear that. As far as changes to the budget for everyone else; we still haven’t gotten the property insurance numbers, so hopefully we get those in the next few days. The other thing is, there was an addition of $12,000 from Mutual Aid, which is a check I will not sign, but that’s in the budget, and it was made up for by the increase in wage tax revenues. If you have anything else you care to add, or say?”

***Let the record reflect there was no public comments***

Councilman Mertz, “I’d like to make a motion to go into executive session to discuss the potential hiring of a new Planning Director, and the terms and conditions of employment of current employees in the Planning Department.”

Councilman Mertz MOVED to go into executive session, and Councilman Finfrock SECONDED. No discussion. All voted unanimously to go into executive session.

***Adjournment***

Mayor Bell MOVED to adjourn the hearing, and Councilwoman Brumley SECONDED. No discussion. All voted unanimously to adjourn.