

March 16, 2010

Budget cuts to bring Nitro surplus, treasurer says

For the Gazette, by Aran Jenkins

Nitro, W.Va. - Nitro city council members approved a \$5 million budget for the 2010 fiscal year at their regular meeting on Tuesday.

Treasurer John Young reported department budget cuts successfully eliminated a projected deficit and the city would have a surplus of \$24,000.

Every department made cuts to balance the budget, Young said. Cuts include the salaries of one police officer and one firefighter for the city and the travel budget for the city building inspector.

In other business, Councilman Dave Casebolt said Mike Gioulis, from the Historic Preservation Society, has been developing a master plan to renovate downtown Nitro.

The city will apply for federal grants later this year to pay for the costs of the proposed renovations, Casebolt said.

Council members also agreed to table the selection of the Nitro Convention and Visitors Bureau board of directors until April 6. Recorder Rita Cox said more time and consideration should be given before the final selections are made.

Casebolt also announced the city would hold a contest to design a new city logo and new banners to hang around the city. The contest is open to residents of all ages, and the grand prizes will be \$500 for city logo design and \$500 for the banner design.

The contest will close June 1, Casebolt said. Entries should be mailed to Mayor Rusty Casto's office at 2009 20th Street, Nitro, WV 25143.