

**Comments- Public Hearing on Budget- June 15, 2020 @ 5:30 p.m.
List #2**

Comments have been received from the following for the Public Hearing on the proposed FY 2020-2021 Budget and will be incorporated as a permanent part of the minutes of the proceedings

	LAST NAME	First Name
1	BOATWRIGHT,	Annabella

Lisa Vierling

From: Annabella Boatwright <a.hunt.boatwright@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 3:17 PM
To: Public Comment
Subject: thoughts on proposed city budget fy 2021

Dear City Council & Interim City Manager,

I am a proud citizen of High Point. Thank you for all your hard work in creating the budget for this coming year. I know how difficult it must be considering the economic crisis brought on by COVID-19. 2020 has been a year of flux as we examine our systems and who they are in place to serve, seeing who was most quickly and directly affected by COVID-19. Hopefully 2021 will be a year of change for the better as we move forward and work to serve ALL of High Point's citizens.

I am happy to see that partial funding was returned to the High Point Museum and that the Morehead Rec Center will not be closing. These are important free spaces for our community. I was sad to see that human resources, the library, and housing took fairly large cuts proportionately in the proposed budget. I also noticed that the police budget was increased by 1 million in addition to the already ~30 million dollars allocated to their department. I would be so proud of our city if we could take those increased funds of the police department and reallocate them to give back the 85,876 cut from human resources, 377,182 to the library, and 118,008 to housing and community services.

I would be even MORE proud if we could invest an additional million from the police budget into these departments that uplift the community and give them resources like safe housing for drug addicted people and the homeless population. Or giving the library awesome funding as they are a resource for people who would not usually have access to the internet or safe space to learn free of charge. Giving people independence. This way we take care of our community so issues don't arise where police would need to be called. Solving these issues before they happen by internally caring for the people in High Point who need it most.

I think 2020 is here to show us that we can change our systems and y'all have the power to do that. Thank you so much for your time and consideration. Thank you for serving our people.

Your Proud Citizen,
Annabella Boatwright