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A request to amend the City's fiscal year 2013/2014 budget by more than \$900,000 earned a unanimous thumbs up, on first reading, at the Feb. 17 Burleson City Council meeting.

That amendment includes authorizing the addition of one engineer position to the general fund budget with offsetting charges to bond funds. The additional engineer will handle capital projects and provide support for other general engineering projects, including transportation and traffic planning, engineering questions from citizens, and coordination with the public works department.

If approved on second reading, the council would earmark \$350,730 in the equipment replacement fund for Hidden Creek Golf Course to cover the purchase of golf carts, a range picker, and vending cart, and to add a mower. The remaining balance on the 2010 capital lease purchase of \$7,750 would be added to the golf course budget to cover the purchase of equipment.

The amendment also includes \$100,000 to cover the replacement of two police vehicles. A contingency amount was included in the original 2013/2014 budget for replacement of vehicles that unexpectedly needed replacing during the year. In November 2013, council authorized using part of this contingency fund to buy a vehicle for the police department's Commercial Vehicle Enforcement (CVE) program, leaving the appropriated balance insufficient for the subsequent replacements.

The final piece of the budget amendment is \$450,000 for economic development incentives for the Chicken E distribution center. The incentive was adopted by the City's Type B board in July 2013 and ratified by council in August 2013, but since that took place during the budget process, the incentive was not included in the fiscal year 2013/2014 budget.

There will be a second reading on the amendment to the ordinance. To read the background on the amendment, go to the Feb. 17 city council agenda, Item 4A, at <http://bit.ly/MTVLn0>. To see the council discussion on Item 4A, go to the Feb. 17 council meeting video at <http://bit.ly/1c12LF6>.