

**MINUTES OF A BUDGET WORKSHOP/SPECIAL MEETING OF THE ZION CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 2007, AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
CITY HALL, ZION, ILLINOIS**

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Mayor Harrison called the meeting to order.

On call of the roll the following answered present: Commissioners Bennett, Flammini, Taylor, DeTienne and Mayor Harrison.

2007/08 BUDGET

Larry Pannell noted some changes to the budget for 2007/08:

- Beginning balances have been eliminated for most funds, so that the budget is based on a cash basis.
- Worker's compensation and liability insurances have been re-allocated for each department based on loss.
- Expenses for Rescue, Fund 13, have been moved to Fire, Fund 14.
- The General Fund has absorbed all operating expenses previously in the Street & Bridge Fund.

Mr. Pannell stated there is an anticipated shortfall of \$2.2 million without adding requests for capital items. Commissioner Taylor questioned why beginning balances are not shown. Mr. Pannell stated, beginning balances are not shown, since current bills may be in the process of being paid through accounts payable.

Community/Economic Development

Delaine Rogers stated the Economic Development budget reflects a 9% reduction from last year. There are no capital outlay requests.

TIF District #1

TIF #1 revenues are down, but are the same as in the fiscal year 2005/06. Ms. Rogers suggested reducing 20-03-2-05-900, Parking Lot Land Bank, from \$400,000 to \$200,000. Ms. Rogers stated she knows there is a beginning balance in TIF District #1, even though it is not reflected in the budget.

Proposed projects for TIF District #1:

Parking Lot Land Bank	\$400,000
TIF Grants	\$100,000
National City Alley	\$ 11,000

TIF District #3

Proposed projects for TIF District #3:

Rush Barton Project	\$ 20,000
Seed Money	\$200,000

Economic Development/Fund 65

This fund includes NSSD Cell B, and has a surplus.

Cable Fund

Mayor Harrison stated the Living Museum no longer exists, so line item 73-00-2-02-290 in the amount of \$35,000 can be eliminated. Commissioner Bennett stated, per the agreement with Zion Township, the revenue from the sale of 2655 Sheridan Road will not be realized. Mayor noted concerns regarding revenue needed for this building, if the Boys and Girls Club does not become a reality.

Police/Public Health & Safety

Chief Booth stated the department is currently at 50 officers, so overtime should be reduced.

Requests for capital outlay purchases include:

- 4 Squad Cars: Chief Booth recommended reducing the original request for 4 squad cars to 3 squad cars, bringing this total from \$121,308 to \$90,981. Commissioners DeTienne and Taylor stated they preferred keeping this request at 4 squad cars for better police presence.
- Animal Control Van: Chief Booth stated he could reduce the original request for an Animal Control Van from \$27,350 to \$21,000, based on a quote received
- Radio Equipment: \$18,000
- Office Relocations: \$28,000
- SWAT Phone: \$14,865

Chief Booth noted the need for the Reverse 911 System. Mr. Pannell suggested placing this system under Public Property. Chief Booth stated the motorcycle program will be further evaluated this next year, in order to determine its value.

Public Works

Ron Colangelo stated the Public Works budget reflects a 12% reduction from last year. There is \$629,000 in line item 10-04-1-02-395 for the approved street project. Mr. Colangelo requested adding portions of Colgate Avenue, 34th Street, Elisha Avenue, Gideon Avenue and Ravine Drive to the street project, utilizing an additional \$100,000 from the Street and Bridge Fund.

Motor Fuel Tax (MFT)

The beginning balance deficit might be reduced based on transferred funds.

Requests for capital outlay purchases and projects include:

- Glendale Site improvements: Ron Colangelo recommended eliminating this \$50,000 item
- Public Works improvements: \$10,000
- Sportman’s Park storm sewer: Ron Colangelo recommended reducing this project from \$15,000 to \$5,000
- Moving Arm trackless equipment: \$20,000
- Tire machine: \$10,000
- Replacing Mechanic’s truck #506: \$40,000
- Repairing Oshkosh: \$20,000
- Replacing Water truck #208: \$30,000

E-911 Telephone System

Requests for capital outlay purchases include:

- Voice Print hardware: \$21,000
- E-911 Center remodel: Previously approved at \$85,000

ESDA

Chief LaBelle stated he would like to consider training for ESDA personnel. Chief LaBelle noted he plans to check into possible grants for ESDA.

Fire/Rescue

Requests for capital outlay purchases include:

- Station #1 HVAC upgrade: \$20,000
- Station #2 electrical & air upgrade: \$50,000
- Replacing Chief’s vehicle: \$40,000
- If new Stations are not built, additional rehabilitation work needed to Station #1: \$150,000

Building & Zoning/Inspection

John Jones stated he will need to increase the expense line items for elevator inspections and gas and oil, given current prices. A vehicle is needed for Building Inspection, however, a vehicle will become available when the van for Downtown Maintenance arrives. Commissioner Flammini suggested renting vehicles in the summer during the highest usage time, as certain vehicles are not heavily utilized in the winter.

Mr. Jones recommended continuing the Administrative Adjudication Program, as fines have risen because of this program, while helping to decrease overtime.

Requests for capital outlay purchases include:

- 6 Truck-installed laptops: \$17,700 (This request was originally at \$15,000)

Public Property

It was noted there are no funds in Public Property for any repairs to City Hall.

Request for capital outlay purchases includes:

- Comcast Digital construction: \$20,000

Public Affairs

The budgets for Legislative, Legal, Boards and Commissions and Jubilee Days Commission all reflect decreases from the previous year.

Requests for capital outlay purchases include:

- Record Retention & Retrieval System: Clerk Mackey recommended reducing the original request from \$30,000 to \$20,000.
- The request of \$10,000 for a temporary employee for data entry for the record retention system would be eliminated.
- The Council's consideration for a Human Resources Coordinator is just for review at this time.
- The Connect-CTY Reverse 911 System in the amount of \$16,000 should be moved from Public Affairs to Public Property

Accounts & Finance

Requests for capital outlay purchases include:

- The request of \$19,500 for a part-time clerk would be eliminated.

Mayor Harrison recommended that each Commissioner review all areas of revenue and expenses, in order to eliminate unneeded expenses. Commissioner Bennett stated last year there was a deficit of \$800,000, which has grown to \$2.2 million. Commissioner Taylor questioned the health insurance reserves, noting a portion of this fund should be used to draw down the deficit. Commissioner Taylor requested a departmental comparison of actual revenue versus expenses. Mr. Pannell stated he would provide this information.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

The Council agreed to hold another Budget Workshop/Special Meeting on Tuesday, May 29, 2007 at 3:30 P.M.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, it was moved by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Flammini and unanimously approved the meeting be adjourned at 10:38 p.m. Motion carried.

City Clerk