

CITY OF MUSCATINE
BUDGET REVIEW SESSION
MINUTES
CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM

February 21, 1989

4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor LeMar, Councilmembers Brewer, York, Harder, Kemp and Sayles

ABSENT: Councilmembers Phillips and Amerine

ALSO PRESENT: Kevin Whittaker, Acting City Administrator
Deb Neels, Director of Finance and Records

Art Center Board Review

Also present: Bill McGonagle, Director of Museum and Art Center
Barb Longtin, Assistant to the Director of Museum and Art Center
Art Center Advisory Board members Roger Davis, Carol Gatzke, Shirley Johnson, and Marie Peck

McGonagle reviewed the status report of the FY 1988/89 Art Center Objectives. He anticipated more school attendants visit to the facility during FY 1989/90. Carol Gatzke invited City Council members to the 25th anniversary events scheduled in FY 1989/90. Councilmember Harder complimented the Art Center on the article appearing in the Iowa Magazine relating to the Art Center River Collection.

Legal Services Budget Review

Whittaker reviewed the Legal Services Budget and noted the only change from the status quo was an increase in the hourly fee from \$70.00 to \$75.00 per hour. No further discussion ensued.

Cable TV Budget Review

Also present: Advisory Board members Karen Yant and Keith Porter
Marsha Tate, Library Director

Tate reviewed the status report of the FY 1988/89 and FY 1989/90 Objectives. Council inquiry was expressed relating to the microphone system in the Council Chambers. Tate indicated that this would be corrected and noted that the broadcast contract with Muscatine Community College expires in 1990. Further, the contract with Heritage Cablevision expires in 1995.

Tate reviewed the capital outlay request for camcorder and color monitors for the Fire and Police Departments. She also noted that blinds, instead of drapes, were proposed in the budget for installation in the City Hall Council Chambers. There was no further discussion on this budget.

Mayor and City Council Budget Review

Deb Neels informed the City Council of a possibility of a State Audit vs. a Private Independent Audit of the FY 1989/90 City Budget. She indicated that this was only a possibility pending legislature direction being provided to the State Auditor Office.

Councilmember Harder asked City Council to consider amending the travel budget for Council. He proposed that the Mayor attend an annual meeting of the National League of Cities and that City Council members attend one every two years.

City Council also discussed a reduction in the council contingency account. No conclusion was reached. Council also indicated that goals and objectives could be formulated when the new City Administrator assume his position and a goal setting session can be scheduled with the Iowa Institute of Public Affairs.

On a motion by Councilmember Sayles, seconded by Councilmember Harder it was moved to approve the contract between the City and A. J. Johnson for position of City Administrator. All members present voted aye; motion carried.

Parks and Recreation Administration Budget

Also present: Larry Wolf, Director of Parks and Recreation
Rick VanDolah, Parks Maintenance Supervisor

Wolf reviewed the proposed master plan for improvements at Kent Stein Park. He also reviewed the completed street tree inventory and indicated that 1,305 street trees by species and locations were inventoried and entered the City computer system.

He concluded by reviewing the objectives and status report for the Parks Administrative Budget.

Councilmember York noted that \$1,500 should be included for the installation of a fence in Oak Park when the improvements are made to Isett Avenue.

Park Maintenance Budget Review

Van Dolah reviewed the status of the greenhouse project and indicated that the original supplier has gone out of business. Plans have been somewhat modified, at the same cost, to accommodate another greenhouse supplier's unit. On a motion by Councilmember Kemp, seconded by Councilmember Brewer the Parks Department was directed to purchase the modified greenhouse prior to March 1, 1989 to save on a scheduled price increase. All members present voted aye; motion carried.

Swimming Pool and Recreation Activities Budget Review

Also present: Ed Englehart, Recreation Supervisor

Englehart reviewed the status report of the FY 1988/89 Swimming Pool Budget. He then reviewed the objectives for the next fiscal year. He indicated that the initial request to paint the Week Park Pool had been deferred until it is necessary to do so. He also noted a problem in receiving a final bill from the School District for the Carver Pool.

He reviewed a wage survey for seasonal employees in various positions in the Parks Department. He noted that the positions had not received a pay increase for a number of years and he anticipated that it would become more difficult to recruit and retain competent staff.

There was no further discussion of these budgets.

Adjourned.


Don LeMar, Mayor

Attest:


Kevin Whittaker, Acting City Administrator