

MUSCATINE CITY COUNCIL
BUDGET REVIEW SESSION
FEBRUARY 19, 1991 - CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM

The City Council Budget Session for Tuesday, February 19, 1991, was called to order by Mayor John Keig at 4:09 p.m. Present were Mayor Keig, Council Members York, Harder, Freese, and Kemp. Also present were City Administrator A.J. Johnson and Director of Finance and Records David Casstevens.

I. Golf Course Operation

Joining those present were Parks and Recreation Director Larry Wolf, Golf Course Supervisor John Wieskamp, and Golf Course Commission Members Bob Schumacher and David LaFontaine.

Council Member Dan Gray joined the meeting at 4:11 p.m.

The first item discussed with Council Members was the proposed fee schedule increase for the golf season for 1991. Annually, the Golf Course Advisory Commission reviews the proposed fees for the Golf Course Operation. Also present was an unidentified individual who questioned Council and Commission Members concerning the proposed fee increase for 1991. There was general discussion concerning the fees and that overall the City's fees for golf course operations was fairly competitive, if not the lowest in the area. There was also discussion concerning the possibility of a study to look at the enhancement of the pro shop at the current course. Commission Member LaFontaine raised two issues with the Council:

1. Expansion for the maintenance facility if the course stays as is; and
2. A look at a possible expansion to an additional 9 or 18 holes of golf.

Wieskamp requested the upgrade of a current groundskeeper and the addition of a new position.

Council Member Jeanette Phillips joined the discussion at 4:58 p.m.

II. Cemetery

Joining the discussion for the Cemetery operation was Cemetery Supervisor Jerry Stalkfleet. There was general discussion concerning the cemetery operation. One of the largest proposed capital expenditures which was not included in the cemetery budget was the building of a new maintenance facility. The current maintenance facility is across the street from the cemetery. It was noted that monies for the construction of the new building was not put into the budget and that we would let the fund build

up before any action was taken. (Monies from the Cemetery Trust Fund are used in cemetery operational costs and capital.) The question was raised as to whether or not the land would be sold across the street if a new facility was built. It is the intention of the City to sell.

III. Transit

Joining the discussion were Randy Hill, Public Works Director, and Kathy Kakert, Transit Supervisor. It was noted that this was the first budget review session that Kathy Kakert was involved with since joining the City in November, 1990. There was a general overview of Transit Operations. Discussion also took place concerning the potential for interaction between the City Transit System and the School System. A study was conducted in 1989 by Bi-State Metropolitan Planning Agency concerning the merging or utilization of the City Transit System in addressing the school transportation needs. It is felt by City Staff Members that the City Transit System can provide an economic alternative to the school system for some of their transportation needs.

There was also a question raised as to whether or not the City could prepare its own application for federal transit monies instead of going through Bi-State Planning Agency. The thought behind this is that if we don't have them prepare them then the City would have more hours available to it under our payment program. Right now our dues to Bi-State included a specified number for the preparation of this Transit document.

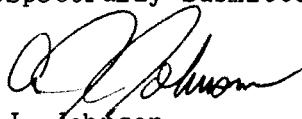
There was also discussion concerning a possible rate increase and it was the opinion of all that a rate increase is needed at this time. It was noted that the proposed levy increase on the transit was going from 33 cents per thousand to 40 cents per thousand. Council challenged staff members to reduce that by \$25,500, for a tax savings.

IV. Housing

Present for this review session were Kevin Whittaker, Director of Community Development; Jack Paetz, Housing Administrator; and Housing Advisory Commission Members Ruth Webb and Mary Gaeta. An overview of the City's housing projects were given to Council. Because the City Council has considered a number of housing items on in-depth and City Council budgets over the past month and a half, there were not many questions concerning the City's housing policies and/or current activities.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



A.J. Johnson
City Administrator