

CITY COUNCIL
BUDGET REVIEW SESSIONS
FEBRUARY 13, 1992
CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM

John Keig, Mayor, called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM. present were Council Members Kemp, Fitzgerald, Freese, D. Gray, and Moench. Also present were City Administrator A.J. Johnson and David Casstevens.

Prior to the budget review session, there was an information session concerning a proposed soccer field/park development. Present were Bill Haage, proponent of a soccer complex to be built within the City of Muscatine. Others present were Parks and Recreation Director Larry Wolf and Tourism Director E.Jane Caraway.

Haage shared with Council a concept for building "competition caliber" soccer fields within the City. He indicated there was private monetary support for the construction of these facilities and was looking toward the city in providing some type of maintenance and upkeep if possible. He also noted that city staff had just been approached concerning this idea and realized they would need time to make an analysis of whether or not it would be feasible with the existing manpower to assume maintenance responsibility and/or what it would take to undertake that operation. There was general discussion concerning the item and a consensus given that city staff should review the matter to see what if any level of participation would be feasible for the City to look at.

The next item for review was an update by the City Administrator on pro shop renovation at the golf course. Because the golf budget had already been reviewed, Johnson updated the Council on proposed expenditures of \$4400 for pro shop renovation. Also, the staff will be budgeting an additional \$700 to accommodate relocation expenses for the golf pro.

The discussion then turned to a review of the landfill, refuse, and proposed transfer station operations. Present was Public Works Director Randy Hill to provide additional information concerning these operations. It was noted there would be no refuse increase proposed for refuse collections for 1992/93 and that there would be an increase in the tipping fees at the landfill to reflect the increase in the state surcharge. Also, there was a discussion concerning the proposed construction of the transfer station. That as well as the landfill budget was based

on six months of operations. Comments from the Council encouraged the use of the cable television system as to the future role of the transfer station in recycling plans. There was also questions concerning the cost of the property on Highway 61 that the City had previously acquired and the arrangements that had been made with the local farmer for renting of the property.


The next review concerned the Transit Operations. It was noted that the transit operation in respect to the separate levy for its operation was increasing to 49 cents or 40% from last year's rate. It was also noted that much of this is due to capital equipment requested for compliance with ADA. There was also discussion concerning the proposed move of the transfer station in the downtown area from its current Iowa Avenue location to the Clark House/Library. There were questions concerning accessibility to both buildings concerning the ADA requirements and whether or not a move of the transfer station might create for us in the future. There was also discussion concerning the need to continue to review fees and make appropriate proposals for increases, keeping in mind not to hurt the business.

The next item for review was Parking Operations. No review was given, indicating that this operation has experienced a turnaround in its fund balance over the last two to three years. There were questions concerning the enforcement activities and whether or not the City should be enforcing regulations concerning restricted parking for business owners who for security reasons violate that restriction, especially in the early morning hours. There was also discussion concerning restricted parking in the area in front of Pearl City Station for both users of the facility and for the boating public.

Final item to be discussed was the Airport operational budget. It was noted that the airport operation is an Enterprise Fund but is scheduled to receive a General Fund transfer of \$35,000 for the next fiscal year. The city will be entering the third year of a five-year contract for airport operation services from Carver Aero for \$28,500 per year. On the revenue side, it was noted the City will be losing some revenue based on the renegotiation of its farm lease operation. The airport improvement plans are currently underway for the improvement of taxi and apron area scheduled for construction in the summer of 1992.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


A.J. Johnson
City Administrator