

MUSCATINE CITY COUNCIL
BUDGET REVIEW SESSION
FEBRUARY 14, 1991 - CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM

The City Council's Budget session held on February 14, 1991, was called to order at 4:08 p.m. Present were: Mayor John Keig; Council Members Harder, York, Kemp, Gray, and Freese. Also present were City Administrator A.J. Johnson and Director of Finance and Records David Casstevens.

I. Parks and Recreation Administration

The first item for Council's review was the Parks and Recreation Administration budget. Also present at this time was Parks and Recreation Director Larry Wolf. During this budget review, there were comments made by City Council Members concerning the overall roles of commissions within the city government format. It was noted specifically there are four commissions which report to the Parks and Recreation Department to the City Council. It was felt there may be some overlapping responsibilities and some confusion with these commissions. After general discussion, it was felt that the commissions should remain intact but that staff should review them and report to City Council as to the development of mission statements for each of the commissions and any overlapping areas of concern.

Paul Brewer joined the review session at 4:18 p.m.

While Council was reviewing the roles of commissions, it was also noted that there still needs to be some major emphasis on riverfront development and that one of these commissions if not a hy-bred should look at riverfront development issues.

Jeanette Phillips joined the meeting at 4:31 p.m.

Following no review of commissions, there was a review for the Recreation Specialist and Asst. Parks and Recreation Director as presented in the proposed budget. The City Administrator and the Parks and Recreation Director gave an overview of the positions and their funding sources.

II. Park Maintenance

Joining the discussion for Park Maintenance activities was Park Maintenance Randy Elder. An overview of the Park Maintenance activities was given. There was also discussion concerning the construction of the City's greenhouse at the Park Maintenance facility in Weed Park.

III. Park Recreation and Pools

The next item for Council review was recreation activities and swimming pool activities. Joining the City Council for discussion on these items were Recreation Supervisor Ed Englehart and City Engineer Rob McDonald. A general overview of recreation activities was given to City Council. This review led into an overall review of the proposed Kent Stein Improvement Project. Englehart and McDonald presented Council with an overview of the improvement program. This included a cost estimate of approximately \$1.9 million for a three-year phased improvement at Kent Stein. Following the Kent Stein overview, there was discussion concerning the pool activities at both Weed Park and Carver Swim Center.

IV. Boat Harbor and Marina Operations

Joining City Council for discussion on this matter was Levee Commission Member Sal Lobianco. Boat harbor and marina operations were reviewed with City Council members. As a representative of the Levee Commission, Sal Lobianco presented a listing of items of commission concerns. They were as follows:

1. A need for a longer boating season.
2. Lack of focus of riverfront activities.
3. The formation of a group for a more unified action on the riverfront.

There were also discussions concerning the marina operation which for the past year had been utilized by a private individual under contract with the City. It was felt that services provided to boaters were adequate enough to not cancel the contract for the upcoming year. There was also general discussion concerning the removal of dredge spoils from the boat harbor and where we may put it in light of expanding parking needs for the riverboat gaming.

V. Personnel

There was an overview of the Personnel function which is responsible to the City Administrator. As part of the Personnel budget, monies were allocated for the Human Rights Commission. The proposed 1991/92 budget recommends a removal of the legal fees (\$2,000) under this budget. Human Rights Commission members Bill Trent and Molly Munoz were present to ask Council not to remove the \$2,000 for legal fees assistance. Both individuals felt that the Human Rights Commission was making great progress in education in processing Civil Rights violation claims. It was also noted that without a commission as a processing agent, that the City's current ordinance would not be applicable if someone wished to file an action against a company or individual in the City for violation of Human Rights. It was noted that there is assistance from the state on two individuals who feel they have been discriminated against. They also felt that a complete elimination of the funds was a bit unfair and would request that Council consider a 10% reduction in the money made available and not a total elimination of those funds. One final item, a seminar on affirmative action will be scheduled for April 17, 1991, and sponsored by the Human Rights Commission.

been reviewed with City Council from the Parks and Recreation Department concerning the need for specific attention at the Japanese Garden to maintain its beautiful nature.

VI. City Council Review

There was a brief overview of activities here.

VII. City Attorney

There was question as to whether or not the City Attorney needed to be present at all City Council meetings. It was felt, though, that since the City Attorney does not get involved with the in-depth meeting that he needed be at both regular meetings each month. City Council seemed satisfied with the performance of the City Attorney at this time.

VIII. City Administrator

There was general discussion concerning this budget. It was also noted that the City Administrator's secretary and the City Administrator had been undertaking some of the wellness activities until that issue had been resolved through review of departmental activities during budget time.

With no further business to conduct, the City Council adjourned its budget session at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



A.J. Johnson
City Administrator