Minutes
SPECIAL BUDGET WORKSHOP CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY/PUBLIC FINANCE AUTHORITY MEETING AGENDA
September 9, 2014

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Garcia called the Council Meeting to order at 5:30 PM..

Council Members Present: Oxborrow, Lander, Ramsey, Keough, Garcia

Others present: City Manager Rene Ramirez, Finance Director Mari Jimenez, Assistant Community Development Director Sean Brewer, Police Chief Cal Minor, Fire Chief Steve Henry, Administrative Analyst Mercedes Garcia, Payroll Manager Frank Esparza, Lieutenant Scott Ingram, Sgt. Blevins, members of the Fire Department, Police Department and family members, and

Olga Keough, Treasurer
Wanda Earls, City Clerk

2. AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND PROCLAMATIONS (NONE)

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS (NONE)

5. CONSENT CALENDAR (NONE)

6. ORDINANCE PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS

1. Discussion of FY 2014/2015 Budget
   Rene A. Ramirez, City Manager

City Manager Rene Ramirez:

This is a budget workshop/meeting to offer revision to the proposed General Fund Budget. The following information was summarized by City Manager Ramirez. He wants to simplify this for the Council. One thing to remember is that the budget is a spending plan and can be adjusted. It is not in concrete. There was an original $1M shortfall.

Bond holders are asking questions.

General Fund Revenue - Total	$6,871,374
Proposed General Fund Expense	$7,280,919
Budget Shortfall	(334,635)

Staff's Suggestions to Council:

1. Increase Ambulance Revenue to match FY14 YTD Revenue or add $86K

2. Reduce CCC maintenance budget to $50K
3. Defund one service center mechanic $48.7 (use Fire mechanic position during transition). It was suggested to wait on this item until mid year budget planning/review in January.
4. Reflect Wildland billing, YTD, September 9, 2014 $25K
5. Adjust Police Revenue for Football Games $2K
6. Reflect Derby Weekend Costs - public safety $17.5K.

Revised FY 2014/15 Proposed Revenue $7,001,874
Revised FY 2014/15 Budget Expense $7107,298

Revised Budget Shortfall ($105,424)

Council Members suggested some of the following:

*When EDA Buildings sell - don't include $560 in Budget - Place in General Fund Reserve
*Take $60K from water fund to help fund Fire Department for fire hydrant maintenance.
(Direction to document all future documents as long as funds are being used.)
*Reduce electric bill at CCC.
* Total costs for water plant manager position is $91K with benefits. There are two employees working their way up. Spend few dollars for training.
* Need Fire Department to do inspections for one-time fee.

City Manager Ramirez is willing to use his licenses at Water Plant and to take over supervision and oversight at Water Plant. This saves $91K normally spent for Water Plant manager and helps brings budget into balance by transferring part of City Manager Ramirez's salary to Water Plant. (Someone suggested an increase in salary for City Manager Ramirez. He quickly indicated this is no time to discuss an increase in salary for him.)

*When people leave, take several months to request/recruit new employee.
*Council firm right now on "no layoffs"
*Police Department has $35K in cuts in operating expense. Suggestion to increase amount from natural gas fund by $60K to support Police Department.
*Fire Department has reduced 4 positions. Ambulance 1-2 units.There could be some flexibility in ambulance revenue. Getting rid of overtime.
* There should be reduction in Worker's Compensation to be paid this year.

Mayor Garcia expressed concern that the administration/human resources which makes up 23% of budget should consider additional cuts like the PD and Fire Department have made.

City Manager Ramirez indicated over the past year, reductions have been made within the departments. They have lost several positions during the year and employees were not replaced. He does not recommend additional cuts due to already working at bare minimum staffing.

Mayor Garcia said he understands there have been cuts during the year but he doesn't want it to appear we are balancing the budget on the backs of the PD and Fire Department.

City Council Members re-emphasized there was to be no cuts in positions.

Council Member asked for all departments to revisit their budgets looking for additional cuts in budget.

City Manager Ramirez will look for additional General Fund Budget cuts.

Mayor Garcia said we still have to meet with the Chamber of Commerce to discuss the public safety during

Horned Toad Derby.

Council Members want no cuts in salary until mid year budget.

Consensus of Council is to move forward applying additional budget cuts and to meet on October 2nd to approve 2014-2015 Proposed Budget.

(Note from City Clerk. These minutes are transcribed from written notes taken by me at the meeting. There are times when some individuals cannot be understood. This was from speaking too softly; several speaking at once; someone coughing over the person speaking, etc.)

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

9. CLOSED SESSION (NONE)

10. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Garcia adjourned the workshop meeting at 6:34 PM.

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Tony Garcia, Mayor

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City Clerk/Deputy Clerk

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Date

STAFF REPORT - CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY/PUBLIC FINANCE AUTHORITY

Subject:	Discussion of FY 2014/2015 Budget
Meeting Date:	September 9, 2014
From:	Rene A. Ramirez, City Manager
Prepared by:	Rene A. Ramirez, City Manager

I. RECOMMENDATION:

II. BACKGROUND:

III. DISCUSSION:

IV. ALTERNATIVES:

V. FISCAL IMPACT:

ATTACHMENTS:

File Name	Description
No Attachments Available	