

**ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING/LOMPOC CITY COUNCIL
BUDGET WORKSHOP
LOMPOC CITY HALL/COUNCIL CHAMBERS
SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 2001 – 9:00 A.M.**

Councilmembers Present: DeWayne Holmdahl, Will Schuyler, and Mayor Dick DeWees.

Councilmembers Absent: Janice Keller and Michael Siminski.

Staff Participants: City Administrator Frank Priore, City Attorney Sharon Stuart, City Clerk Jane Green, Management Services Director John Walk, Community Services Director Marlene Demery, Chief of Police Bill Brown, Fire Chief Ed Casarez, Assistant to the City Administrator Dave Norman, Parks and Recreation Director Vince Elizondo and Senior Electrical Utility Engineer Mohammad Mohabbat.

Other Participants: Anne Les, Virginia Kern, Hector Santiago, Suzanne Schwark, Barbara Holt, Ray Down, Denny Anderson, Wicki Rodenhi, James Carucci, Pat Brady, and Frank Signorelli.

Mayor DeWees announced the Council would start with reviewing the General Fund budgets, that the budget pages would be displayed on the overhead, and organizations affected by the budget will have an opportunity to make a presentation.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Anne Les, Library Board of Trustees, asked the Council to increase funding for the Library as follows:
 - Addition of 6 hours in the first fiscal year and an additional 6 in the following year at an approximate annual cost of \$30,000 for each 6 hours;
 - Reclassification of part-time to full-time employees and reclassification of the Library Clerk position (only seven are full time).
2. Virginia Kern requested additional funding to increase hours for the Library to accommodate the Adult Literacy Program in the morning.
3. Hector Santiago, Library volunteer, noted that increasing the library hours would provide additional services for young people to access the computers/Internet, an opportunity to enjoy quiet time, join study teams, and socialize.
4. Suzanne Schwark, District Libraries Foundation, reported that, as recognized by the State, there is a disparity in funding libraries across the State. In order to encourage increased endowments, she urged the Council to make a commitment that the Library is a high priority.
5. Barbara Holt, Human Services Commissioner, asked the City to match the \$9,000 donated by citizens to the Human Services Fund.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Review of 2001-2003 Proposed City Budget

Mayor DeWees announced that the Council would begin reviewing the General Fund Departments starting with page 1 and that Council should interject if they had questions as the Budget is reviewed.

**City Council
City Administrator**

City Clerk

Councilmember Schuyler inquired about an unfunded request for computer improvements that was not recommended in the budget. City Administrator Frank Priore advised that in some cases, funds were identified in the current year for certain capital purchases.

City Attorney

City Attorney Sharon Stuart asked the Council to reconsider a Program Change Request to change the career ladder and create an Assistant City Attorney II, III, & IV to recognize increased complexity and expanded scope of the individual's job. City Administrator Frank Priore recommended that this classification be considered as part of the salary survey. Discussion continued on the duties of the classification and the existing career ladder.

Mayor DeWees suggested and Council concurred that this classification be included in the salary study to be completed later this year.

Economic Development and Community Revitalization

Ray Down, President of Chamber of Commerce, thanked the City for the partnership with the City over the past years to improve economic development and tourism. He supported an increase to the Chamber contract.

Denny Anderson, Executive Director, Chamber of Commerce, reported that their original funding request was not recommended, however, they appreciated the increase to allow the Chamber to maintain the level of quality service for tourism. He outlined activities planned for the Chamber during 2001-2003.

Management Services

Human Resources

Building and Facilities Maintenance

Non-Departmental

Wicki Rodenhi, member of the Library Board of Trustees and District Libraries Foundation, thanked John Walk for the time spent explaining the City budget process. She provided background on various Library programs and suggested that reductions be made in the supplies and training accounts from other funds to increase the contribution to the Library. Specific requests included:

- Postpone charge back to the branch libraries to FY 02-03
- Instead of increasing funding for six additional hours per week, redirect funding to the one-time expense of \$16,168 in both fiscal years for the Black Gold Automation System and the final payment of \$12,750 for the new heating system.

John Walk advised that Staff had agreed to delay the charge back to the branch libraries until the second year. However, final payments to the Black Gold Automation System are currently proposed from the Library's Reserves.

Following discussion Council concurred with allocating \$32,000 from the General Fund for the final two payments to the Black Gold Automation System. The first payment was made from the General Fund.

Council agreed to delay consideration of the additional \$12,750 for the heating system until the June 26, 2001 Council meeting.

Councilmember Schuyler expressed concern that he did not have enough time or information to fully consider the budget.

James Carucci, Lompoc Museum Board Member, advised that recent information provided the Council should have reported that hours are extended on Fridays to accommodate the public during the Old Town Fair. Mr. Carucci described how the additional \$5,000 per year funding increase would benefit the Lompoc Museum; however, stated they were pleased with the recommended amount.

Pat Brady, Museum Board Member, stated that with only two part time paid staff, the volunteers keep the Museum open. She encouraged continued community support.

Frank Signorelli, Museum Board Member, discussed the need for more Board members.

Police

Chief of Police Bill Brown advised that there would be a decrease in staffing due to the loss of grant-funded positions. These positions are funded by Crimes Against Women, CODE, Crime Analyst, Office Staff Assistant (OSA II), and Traffic Safety. The net loss is 3 sworn and 3 non-sworn positions. As a result there will not be an increase in the patrol force. He did report that for the last four years, Lompoc has had the lowest crime rate in the County.

Council discussed the grant-funded programs. City Administrator Frank Priore emphasized that the General Fund will add 3 police officer positions, 3 dispatch-jailers (2 part-time to full-time status and 1 full-time) and 1 part-time OSA.

Fire

Fire Chief Ed Casarez informed the Council that the department was pleased to be working with the Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT) program, is seeking a major grant program for wild land specialized fire equipment, expanding the Fire Reserve program. In response to Councilmember Keller's letter (attached), Chief Casarez advised the Department has had Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) for 25 years and currently have two licensed but non-certified Paramedics. He reminded the Council that unfunded issues may need to be addressed by the Council in the future including National Fire Protection Act 1710 and the 2-in-2-out regulations.

Discussion followed regarding emergency medical calls.

Mr. Priore stressed the need in the future for the Council to consider alternative methods to fund a Fire Marshall position that also would be advantageous for fire prevention, economic development and permit review. He also indicated funds to replace a fire engine are in the Vehicle Fund.

BREAK

At 10:35 A.M., Mayor DeWees announced a recess. The meeting reconvened at 10:45A.M. with Mayor DeWees and Councilmembers Holmdahl and Schuyler present.

Planning

Building Inspection

In response to a question from Councilmember Holmdahl, Community Services Director Marlene Demery commented that with projected development, the Building Inspection's existing personnel should be adequate, however, other alternatives could be explored if warranted.

Engineering

Safety

Street Maintenance

Urban Forestry

Recreation

Frank Priore informed Council that the projected amount of the Bond for the Aquatic Center could be significantly reduced to less than \$3 million with partnerships from Lompoc Unified School District and YMCA and support from the General Fund.

Councilmember Holmdahl requested that Council be provided a timeframe for completion of construction of an Aquatic Center during discussion at the July 3 meeting. He questioned spending \$250,000 to reopen the existing pool and instead urged that the Aquatic Center be constructed as quickly as possible if there is public support. Mr. Priore stated that the report from the Ad Hoc Committee would provide more definitive details and a schedule could then be developed.

Parks

Investment Interest Fund

Federal Road Fund

Local Surface Transportation Program Fund

Transportation Improvement Fund (Measure D)

Councilmember Holmdahl inquired when the Measure D tax is due to expire. Marlene Demery advised the measure will expire in 2009 and that there had been discussions about seeking voter approval to extend the measure. In addition, she reported that Council will be asked to consider projects to be funded under TEA-21 grants on June 26, 2001.

Civic Center

Special Gas Tax

Transit System Fund

Capital Development Fund

Transportation and Street Improvements

Downtown Parking Fund

Street Development Fund

State Traffic Congestion Relief Fund

State COPS Grant Fund

Traffic Offender Fund

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)/Human Services Program

Assistant to the City Administrator Dave Norman briefed the Council on the numerous American Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements that have been allocated from this program to benefit the parks and City Hall. Funds are also provided for the Code Enforcement program from this account.

Airport

Water Utility Fund

Electric Utility Fund

Mohammad Mohabbat, representing the Electric Division, asked the Council to consider changing the title of the proposed Principal Electrical Engineer classification to Assistant Electric Utility Manager to reflect management duties of that position.

Wastewater Utility

Solid Waste Utility

Recreation Revolving Fund

There was brief discussion regarding the overall Parks and Recreation budget. While the Recreation Revolving Fund has increased, the General Fund Recreation Fund budget has decreased due to the pool closure.

Lompoc Valley Community Center

Parks and Recreation Director Vince Elizondo advised that the Center has received substantial use, which attributed to the projected \$80,000 in revenues for the two-year budget. The balance of revenues necessary to operate the Center is transferred from the General Fund. Councilmember Holmdahl emphasized for the public that more than \$64,000 annually from the General Fund helps to support this Center, which benefits the community. Discussion continued on the salaries that includes not only the coordinator's position but also part-time employees for after hours, custodians, and grounds maintenance for the facility.

Human Services Fund

Beautification Fund

River Park Campground Fund

Insurance and Retirement Fund

Equipment Services and Replacement

Communications Fund

Central Stores Fund

Lompoc Public Library System

General Budget Discussion:

Mayor DeWees suggested that all funds established to receive donations, such as the Mural Society, Human Services, etc. be listed on the utility bills to enable customers to select the funds and percentage for which they wish to contribute.

Council briefly discussed the feasibility of annexing River Park. Staff advised the taxes were only about \$900 per year and that the County pays for animal control services to the park since it is in the County.

Councilmember Schuyler asked about the location of the Police Department building and expansion of City Hall. He suggested that the City should consider relocating facilities to consolidate them in a central location rather than spending money on expansion projects. Marlene Demery reported that the \$500,000 allocated for the City Hall project includes new furniture which will reallocate the use of space and provide growth potential for the next two to three budget cycles at significantly less cost than a new building.

Councilmember Schuyler stated he did not support spending \$250,000 to reopen the existing pool or offering ambulance services unless there are major legislative changes.

Councilmember Schuyler asked for information on the number of new part-time versus full time positions recommended in the new budget and Staff replied the data would be provided before the next meeting.

Councilmember Holmdahl said consideration of relocating City Hall may have merit, however, in the interim he supported adding a meeting room to City Hall.

Councilmember Holmdahl asked that Councilmember Keller's letter that was read at the June 5, 2001 Council meeting be a part of the meeting record. In response to Councilmember Keller's suggestion to bid the Chamber of Commerce services, he stated it would be inefficient and cost prohibitive for a new business to provide these services. He supported the General Fund paying for the Library's Black Gold Automation projects and if monies are available for the Library's heating system.

Mayor DeWees inquired about what funding source could be used if the City Council decided to staff and fence the Skate Park. Frank Priore stated it would come from the General Fund Reserves.

Council commended and thanked Staff for their time on the budget.

Mr. Priore announced that the City's budget has been posted on the City's web site.

Councilmember Schuyler commented that long-term part-time positions should be changed to full-time and noted that the proposed increases in employees will be the largest in the last five to seven years.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 12:00 P.M., Mayor DeWees adjourned to the Adjourned Regular Meeting of June 26, 2001 at 7:00 P.M.

Dick DeWees, Mayor
City of Lompoc

ATTEST:

Jane C. Green
City Clerk
Dated: June 15, 2001