

MINUTES OF THE PEORIA CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PEORIA, ARIZONA
PINE CONFERENCE ROOM
April 16, 2011

A **Budget Study Session Meeting** of the City Council of the City of Peoria, Arizona was convened at 8401 West Monroe Avenue in open and public session at 8:01 a.m.

Members Present: Mayor Bob Barrett; Vice Mayor Cathy Carlat; Councilmembers Ron Aames, Joan Evans, Carlo Leone, Dave Pearson, and Tony Rivero.

Members Absent: None.

Other Municipal Officials Present: Carl Swenson, City Manager; Susan Daluddung, Deputy City Manager; Susan Thorpe, Deputy City Manager; Steve Kemp, City Attorney; Wanda Nelson, City Clerk; Brent Mattingly, Finance Director; Bill Mattingly, Public Works and Utilities Director; John Imig, Director of Information Technology; Wynette Reed, Human Resources Director; Jeff Tyne, Interim Community Services Director; Katie Gregory, Interim Management and Budget Director; Sherine Zaya, Office of Communications; Claudia Luján, City Manager's Office.

Audience: Approximately ten members of the public were present.

After a moment of silent reflection, Councilmember Aames led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 Budget Workshop

Clerk's Note: The complete Proposed FY 2012 Budget is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

Municipal Court

Jeff Tyne, Interim Community Services Director, reviewed the Court's proposed FY 2012. The services provided by the Court include customer service, courtrooms, case adjudication, and collections.

Management and Budget

Mr. Tyne noted that this department's structure includes capital and operations, rate analysis, performance management, and strategic support. Discussion ensued regarding the principles of sound financial management.

City Manager

Carl Swenson, City Manager, outlined the proposed budget for the City Manager's Department for FY 2012. The primary functions of this department includes community and regional leadership, organizational leadership and management, and policy support and guidance.

Mayor and Council

Tammy Shreeve, Intergovernmental Affairs, provided an overview of the Mayor and Council's proposed budget. Discussion ensued regarding possible cuts to the Mayor and Council budget. Per Council direction, the overnight travel line item for the Mayor and Council budget will be reduced by half.

City Attorney

Steve Kemp, City Attorney, Steve Burg, Assistant City Attorney, and Ellen Illsley, Office Administrator, reviewed their department structure, major expenditures, cost pressures, and cost saving efforts with respect to their proposed FY 2012 budget.

Mayor Barrett called for a recess at 10:02 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:32 a.m.

Presentations

Carl Swenson, City Manager, noted that the Council requested more information regarding the following areas:

Travel and Training: Overnight travel and training, local training meetings, and in-house training. Significant reductions (59.56%) were taken from FY 2009 – FY 2012 from the travel and training line items. Training needs exist due to credentialing, certifications, licensing, and mentoring. Discussion ensued regarding reducing the travel and training budget.

Communications: Use of cellular communications for City business. In 2009, a committee met to review the cell phone use within the City. The following committee recommendations were adopted within Council Policy 2-4: 1) City provided cell phones; 2) cell phone stipends; 3) communications allowance.

Vehicle Allowances: Vehicles for City business. The City addresses its transportation needs in the following ways: City provided work vehicles; mileage reimbursement for business use of employee's personal vehicle; transportation allowances or leased vehicles.

Mayor Barrett called for a break at 11:43 a.m. The meeting resumed at 12:30 p.m.

Council Requests

Discussion ensued regarding specific line items/expenditures that Council outlined for separate consideration. Per Council direction, the following items were amended in the budget:

1. Reduction of overnight travel for Mayor and Council in the amount of \$15,750;
2. Removal of the proposed wellness clinic;
3. Addition of \$32,000 for right-of-way maintenance;
4. Removal of \$15,000 for Channel 11 fixed term employees to televise Council meetings in the Pine Room. Addition of these employees for \$25,000 for coverage of community activities;
5. Removal of membership to Valley Metro Rail for \$50,000;
6. Addition of \$50,000 for commuter rail study/exploration;
7. Consideration of \$40,000 for library books;
8. Removal of civic engagement training;
9. Twenty-percent reduction to cell phone stipend/allowance budget for employees.

Mayor Barrett called for a break at 2:32 p.m. The meeting resumed at 2:46 p.m.

Discussion ensued regarding the Northern Avenue Capital Improvement Project. Per Council direction, this item will be removed from the FY 2012 Capital Improvement Plan.

Discussion ensued regarding the mandated contribution to the arts fund from utility construction projects. No changes are currently being proposed to this ordinance.

At the direction of Council, future study sessions will be held on the following topics: red light program, home detention program, credit card service charges, sister cities, performance management, Council assistants.

ADJOURNMENT:

Being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was duly adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

Bob Barrett, Mayor

ATTEST:

Wanda Nelson, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct summary of the proceedings of the Budget Study Session of the City Council of Peoria, Arizona held on the 16th day of April, 2011. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 3rd day of May, 2011.

(Seal)

Wanda Nelson, City Clerk