

Minutes

Audio Tape Nos. 623

The City Council of the City of Leawood, Kansas, met for a Special Call Meeting at City Hall, 4800 Town Center Drive, at 6:00 P.M., on Monday, March 22, 2004. Mayor Peggy Dunn presided.

Councilmembers present: Scott E. Gulledge, Jim Rawlings, Mike Gill, Patrick L. Dunn, Louis Rasmussen.

Councilmembers absent: James E. Taylor, Sr., Shelby Story and Gary L. Bussing.

Public Finance Consultants: Julie Carmichael
Stacy Miller

Staff present: Scott Lambers, City Administrator
Kathy Rogers, Finance Director
Kathy Byard, Budget Coordinator
Jeff Cantrell, Neighborhood Services Administrator
Deb Harper, City Clerk

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1. Discuss 2005 Budget Assumptions

Kathy Rogers and Mayor Dunn began the discussion by bringing up a request that Councilmember Taylor had made since the last Special Call Meeting. He had asked that information be given concerning the amount of funds generated from each Ward and how that money had been spent in each Ward. Ms. Rogers indicated that because the County Assessor did not provide a breakdown of property taxes, there was no way to provide figures such as Councilmember Taylor had requested. Mayor Dunn and the Councilmembers present agreed that they preferred to look at Leawood as one inclusive city, and not divide it into sections that might work against each other.

Ms. Rogers discussed the issue of Strategic Planning and Budget Directives. She stated the individual departments kept performance measure records, but in the past they had been condensed to one or two large items for discussion during the Budget Presentation. This year Colorado Springs, CO had been used as a model to help develop a Strategic Goals Plan for the City. Using the Colorado Springs example, the five areas the Governing Body identified in January as being its main financial objectives were incorporated into a Strategic Goals document that included the headings of Public Safety, Financial Stability, Transportation Improvements, Growth Management, and Quality of Life Services.

- 476 Ms. Rogers stated previously approved Budget Goals in Policy format were listed in the back of the Budget book, to be incorporated into the long-term Strategic Plan.
- 532 Councilmember Gill arrived at 6:20 P.M.
- Mayor Dunn noted the goals were not prioritized as near-term, short-term or long-term as the Governing Body had specified. Ms. Rogers replied the directive Staff had received was to show less detail to the Governing Body. She suggested that any Strategic Goals that might have been excluded should be addressed so that they could be included in the Budget document.
- 652 Mayor Dunn stated the Governing Body still wanted to see a Budget book document, but preferred not to hear a monologue presentation at the Budget Hearing from each Department Head. Instead, the Governing Body wanted a brief 5-minute presentation from the Departments Heads with time set aside for questions. Mayor Dunn suggested the Governing Body compose specific topic questions for each Department Head. She added she felt it was important to focus on the 2005 Budget to include no levy increase.
- Councilmember Gullege asked for the historical operations for each Department without changing projects from Department to Department. He asked that for each year there be a listing of what was budgeted, what had been done, and what was proposed for the future for each Department. He asked to have the extraordinary items [the Budget Assumptions] be brought before the Governing Body for approval, and then move on, rather than overanalyze details in the Budget.
- 1035 Councilmember Dunn stated he felt the goal in the Budget sessions should be an evaluation of the Budget that would be presented to see if it was in accordance to the Policies, the Goals and Objectives, and the CIP accomplishments the Governing Body had established.
- 1375 Councilmember Rasmussen stated he would like time to evaluate the 2004 Departmental Performance Measurements and submit suggestions for Staff to Scott Lambers.
- 1487 Councilmember Dunn said he felt the Budget Sessions were a good opportunity for the Governing Body to assess how well the Policies, Goals and Objectives, and Capital Improvement Plan were working. It was not productive to try to set policy or revise a CIP project while establishing a Budget.
- 1850 Councilmember Rasmussen stated he had concerns about the franchise fees for the gas and electric areas of the City's Revenue Policy.
- 2300 Councilmember Gill suggested including a satisfaction survey across the various Departments. Ms. Rogers stated the Police Department did one of their own, but such a survey had not been conducted City-wide since 1995.

2. Wrap-up discussion 2005-2009 Capital Improvement Projects [C.I.P.]

2529 Ms. Rogers asked for further direction from the Governing Body on the proposed change to the Debt Policy and Special Benefit District terms. Mr. Lambers added that the policy regarding Special Benefit District debt needed to be amended to reflect the length of issuing debt from ten years to up to fifteen years. Additionally the term for a Transportation Development District (TDD) needed to be added to the Policy if the TDDs were approved.

2690 There being no further discussion, Mayor Dunn adjourned the meeting at 7:30 P.M.

Emily Gleasure, Recording Deputy City Clerk