

## PIEDMONT CITY COUNCIL

### Special Budget Work Session Minutes for Saturday, May 17, 2008

A Special Budget Work Session of the Piedmont City Council was held May 17, 2008, in the Police Department EOC Room at 403 Highland Avenue. In accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2(a) the agenda for this special meeting was posted for public inspection on May 15, 2008.

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Friedman called the session to order at 9:05 a.m.

#### **ROLL CALL**

*Council:* Mayor Abe Friedman, Vice Mayor Dean Barbieri and Councilmembers John Chiang, Margaret Fujioka and Garrett Keating

*Administration:* City Administrator Geoff Grote, City Clerk Ann Swift and Recording Secretary Chris Harbert

*Police:* Police Chief Lisa Ravazza and Police Captain John Hunt

*Fire:* Fire Chief John Speakman and Fire Captain Warren McLaren

*Finance:* Finance Director Mark Bichsel and City Accountant Ken Lee

*Public Works:* Public Works Director Larry Rosenberg, Parks & Projects Manager Mark Feldkamp, Public Works Superintendent Dave Frankel and Building Official Chester Nakahara

*Recreation:* Recreation Director Mark Delventhal

#### **BUDGET OVERVIEW**

The City Administrator and Finance Director made the following points with regard to the proposed FY 08-09 budget:

- The proposed budget includes levying the municipal services parcel tax at its maximum rate;
- The proposed budget estimates property transfer tax revenue at \$2.2 Million (based upon the estimate that Piedmont would receive \$2 Million in revenue for FY 07-08). However, because of the continuing housing market downturn, it is now extremely unlikely that the \$2 Million mark will be realized in FY 07-08. Therefore, the \$2.2 Million projection for FY 08-09 may be unrealistic;
- As a result of the state's budget crisis/deficit situation, Piedmont could receive as much as \$650,000 less in state revenue than proposed in the FY 08-09 budget;
- The CIP Committee has proposed capital improvement projects totaling \$525,000, while the proposed CIP budget is \$500,000;

#### **BUDGET REVIEW**

The Council reviewed the proposed FY 08-09 budgets and during the course of discussion requested the following:

- Council consideration of FY 07-08 Year-End Appropriation Requests be scheduled for June 2. for a full discussion as to the reasons why budgetary allocations were exceeded;
- Review of Department Head proposed *Goals and Objectives* be scheduled for Closed Session and/or the June 2 Council meeting;

**Administration**

- Council to reconsider/discuss further the necessity of providing all City departments with ArcView 9.1 software;

**Finance**

- Finance Director to set aside 07-08 funds to cover salary and negotiator service costs if such costs are not finalized until after the FY 08-09 budget is adopted so that 07-08 costs are not reflected in the 08-09 budget.

**Public Works**

- Staff to identify potential cost savings through the elimination or deferral of proposed expenditures;
- Staff to re-examine whether the proposed \$15,000 expenditure for *Recycling/Greenwaste Agreement Consultant* could be funded from StopWaste.Org or if such work can be incorporated into the code update activity already in progress;
- Staff to report on options for reducing *Fuel Tank Maintenance* costs, such as the feasibility of abandoning the City Hall fuel tanks and contracting with local service stations to provide non-emergency fuel service – retaining the Corporation Yard fuel tanks for emergency purposes;
- Staff to report on whether the dump truck expenditure proposed in the *Equipment Replacement Fund* can be deferred;
- Staff to report if *Street Resurfacing* expenses can be reduced, in addition to the proposed deferral of resurfacing SeaView Avenue because of potential utility undergrounding;

**Recreation**

- Staff to identify potential cost savings through the elimination or deferral of proposed expenditures, with special attention given to reducing *Other Expenses*;
- Staff to report on the consequences of not increasing Schoolmates fees by the proposed 5% figure;
- Staff to report why the proposed 25% increase in Community Hall rental fees does not result in a comparable increase in estimated rental revenue;

- Staff to examine whether *Department Supplies* funding could be reduced to \$5,000 from its proposed \$7,500 figure;
- Staff to report whether proposed *Capital Outlay* expenses for the Community Hall and Veterans Hall purchase of tables and chairs could be reduced to \$5,000 or deferred in its entirety;

**Capital Projects**

- *Crocker Park Garage* – provide the Mayor with the e-mail address of the resident who holds the easement rights to the Crocker Park garage;
- *Rose/Kingston Median* – re-examine whether this \$15,000 project should be deferred or \$5,000 be allocated for concrete work, with water meter and landscaping elements postponed because of drought conditions. Neighborhood residents be requested to donate funds for this project;

**Facilities Maintenance Fund**

- Staff to report whether Havens Schoolmates kitchen appliances/cabinetry can be used in the Veterans Building kitchen;
- Council to re-examine whether funding for the proposed *City Hall Painting/HVAC* and *Community Hall Awning* should be deferred;

**Police**

- Staff to provide Councilmember Barbieri with the specific sites of parking fine locations;

**Fire**

- The Fire Chief to prioritize the proposed *Capital Equipment Outlay* expenses, based upon top priority given to training and physical safety;

**PROPOSED BUDGET  
CHANGES**

**KCOM**

- *Equipment Maintenance*: reduce funding to \$6,500

**Public Works**

- *Street Resurfacing*: reduce funding by \$172,200 by deferring the resurfacing of SeaView Avenue;

**Recreation**

- *Department Supplies*: reduce funding to \$5,000;
- *Capital Outlay*: reduce funding to \$5,000 or possibly defer the entire \$10,000 amount;

**Capital Projects**

- *Fire Dept. Kitchen Renovation*: reduce funding to \$70,000;

**Equipment Replacement Fund**

- *Police Motorcycle*: fund the \$22,000 purchase from the Abandoned Vehicle Fund rather than the Equipment Replacement Fund;
- *Recreation Copy Machine*: defer \$28,000 in funding
- *Fire Pick-up Truck*: defer \$40,000 in funding
- *Fire Ambulance*: defer \$145,000 in funding

**PUBLIC FORUM**

There were no speakers for the public forum.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Friedman adjourned the special budget work session at 1:15 p.m.