

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL/STUDY SESSION**

MARCH 30, 2010

6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Davies called the special meeting of the Council to order at 6:04 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Fire Chief Reddish led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Marlin Davies, Art Pimentel, Martie Dote, William Marble, Jeff Monroe

Staff Members Present: Mark Deven, Sue Vannucci, Andrew Morris, Greg Meyer, Carey Sullivan, Sandra Briggs, Tod Reddish, Manual Soto, Amy Buck, Kim McKinney, Wendy Ross, Rex Greenbaum

PUBLIC COMMENT

Leslie Marcus invited anyone who is interested in helping to get the Sales tax measure passed to contact her.

COUNCIL/STAFF STATEMENTS AND REQUESTS

Council Member Marble attended a water meeting where the discussion was on the drought. Progress has been made on water deliveries. He also attended the League of California Cities meeting where one topic was the lawsuit on the State take of Redevelopment Agency funds. There should be a preliminary judgment sometime in the near future. At the Water Joint Powers Authority meeting discussion was held on



the advertisement for a General Manager. He has been gathering signatures for the initiative to prohibit the State from taking local revenues.

Council Member Dote said the Water JPA is still trying to locate the intake valves on the Sacramento River for the surface water.

Mayor Davies attended the Equity in Education Summit at the University of California at Davis. He also attended the 2 x 2 with the Board of Supervisors that went well.

CONSENT CALENDAR

On a motion by Council Member Monroe, seconded by Council Member Dote and carried unanimously, Council approved the Consent Calendar as presented:

PROJECT 09-17-AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES CURB RAMP PROJECT

Council approved the Plans and Specifications; authorized the bid advertisement; and authorized City Manager to execute a Construction Contract for Project 09-17, 2010 Americans with Disabilities Act Curb Ramp Project.

PROJECT 08-26-SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROJECT

Council accepted as complete the Contract with C & C Construction, Inc. for the Safe Routes to School Project 08-26; authorized the City Clerk to file a Notice of Completion.

PROJECT 08-05 - RE-ROOF AT FIRE STATION 3

Council accepted as complete the Fire Station 3 Re-Roof Project 08-05; and authorized the City Clerk to file a Notice of Completion.

REPORT OF THE CITY MANAGER

FISCAL YEAR 2010-11 GENERAL FUND BUDGET AND 10-YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN

Mayor Davies reviewed the process that will take place regarding the budget presentation, and receipt of questions and input from the public.



City Manager Deven said this is the greatest economic downturn we have seen since the Great Depression. The reductions the City will need to make are steep and dramatic. As our revenue estimates are significantly lower than anticipated we have had to continuously reduce our budget due to the sales tax and property tax declines.

Paul Siegel, Deputy Director of the Community Development Department said with the proposed reductions in staff, more burdens will be put on the applicant for a permit.

Chief Reddish does not recommend the proposed cuts to Fire Department staff because of safety issue. Training time will be reduced by 50% which will compromise the safety of Fire employees and citizens. The Facilities Maintenance Worker includes the maintenance of the Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus which would need to be outsourced at a cost of \$25,000. Elimination of the Fourth Engine Company will drop our daily staffing by 25%. There has been a Fourth Company in place for a long time that was previously a Squad Unit. The "2 in 2" out law means they need to wait for another Engine Company to arrive on scene. With other cuts the total reductions bring us back to 1982 levels. Ambulances have a response of 8 time minutes, while the Fire Department has a 4 minute response time. More individuals will be beyond the help threshold if the ambulance must be the first on scene. Insurance costs will increase. ISO has said we need five companies to meet the needs of the community. Mutual aid will be affected. For large incidents we would have to call in the State because our Department is based on reciprocity agreement and if we cannot help other cities, they cannot help us. Seven sworn and one non-sworn would be lost and all of the components of the alternatives need to be negotiated. Fire and Fire Mid-Management have already come forward to help with the solutions without compromising safety

Library Services Director Briggs said reducing the funding will cause the Library will to close. Eight hundred to 1000 people come through the door every day, with 29,000 people holding cards and will not have service. Literacy cannot be funded separately as it must be through the Library to operate. Forty-six percent of the funding will be lost and there will be no support. Nine employees will be eliminated and 37 volunteers will no longer be utilized at the Library. The closing will eliminate the free and open access to the public of information.

Parks and Recreation Director Sullivan in 2007-08 the Department had 42 employees and they are now down to 27. Hiddleston Pool was closed last year and we still have 96,000 hours of use in the Departmental programs. Part-time staff reductions equaled 17 people or 7.5 full time equivalents. May of the



programs for seniors would be eliminated. Some of the programs at the Department are tied to the things the Police Department sees involving seniors, such as senior victimization. There are over 170 acres of parks in the city and many would need to be closed. One Facility Maintenance Worker position would be eliminated. The Aquatics staff position would be eliminated and 60,000 participant hours would be lost as well. The Administrative Secretary position would be eliminated. There are only two clerical staff members now who have taken on the duties of other positions lost last year and some of the administrative duties have been absorbed by these employees.

Police Chief Sullivan said last year the Department responded to over 55,000 calls for service. During the hours of midnight to 4:00 a.m. there were 42 events that required minimum of 2 Police Officer to respond. With the proposed reduction, 50% of the time we would have 2 Officers. If more cuts are made, 32% of the time there would be 2 Officers. The Crime Analysis Unit would see the first staff reduction. On Driving under the Influence (DUI's) calls, on 6 to 7 calls a second Officer responds. Two Police Records Specialist positions would be reduced. Records will not be properly filed, retrained and pulled for court. The Traffic Sergeant position would supervise other elements and this person provides backup when needed. In the Yolo County Narcotics Enforcement Team, we lead the County in enforcement with 181 narcotic arrests. The Professional Standards Sergeant is responsible for the training in the Department. There are some mandates on the types of training required. This position also handles the internal affairs investigations which are the investigation of complaints against Officers. There are not many received, but each one does take up to 100 hours of investigative time. School Resources Officers provide specialty enforcement in the schools. Last year there were 11,990 contacts in the schools with 112 arrests and 36 special event participations. Field Community Services Officers affect the ability of the Officers to take priority calls because CSOs take the information when a direct suspect is not eminent. The Department has 7,500 reports per year, with 630 or 10% taken by a CSO. These individuals do the advance Crime Scene Investigation work. Ten million dollars of the Department's \$15 million dollar budget are personnel costs. The Department staff looked at the Operations and Maintenance budget first and found \$290,000 in possible savings. They also addressed the \$400,000 in base animal control issues. The K-9 position was involved in 25 felony arrests, 64 DUI's and other types of incidents. The Graffiti Program reduced to \$43,000 would then be only on public property. Prompt elimination means they are less likely to repeat the graffiti.



Public Works Director Meyer said his Department is primarily funded by other sources and he would accommodate cuts by moving staffing into areas that would have a nexus to the other funding sources.

City Manager Deven went through the two possible alternatives. Should the Sales Tax Measure pass, the Library could remain at the present level of funding and the Senior programs would remain in tact. In the Police Department, we could keep the sworn but the non-sworn would need to be reduced. The Woodland Professional Firefighters' and the Fire Mid-Management Associations have some forward with strategies that will impact their compensation. They are just ideas at this point and will need to be negotiated before further consideration is done. He has met with all of the Associations and asked them to help with the budget solution. There is discussion between the City and County to collaborate on service sharing. Regional collaboration such as the surface water issue is being explored.

Council temporarily recessed from 7:40 to 7:46.

Mayor Davies thanked the Directors for their presentations. This is a very grave situation and there simply is no extra money. The Sales Tax measure will give us a cushion but will not solve the problem.

Council Member Pimentel asked Chief Sullivan about the Animal Services with a savings shown of \$400,000. Chief Sullivan said we are now at \$500,000 for present services provided. There was to be a meeting in January to discuss the services, but that has not been done. The Sheriff's Department said they are holding at \$500,000 for services. The Yolo Emergency Communications Agency costs could be transferred to them, which equates to another \$125,000. If we go in-house, it would be to handle rabies issues only at the \$125,000. Vice Mayor Pimentel asked if there are any matching funds for any of the programs. Chief Sullivan said half of the School Resource Officers costs have been paid for by the Woodland Joint Unified School District. Their current budget situation means they would reduce by ½ and that would mean one SRO instead of 2. We would have to then absorb that work in-house. This is a specialty assignment with specific job with knowledge of the Education Code

Vice Mayor Pimentel asked if the Police Officers would then need to take reports if the Community Services Officers or Records Specialists were gone. Chief Sullivan indicated it would become the Officers' responsibility. Vice Mayor Pimentel asked if other sources of revenue have been explored. Chief Sullivan



said enforcement is to keep the people safe, not to generate revenue. Revenues have decreased because there are fewer people out and about in the downtown so parking enforcement has declined. DUI fines are about \$1,200 each. The majority of money is in assessment or court fees. The base level fine is reduced by 23% and that goes to the City.

Council Member Monroe asked about turning the pool over to the School District. Chief Sullivan will look in that option.

Council Member Marble said he is asked by the community about the large fire trucks responding to medical emergencies and could other vehicles be used in lieu of the large ones. Chief Reddish said the fire trucks have everything secured on them that may be needed. If they respond to a medical and then receive a fire or hazmat call, they must have that on the vehicle in order to respond within the time frame needed. If a smaller vehicle were to be used for medical aid, they would then need to go back to the station to get another the fire truck.

Council Member Marble asked the City Manager to restate the reductions made from last year. City Manager Deven said last year the reductions totaled \$6.8 million with \$5.5 million in operations. Thirty-three percent was from Parks and Recreation with Community Development next with elimination of 17 positions due to vacancies and retirements. Another 5 positions transferred from General Fund to other funding sources programs. Labor concessions were also made.

Council Member Dote asked about the Animal Control services that would be provided. Chief Sullivan said strays and injured animals would be evaluated due to public risk. Council Member Dote asked about Senior Center program provision and Chief Sullivan said the two part-time people and Recreation Supervisor positions would be eliminated. Programs could continue with a volunteer force. Council Member Dote asked how requests for annexation would be handled. Deputy Director Siegel said they would be addressed by importance, i.e., Gateway would be first and others would be gauged on importance to the community.

Mayor Davies said that since our Literacy Program must be associated with the Library, could it be associated with a college library or some other type of Library. Director Briggs will ask that question.

Mayor Davies asked Chief Reddish about the concerns he hears about the overtime. He understands the minimum staffing need but would like the



Department to work on the excessive overtime usage. All possible alternatives need to be explored. If not reimbursable from the State, we need to know why it is such an issue.

Mayor Davies asked Chief Sullivan about comments from the District Attorney on early release and reductions of Probation staff will mean more criminals on the street. Chief Sullivan said we will see more criminals on our streets. We have been receiving parolees that have been committing serious acts, some of which commit these crimes so they can go back to prison. There has been an increase in the severity of these crimes.

Jim Hilliard President of the Chamber of Commerce indicated they had been asked to look at the City budget from a business perspective. There is a substantial shortfall, in excess of \$5 million. The Chamber is recommending further reductions and structural changes, which were outlined on a handout he presented. Employee compensation has become out of balance in comparison to others in the work force. The Chamber cannot endorse or oppose the sales tax proposal.

Associate Planner Stillman, gave a synopsis of his position, which is proposed for elimination. Council has stated they want Community Development open all day, applications processed immediately and great customer service. If his position is eliminated all of that will change. The Department keeps projects moving and supports the citizens. The senior level employees in the Department should also be considered for elimination. He knows other cuts could be made to keep his position but are not looked at.

Dale Phillips said she has been a field Community Services Officer, for 16 years. There are currently two field CSOs in the Police Department. They respond to calls where there are no suspects. Their response means that Officers are freed up to spend time on urgent or violent situations and the community receives good service from the CSOs.

Mike Chandler, Chief of the Yocha dehe Wintun Tribe said we are talking about quality of life versus life safety. Thirteen Firefighters is a minimum for us to safely do what needs to be done. The city needs to pay the overtime or have sufficient staff to cover the need. Emergency Medical Service is a system that must be kept in tact. There is a reason stations are located where they are. American Medical Response will always arrive after the Fire service when they respond.



Tim Sharp, Building Inspector said his position was to be eliminated last year. He understands the decisions Council must make but he does not agree. There will be a serious reduction in services in the Building Department with the proposal. He hears about the top heavy management in his Department and in other Departments. Council should talk to the General Services employees to find out what is really going on.

Leslie Marcus asked for responses to how much Measure E money has been collected and spent, where it has been spent, if there some that has not been spent, if so, where is it, is there money that is committed, is the City getting any Federal money for roads, could that revenue be redirected, and how much money do we expect to get over the next over the next eight years. Mayor Davies said it was anticipated the City will receive \$67 million and it has specific issues attached to it. Our estimates now are at \$44 million. There is no money that is not being spent. There was a commitment in Measure E that specific percentages would be spent in specific areas. A reprioritization was done and some of the money is attached to debt service. The City Manager will provide a report and it will be shared with her and any other citizen wishing the information.

Eric Zane, President of the Woodland Professional Firefighters' Association said they have 39 members. The Association is looking into overtime issue. They made a commitment to work with the City to provide solutions, but are very upset about proposed alternatives. They would like to work with the City to come up with alternatives that would provide services to the City without jeopardizing safety of the citizens. The members have unanimously agreed upon the proposals they will present. He outlined the items they are proposing. It will be a \$1.15 million reduction. He challenged the other labor groups to make equal concessions.

Dr. Christine Casey, Veterinarian, said Animal Control services are critical components of public safety. It costs Animal Control over \$100,000 for the 3 day demand hold last year for Woodland animals. Police Officers cannot step in and cover for the Animal Control as they are not capable.

Bernadette Murray said the City Manager and staff have been working very hard on these issues and not getting the credit for their efforts. The Sales Tax measures must pass. The City Manager is looking at a ten year plan and in Your City, Your Voice the businesses indicated they City does not support the businesses. She would like Council to consider these questions: (1) What is the desired result of the policy proposal; (2) Can we achieve the result with existing policy; (3) What are the costs to implement new policies or ordinances; (4) Do



the benefits exceed the cost. Some proposals would have been very detrimental to the businesses.

Rick Sander, Fire Battalion Chief, said the Department has lost 45% of their staffing in the last four years. Loss of an Engine Company would be very detrimental to the safety of the citizens. They are ready to make concessions to help the City.

Al Eby, said the County and City should be working together and asked for elaboration. Could the Sheriff's Office help? What other roles would the County have? What money could be saved? Response time is critical. Business owners pay a lot of sales tax and fees. If the ISO changes, his commercial rate could change. Business is down and he need to reach outside of the community for clientele. We need to generate more revenue. The sales tax measure needs to pass. It is a band aid but we need to do it. Staff will respond to the collaboration issues.

Adam Borchard, student at U. C. D. was on the Woodland Swim Team when he was younger. He learned a lot from his time on the team that has affected his future. The closure of the pool would affect the quality of life and he wants it to be kept open.

Mr. Henderson said childhood obesity is a problem. The Woodland Swim Center was built for children to engage in physical exercise. He wants the facility to be kept open for the benefit the children.

David Bartsley said he represents the Woodland Swim Team. They are a non-profit and have been active since 1952. Their current programs run for 5 years old to 76 years old. If the pool is closed the team will cease to exist. They pay rent for the pool. They also have three 3 day meets per year and bring 600+ people that spend money here. This is a revenue generator. The co-generation plant is not in use right now and if it were, it would save in costs. The Board will work with the Parks Department to try and get this running. This is a 50 meter pool and a tremendous asset to the City.

Rose Conroy said her family values the services of the City, pools, parks and library. They live here to get basis essential services, fire, police, water and sewer. The other services help to define the community. With little or no money, we expect the essential services and they should not be sporadic or unreliable. Not having water or sewer is unacceptable. Fire and Police should be available as needed. If we value the other services we must pay for them or volunteer to assist. She asked what cuts are already been made, why are we



cutting evenly when the priorities have been set. With sales tax she does not understand the percentages. We should be using one time money and reserves as it can't get much worse. We cannot depend on mutual aid for day to day emergencies, only for rare occasions. Population and call volume has increased dramatically. Mayor Davies said staff will respond to her questions directly.

Dr. Cathy Glotter, Cardiologist in Woodland, said her son swims with the Woodland Swim Team. She presented a petition signed by 400 people at the hospital who swim at the pool. This is the only community pool. Lots of people use the pool for meets. There is no other pool like this in the area. Prevention is the best line of defense for obesity.

Chris Gudino is a Veterinarian who works at the Animal Shelter. All animals at the shelter are vaccinated, spayed or neutered and micro-chipped as well as many other services. U.C.D. provides all of the K-9 services. She outlined what the Animal Control Officers are trained to do and how they assist. Police Officers are not qualified to analyze the needs of the animals.

Torry Dumont was with the Animal Control and now is with the shelter. Animal Control Officers are specialized and cannot be replaced. The proposed \$100,000 will not run animal control. The shelter has been cut to the bare minimum and it is being run by volunteers at this time.

Vice Mayor Pimentel said this is a very difficult time and place to be in, but also thanked them for their suggestions. This is the beginning of the process. We are looking for the employees and citizens to help close the gap. We can get there together. The Firefighters have offered a very good start. There are different things we can talk about in the employee realm. We should look at tiered benefits. He does not support closing the Library.

Council Member Monroe said we are in the second great depression. This is the first of the meetings to be held to discuss the cuts. The County of Yolo used their entire reserve last year. This year they need to cut more and there is no reserve. Employees will be taking a 10% cut that will be about \$2 million if we did the same thing. The public priority is public safety. He will not support cutting Firefighters or Police Officers. We might have to temporarily do without a pool or the Community and Senior Center or other things. The sales tax must pass. The employees need to help us and need to make sacrifices. We still have our reserves and other options.

Council Member Dote said we will have a hard time cutting public safety staff. She does not support Alternative 1. Measure E money is Capital money



and cannot be put into operations. She will rely on employee organizations to help close the budget shortfall. She wants to reduce layoffs with the help of the organizations. She is sensitive to animal control issues. She would like more budget details in the areas where reductions are proposed.

Council Member Marble said the employee units need to look inward and try and avoid more layoffs. Furloughs did not work in some areas. The pain needs to be equalized. Some considerations still need to be pursued, such as volunteerism. We need to cut \$5.7 million from our budget somehow. It will produce a possibility of closures. Cuts will need to be made somewhere in Public Safety. If we protect these areas, where will we reach our needed reductions? We have very puny reserves and are woefully inadequate at this time. It covers 13 to 14% and he had interviewed several financial experts and in every instance we have been advised not to touch them. Had we gone into them last year, we would now be bankrupt. He is convinced that employees can help us with concessions and salary reductions. We cannot be pessimistic to get us through this.

Mayor Davies does not want to touch the reserves. We cannot survive as a community without the Library at some level.

ADJOURN

At 9:50p.m. Mayor Davies adjourned the special study session of the Council.

Respectfully submitted,

SS: Susan L. Vannucci, Director of
Administrative Services

Adopted by Council: November 2, 2010