

**City of Lafayette
Budget Committee
April 13, 2010
6:30 PM at Lafayette City Hall**

Chairman Nicholas Harris called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Debra Owens, Tim Svenson, Marv Bennett, Suzi Lorence, Nicholas Harris, Jean Mead, Leah Harper, Dean Rhodes, Daniel Forster, and Trevor Higby.

ABSENT: Bob Cullen, Michael Roberts, Chris Pagella, and Chris Heisler.

Staff: Justin Boone-City Administrator, and Trena McManus-Assistant to the City Administrator.

Visitors present: Debbie Schley, Linda Lyon, Mary Heisler, Marie Sproul, Sheri Bernal, and Angela Flood.

2. APPROVAL OF APRIL 6, 2010 MINUTES:

Dean Rhodes made a motion to approve the April 6, 2010 minutes. Daniel Forster seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

a) Budget Hearing- Continuation of Hearing on Budget and Budget message (to receive public comment):

Chairman Nicholas Harris re-opened the public hearing on the FY10-11 Budget at 6:35 p.m.

The hearing was opened for public comment at 6:36 p.m.

Public Comment

Linda Lyon, 1143 N. Madison St.- said that she wanted to ask the budget committee for money for street beautification (flowers, decorations, etc.). She said that she noticed there is \$1,000 budgeted for street beautification for FY10-11, and that should be sufficient. She talked about her hopes of having white lights and awnings on all store fronts someday.

Angela Flood, 287 Canyon View Drive- said that she wanted to thank the committee for allowing her to sit in an alternate location so she can see everyone's face because she is hearing impaired. She said that she noticed there are several "buckets" of beautification money and wanted to know why 'beautification' became its own line item, instead of being included in a miscellaneous line item. She also noted that the personnel spreadsheets reflect the FY09-10, and wanted to know if those numbers are still accurate for FY10-11.

Debbie Schley, 1512 N. Jefferson St.- said that she is concerned with the money being dedicated to beautification, because the City should be concerned with needs right now, not wants.

Trevor Higby asked what state revenue sharing is based on and Justin Boone said that it is based on per capita.

Sheri Bernal, 1347 Cramner St.- said that she submitted a request to the budget committee to help fund needed supplies for CERT (Community Emergency Response Team), because they will not be receiving any funding from the County this year. The total requests amount to just under \$3,000. She said that any amount the City would be able to give would be greatly appreciated.

Chairman Nicholas Harris closed the public comment portion of the hearing at 6:51 p.m.

Chairman Nicholas Harris said that he asked Justin Boone to provide explanatory pages for the line items throughout the budget. This should help answer questions about the amounts budgeted in the line items.

General Fund (pages 1-11)

Page 1 (Resources)

There was some discussion about the number of building permits that are estimated to be received. The budget committee didn't feel that \$40,000 in building permit fees was realistic, given the state of the economy. It was decided that 25% of the original budgeted amounts would be a more realistic figure. Line 16 (building permit fees) was changed to \$10,000, line 17 (plan review fees) was changed to \$7,000, line 18 (plumbing permit fees) was changed to \$5,000, line 19 (mechanical permit fees) was changed to \$1,500, and line 20 (manufactured home permit fees) was changed to \$1,000.

Nicholas Harris asked Justin Boone what grant was anticipated for \$50,000 (line 24-grants). Justin Boone said that he wants to get out there and see what he can do to get some grants for the City. Nicholas Harris said that the explanatory pages reference a technical assistance grant through DLCD. Dean Rhodes said that last years explanatory pages reference the same grant, and the City didn't receive it. Line 24 was changed to \$30,000.

The fines and forfeitures line item has been steadily increasing with the increased police presence in town. Nicholas Harris said that with the newly adopted drug paraphernalia ordinance, he expects the fines to increase even more in the coming year. Line 25 (fines and forfeitures) was changed to \$25,000.

Page 2 (Administration)

Justin Boone said that he discovered a mistake, so he adjusted the personal services amounts (he made changes throughout the general fund/personal services categories).

There was some discussion about the recalls, referendum, and initiative that have been presented to the City, and the need to increase the legal services line item to deal with these issues. Line 11 (legal services) was changed to \$25,000. Line 16 (computer software and support) was increased to \$8,200, for the purchase of a computer server at City Hall.

Nicholas Harris asked staff to look into the viability of leasing computers rather than purchasing them.

A break was taken at 8:15 p.m. The meeting was called back to order at 8:19 p.m.

Line 22 (dues and subscriptions) was changed to \$6,000. Line 23 (meeting expenses) was increased to \$2,300 because the City will be hosting the City/County dinner again in 2011.

Nicholas Harris asked staff to look into purchasing some teleconferencing equipment for meeting purposes. Line 31 (elections) was changed to \$12,000 because of the potential special elections that the City will have to pay for (recalls, referendum, initiative).

Page 3 (Admin., cont'd)

The Office Equipment and Furniture line item (line 4) includes funds for the replacement (one half the cost) of one computer in City Hall (if needed). Line 4 was changed to \$2,000.

Page 4 (Planning)

Line 14 (planning services) was decreased to \$25,000, because of the lack of planning activity.

Page 5 (Building)

Line 14 (building inspection) was changed to \$25,000 and line 15 (state bldg. insp. surcharge) was changed to \$3,000, because of the decrease in building activity.

Page 6 (Municipal Court)

Line 13 (office supplies) was changed to \$200 and line 16 (state court assessments) was changed to \$8,000. Line 17 was increased to \$900 (court costs) to allow for court translation services, when needed.

Page 7 (Law Enforcement)

The proposed budget for law enforcement is based on the same level of service we have now (1 ½ FTE+15 hr. code enforcement).

Page 8 (Parks)

Line 12 (Misc. contractor) was decreased to \$30,000, which will pay for parks maintenance services, if the Council decides to pursue this. Line 17 (park beautification) was decreased to \$500.

Page 9 (Fire Department)

The fire department expenditures on this page reflect normal expectations of what may come up during the year. There were no changes on page 9.

Page 10

There were no changes on page 10.

Page 11

This is the inclusive page for the general fund. It reflects the totals of all the sub-funds, all transfers to other funds, and establishes a contingency amount for the general fund.

The changes that have been made tonight will be updated on the budget document and re-distributed to the committee.

Dean Rhodes made a motion to continue the budget hearing until April 20, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall. Daniel Forster seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:59 p.m.