

Minutes for
Work Session
May 13, 2010
6:30 p.m.

Those present: Mayor Kenneth Romney, James Bruhn, Mark Preece, Craig Howe, Heidi Voordeckers, Ben White. John Baza was excused.

Visitors: Alan Malan, James Behunin.

Meeting called to order by Mayor Romney at 6:45 p.m.

1. Budget Work Session

a. Review of Budget Message

The Budget Message was crafted for the benefits of the Mayor and Council, and also for the residents. It will be posted on the website along with the tentative budget.

b. Capital Improvement Plan / Matrix (Budget Message, Appendix A)

Ben presented Appendix A to the Budget Message. Page One shows a list of Capital Facilities Projects planned for 2010. There are more projects listed than can be done in 2010, but they need to be on the plan, as it would be difficult to add them later. The following pages break down the projects into categories: Park and Trail Improvements, Street Improvements, Water Improvements, and Storm Drain. The last page shows projects that have been completed in the last five years.

Ben gave council his preference on prioritizing the projects as follows:

Parks and Trails

- a. Either close or fix bridge deck on DSB;
- b. The baseball fields have unsafe bleachers and there are holes in the backstops;
- c. Legacy restroom facilities – a grant has been applied for which if awarded would leave the city with a cost of \$15,000. Without the grant it would be \$60,000 to \$100,000.
- d. Water fountains at the ball park;
- e. Contribution to the Bountiful/Davis Arts Council;
- f. Bring play equipment at park to compliance;
- g. Extend trail from 800 West to the Legacy trail (a grant may pay for 50%).

Ben suggested doing #1 and #2 definitely, and #3 if a grant comes through.

Streets

Ben wants to crack seal all the roads that can be sealed, and he wants to fix the worst potholes. Then he wants to slurry seal all of the good roads. This will keep them in repair longer. He had a schedule of the roads to be sealed in 2010 for a cost of \$100,000. Most of the other improvements on the Capital Facilities list involved replacing asphalt, and building three new roads.

There was some discussion about 1100 West, as that road is too narrow because of damage. It was not included in the 2010 list. The city has funding to do part of it, but the rest would have to be city money. Valerie Shaw stated it should be accounted for in the plan, and get all done at one time. Also, the planning commission has had a request for a development west of 1100 West, and the city needs to decide when they want to put in improvements.

Storm Drains

There were fourteen projects on the Storm Drains list, but Ben did not want to prioritize any one project, although a citizen has been asking them to fix the drainage at 200 North 1000 West. Ben would like money set aside to take care of little problems as they arise.

Water

Priorities in the water system are difficult to determine because problems arise randomly. The 400 North project is designed but, unless the water line breaks, Ben wants to wait until they do the road in a couple of years. He wants to go forward on the new well.

Sidewalks were not included in the plan. The policy is cost of repairs should be split 50/50 between homeowner and city, and the city authorizes the split. However, there is not enough in the budget for even the 50%. Mayor Romney wants 800 West included in the plan, and there was some discussion as to how to keep it historic. Mayor Romney had requested that money be put aside for sidewalks.

c. Summary of Operating Expenses (Budget Message, Main Document)

Heidi Voordeckers – most expenses are at or below past spending. She has put a comparison on the new worksheet. All exceptional items were included in the Budget Message.

There was discussion as to making the yearly contribution to the Bountiful/Davis Arts Council (“BDAC”). Mayor Romney asked former Mayor Behunin what the advantage is to the city to contribute. He responded that it shows the city supports the arts, but he does not feel it should come out of the RAP tax, since the money will be going to another city, and it is an ongoing expense, not a capital improvement-type expense. James Bruhn said he thought the city should say no on this because the budget is so tight.

Heidi said there was a big impact on spending in the Police Department because they no longer have the 401K in lieu program. The total decrease due to this was \$40,000. As to replacing three 2004 vehicles at the end of December, Heidi told council they could lease or take bids.

Valerie Shaw asked if the city has looked for better rates with other health insurance companies. Heidi said they are working on it, but will not have any figures in time for this budget. James said he hasn’t heard of any other cities getting better rates, but it may be different for West Bountiful because the staff is smaller. Heidi commented that employees preferred to come up with extra money for the current insurance rather than change insurance companies.

d. Summary of Personnel Changes (Budget Message, Main Document)

The city did a new salary survey and found all departments were on target except the Public Works. They were off 9.6%, so they changed the scale from 31 to 36. They also reviewed Michael Eggett’s position and created a new grade. Chief Randy Lloyd recommended a promotion for his current detective, so that changed from Grade 10 to Grade 12. They are not going to pay any cost of living raises. The council members’ pay is low compared to other cities, but they are not going to take an increase on this budget.

In regards to on-call pay, Craig Howe recommended a flat rate per month for the three Public Works employees, rather than paying them overtime. This would result in substantial savings. Also, a golf course mechanic is retiring, and Craig would like to get a mechanic on contract to take care of city and golf course equipment.

e. Line Item Review of Budget Draft 3

No one had any comments or questions on any line items.

f. Other Budget Related Discussion

- Valerie asked about the transfers from the RAP tax. Heidi said that was for the \$1,000 to go to the BDAC, as well as some money for the West Bountiful Arts Council, and welcome baskets for new residents. They could also use \$14,000 unallocated funds in the general fund.
- Mayor Romney asked about capital improvement projects and Heidi suggested that because of possibility of grant funding, they should wait until they know and then do budget opens.
- Valerie asked if they could find the priority list the council had done on parks and trails when the RAP tax was established. Ben said he has an impact fee list that shows priorities.
- Heidi said all cities are down in sales tax revenue, but West Bountiful is expecting an increase due to on-line sales. She said a budget open will be appropriate in November or December.
- Heidi spent a lot of time working on an allocation schedule for Engineering and Public Works salaries. After some discussion, Heidi asked council if they approved of the allocation figures before she did the tentative budget, which they did.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.


MAYOR KENNETH ROMNEY




HEIDI VOORDECKERS (CITY RECORDER)

NATHALIE ELLINGSON (SECRETARY)