



**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL AND
RIDGECREST REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

**City Council Chambers
100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest, California 93555**

**April 4, 2011
5:30 p.m.**

This meeting was recorded and will be on file in the Office of the City Clerk for a certain period of time from date of approval by City Council/Redevelopment Agency. Meetings are recorded solely for the purpose of preparation of minutes.

CALL TO ORDER – 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Pro-Tem Marshall 'Chip' Holloway; Vice Mayor Jerry D. Taylor; Council Member Steven P. Morgan; and Council Member Jason Patin

ABSENT: Mayor Ronald H. Carter

STAFF: Kurt Wilson City Manager; Rachel J. Ford, City Clerk; and other personnel

TELECONFERENCE: City Attorney Scott O'Neill

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- Jerry Taylor – procedural perspective – public comment during process will give public opportunity to speak during the meeting. Strategic planning meeting did not have interaction from public, want public to have opportunity to speak.
 - Kurt Wilson – because it is not listed on the agenda, does not prevent council from having public comment at anytime during the meeting.

Motion To Approve Agenda Made By Council Member Taylor , Second By Council Member Patin . Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 4 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abstain; 1 Absent.

SPECIAL SESSION – 5:30 p.m.

- Pledge Of Allegiance
- Invocation

PUBLIC COMMENT

- No comments made by the public

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT:

- Scott O'Neill – noted a conflict with two council members who have spouses employed with the City, proposed budget cuts may affect the employment of spouses thereby affecting the financial income of the council member. After discussion with attorney firm, determined that council members are able to segment budget sections discussions and those affected council members should excuse themselves and leave the room. When these specific discussions are over they may return to the meeting.
- Jerry Taylor – asked if this meant he would lose the ability to discuss entire department because one position has been eliminated.
- Scott O'Neill – stated that council is obligated to refrain from discussion or decision making that directly affects personal financial status, council still has to make a decision to approve budget as a whole.
- Kurt Wilson – noted this is a proposed budget and any changes made can be discussed.
- Jerry Taylor – asked if moving position would resolve the issue.
- Kurt Wilson – stated that department organization does not fall in council scope of responsibility.
- Jerry Taylor – asked if abstention would mean he cannot vote or discuss the entire city manager budget.
- Kurt Wilson – noted that division level discussion can be abstained and the remainder of the city manager budget can be discussed.
- Jerry Taylor – asked which division would be a conflict.
- Tyrell Staheli – identified division 4199 discussion.
- Scott O'Neill – Concurred with this action.

DISCUSSION AND OTHER ACTION ITEMS

1. Budget Presentation

Staheli

- Kurt Wilson – Gave power point presentation and asked council to refrain from questions until following the presentation to allow abstentions as needed. Department heads have prepared presentations and will present as requested by council. April 5 will be a continuation. Presentation will be on file in the Clerk's office.
- Presentation included:
 - Goals
 - Theme (more with less; short-term sacrifice for long-term; investing in workforce)
 - Big Financial Picture (National; State; Local)
 - Funding sources reviewed by Tyrell Staheli

- General Fund Revenue history.
- Special note was made of transfers of internal service funds into the general fund which accounts for increases in some budget line items and other being zeroed out.
- Departmental changes briefly noted
- Unfunded Requests
- Special Interest items
- Future Considerations
- Kurt Wilson – made special note that while proposed budget is balanced, it leaves general fund reserves dangerously low.
 - Recommended discussion points include discretionary funds; council fee override Kerr-McGee; city hall space rental; grants contract; Human Resources contract; Police Department Community Services Officer; Code Enforcement; Sister City; Signature Event; trash franchise fee/structure; ad hoc recommendations; training/travel increases; deferred maintenance; fee schedule adjustments; drop off center; roads; street lights; reserves.
- City Attorney is ending the teleconference and is available if needed to respond to questions

Public Comments/Questions

- Mike Neel – front of presentation economic conditions that fold from state to city, things aren't as pretty as stated from dais. Council check into this information. Housing crisis will continue, CPI is rigged to general public and unemployment is up around 20%. Ask council look at this more realistically. Other things counted on in past did not happen and this will be case in the future. Discussion points of discretionary funds, sounds like a slush fund so consider carefully.
- Jim Fallgetter – general statements, one thing have found tough has to do with layoffs of people throughout economy, and the trend we see in America to trash senior workers is a really bad omen for where we are headed. People are our assets and message sent is could be trashed in last few years of service to our city. really a bad thing to endorse and not look carefully at. Would rather see us look at non-personnel cuts (fluff) for instance, the lights. Be careful because sends bad message to the rest of the employees. Wants to discuss streets and poll.
- Jerry Taylor – interested in getting better insight to projections, including foreclosures and housing market. Want a sense of our local economy and if we have hit bottom yet. Other question would ask if we have contacted the navy for their local budget relative to employment projections. Ask staff to reach out to navy for this information.

POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGET DISCUSSION

- Ron Strand – gave power point presentation (*copy to be filed with City Clerk*)
- Jerry Taylor – questioned the duties of a community service officer
 - Ron Strand gave classifications.
- Jerry Taylor – asked what the normal ratio of sworn officer to population and if the City used this statistic to staff officer.
 - Ron Strand – we are low in our ratio, stated you also have to take into account crime rate and type. Made special note of our location to courts and confinement facilities which takes officers out of patrol when transporting prisoners and attending court.
- Jason Patin – asked if staff is requesting council to increase the PD budget to staff a community services officer.
 - Ron Strand – this would involve an increase to the budget but would rather have current staff made whole and remove furloughs.
- Jerry Taylor – asked where the county was right now relative to hiring
 - Ron Strand – current salary is not competitive with county. Cost and time for training officers is not going to be returned for a couple of years.
- Chip Holloway – overtime still an issue?
 - Ron Strand – can control if we keep staffing levels up but becomes a problem when short staffed.
- Chip Holloway – would transcription service work?
 - Ron Strand – would not fit with fact gathering, better to have laptops with officers.
- Jerry Taylor – had discussion with Ron Strand regarding current department staffing chart. Noted he would like to have the total unfunded positions cost by department.
- Jerry Taylor – off-road grants, is there a 4-wheel drive vehicle in the future?
 - Ron Strand – currently have trailer and equipment but need a truck to pull.
- Jerry Taylor – purchase used and savings used for operations
- Chip Holloway – we can change the municipal code that would allow us to keep more of the revenue.
 - Ron Strand – revenue attached alters the community perspective.
- Chip Holloway – grant question, being written in-house. What is ratio of paid service vs. being written on their free time.
 - Ron Strand – have staff that is trained to write some grants on regular basis, however new grants may require more research.
- Chip Holloway – if we turn some of these to contractor we may lose the grants.
 - Ron Strand – correct, we have developed personal relationship with grant foundations that has assisted with attaining the grant.
- Jason Patin – code enforcement officer citations have possibility of funding itself, would it be beneficial to have another officer? Do we need another one?
 - Ron Strand – yes, but has not generated significant revenue at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT – PD DEPT. PRESENTATION

- Stan Rajtora – article indicated \$35,000 city matching funds, is this correct.
 - Ron Strand – is not actual dollars, 'In-Kind match' of services and time which is given a dollar value but does not show as actual dollars coming from general fund.
- Jerry Taylor – PACT program also provides 'In-Kind' service to the city. estimated 12,429 volunteer hours last year which is significant.
- Chip Holloway – what is status on reserve officers?
 - Ron Strand – developing instructor staff and have donated excess equipment to college and hoping to do the classes beginning this fall. Level III class would allow reserves to work independent, right now our reserves are at Level II which allows working with a partner.

MIS DIVISION

- Craig Bradley – gave power point presentation (*copy to be filed with City Clerk*)
- Jerry Taylor – there is merit to have incentive fund per seat.
- Jason Patin – does all of the equipment need replaced
 - Craig Bradley – the top priority would be the financial system, desktop systems would start to affect staff performance and response times as these systems go down. Phone systems is the wildcard, it was a 5 year plan and is now 4 years beyond that time limit. System has paid for itself and there is a concern that if it goes we would be in the same position as we were before. Desktop costs are beginning to go up because all were purchased at the same time, however it is more cost effective to purchase in bulk rather than piecing together.
- Jerry Taylor – what is cost per seat you would like to see reserved?
 - Tyrell Staheli - \$7500 per seat annually.
- Jerry Taylor – when compared to navy service, budget made hard decisions to save costs and theirs is \$3700 per seat. Nice to provide quality service, but in these tough times need to reduce costs. When comparing public works budget to MIS budget, need to look at service level and costs seem extremely high.
- Chip Holloway – what was jump on phone this year?
 - Tyrell Staheli – had phone service split between two department, MIS & Parks, so we centralized into MIS.
- Chip Holloway – technology moves so fast, how can we expect you to analyze what's out there and keep up with technology. Do you honestly feel based on current work capacity, that you can analyze the system and have time to do this?
 - Craig Bradley – certainly, can assure you that I don't purchase anything for the city that doesn't have a return. You may not see it in the actual technology, but in the performance of staff which allows us to work short staffed. Could find time to research council requests.

- Steve Morgan – financial system upgrade, do not want to get where we were and don't want to go where we did last time. \$375K is projection. Review the critical need.
 - Craig Bradley – current system is no longer being produced, holds up financial department in being efficient. Supporting system is more expensive than going to a platform system. Problem before was loss of data which we eliminated by removing the data storage into a different storage, however if system breaks we may have data but may not have a system to put it on. Idea is to replace entire platform and new application that enhances everyone's ability to do job better.
- Steve Morgan – how often and can data be retrieved. If system crashed what would the turn around time be to replace with a new system.
 - Craig Bradley – don't currently have a plan, since money went away and technology changes, need to begin at stage one so estimate a short schedule of 6 months to research, purchase, and install new system.
- Jerry Taylor – page 90, MIS bottom line.
 - Tyrell Staheli – these are the overhead costs that will be MIS responsibility. Direct operational cost is the section above.
- Jerry Taylor – this is one area that feel staff should see options for contract. This is overhead cost that drains us in other areas, staff is doing a good job but perhaps there are other ways to share or drive down these costs. Also consider eliminating land lines in today's wireless services such as for detectives. Feel we need to take a serious look at this. Would not normally ask divisions to review outsourcing their own jobs but perhaps a local IT company may be able to look at this for us.
- Chip Holloway – Disney has outsourced IT and if good enough for them then we should look at this.
- Jason Patin – treat in the same way as we did HR and Grants.
- Jerry Taylor – not binding, information gathering

PUBLIC COMMENT – MIS

- Jim Fallgetter – doesn't hurt to go out and have free outside expertise, may find solution is some changes but keep IT in-house but never hurts to get new ideas. Using tapes for backup is scary. Think would be a great move to get the information.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

- Tyrell Staheli – no major changes, some increases to training as there are compliance issues due to changing regulations.
- Jerry Taylor – increases to bottom lines.
 - Tyrell Staheli – these are the reallocations of the internal service funds which are now in the general fund.
- Jerry Taylor – asked about current staffing levels.

- Tyrell Staheli – realignment with growth options but no salary increase. Account Clerk I currently shared with MIS for secretarial duties.
- Jerry Taylor – have you had overtime issues
 - Tyrell – reduces proactive activities.
- Jerry Taylor – customer service, have you done a survey.
 - Tyrell – no
- Jerry Taylor – do you have mandates.
 - Tyrell – yes, and some training needed to ensure compliance with the mandates.
- Jerry Taylor – do we have development plans for people.
 - Tyrell – yes, we plan annually which training is required and additionally work on cross-training for emergency situations.
- Jerry Taylor – discussion of credit card fees and brinks costs. Need to discuss additional fees for the credit card service.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

- Tyrell Staheli – this is similar to finance where ISF reallocations show. No other changes were made.
- Chip Holloway – travel and training budget, is this number good and have we exceeded this amount in past.
 - Tyrell Staheli – currently have 12,200 and have not exceeded this in the past few years.
- Jerry Taylor – asked what was included in dues and publications.
 - Tyrell Staheli – gave account information
- Jerry Taylor – recommend council eliminate health care cost for themselves in all forms. (cafeteria plan)
- Jerry Taylor – other professional services section of City Manager budget. What does this pay for? Additionally \$200k from ISF.
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PUBLIC COMMENT – CITY MANAGER BUDGET

- Jim Fallgetter – base Beneficial Suggestion program. Perhaps similar program could be put into this process. People know where to save money. Raises the idea of people looking in their area for cost savings.

CITY CLERK/HUMAN RESOURCES/RISK MANAGEMENT

- Rachel Ford – gave power point presentation (*copy to be filed with city clerk*)
 - Council questioned types of duties and process to be conducted should they approve to move forward.
 - City Clerk assured council a full request for proposals would be advertised and bids would be interviewed prior to selection of a contractor to assume

human resources tasks. Not looking for consultants but actual administrators.

- Jerry Taylor questioned budget numbers.
- Jim Fallgetter – cautioned against outsourcing human resources.

DEBT SERVICES

- Jerry Taylor – reviewed and discussed Debt service interest we are paying for redevelopment agency.
 - Tyrell Staheli - Certificates of participation with guaranteed repayment. These were refinanced in 2005.

5 MINUTE RECESS

PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

- Jim Ponek – gave power point presentation (*copy to be filed with City Clerk*)
- Jason Patin – with regards to graffiti, who do complaints go to?
 - Jim Ponek – if it is a park or city property then the request goes to us and PACT assists with cleanup. Homes or private property goes to police. Cleanup is a combination of parks maintenance and PACT volunteers.
 - Jerry Taylor – email available which goes directly to PACT.
- Jerry Taylor – programs and competition with base programs. Do we have the market?
 - Jim Ponek – use of facilities, fees are being increased on the base so these teams have approached us for space.
 - Kurt Wilson – they are concerned that use level doesn't match so working on more accurate cost.
- Steve Morgan – Maturango Days cost of \$10,000, is that in-kind services or cash.
 - Kurt Wilson – this is actual cash in budget, past has been in-kind only.
- Jerry Taylor – all we did before was in-kind and that was ok?
 - Kurt Wilson – the history of this is debatable whether the in-kind was enough. The event is not going to happen this year.
- Jerry Taylor – so if the event isn't happening, should this amount be in this budget, what are these funds going to be used for and when do we really need to fully fund this event.
 - Kurt Wilson – there will still have to be additional funding source, in past individuals have donated out of their own pockets. This cost would be to cover necessary preliminary phases before the actual event.
- Jerry Taylor – with general fund balance being so low, doesn't make sense to budget this year if no event is occurring.
- Steve Morgan – direction to staff to present full report on what the \$10k for maturango junction will be used for and want to eliminate both sister city and youth advisory fundings.

- Chip Holloway – concur that sister city and youth advisory should be cut
- Jason Patin – sister city and youth advisory should not be funded at this time.
- Jerry Taylor – labor question regarding PERS
 - Tyrell Staheli – for miscellaneous employees PERS is 20%
- Jerry Taylor – Pinney Pool, where are we relative to getting consultant onsite to see what it will take to sustain the pool?
 - Jim Ponek – Public works and parks have been working on proposals from architectural firm to come to council in the near future. Cost to fix, build new, or something in-between.
- Steve Morgan – budget for additional security cameras for parks? Cannot continue to allow local vandals to go uncaught. Do not have dollars to waste staff and materials fixing what they are wrecking. Can't go as far as putting bounty on their heads, but need to find a way to do something more efficient in catching them. Want to hear recommendations on how we are going to start putting these people in front of a judge. Personally we should close the pool until the public is willing to tax themselves to fix that facility. Continuing drain on city funds and regardless of what we do with the TAB funds, we are going to get beat up by someone. Cannot continue to use that facility in it's current condition. Also talked about getting volunteers for medians, how are we doing with that?
 - Jim Ponek – goes in cycles, gave history of volunteer use in past. Currently working on county collaboration with community service workers.
- Steve Morgan – is there money in the budget for advertising push or do we have to rely on good nature of local media and public presentations to non-profits in the community. Example of median sponsorship.
- Jerry Taylor – good idea and will personally work with parks on presentations to non-profits.
- Jason Patin – security cameras on the parks, would that be an IT thing or shared.
 - Craig Bradley – do have a budget and equipment, however manpower for installation has been slow.
- Jason Patin – not in favor of closing pool but am in favor of putting it with infrastructure and TAB funds.
- Jerry Taylor – page 81, cost savings?
 - Tyrell Staheli – redistribution of funds.
- Jerry Taylor – have we approached DART to care for medians?
 - Kurt Wilson – current labor contracts prevent contracting out during furlough situations.

PUBLIC COMMENT – PARKS AND RECREATION

- Mike Neel – sister city should be cut as it has always been a one way street and Maturango Junction had a low turnout because of location and logistics. For city to take \$10k to subsidize a few small groups to sell their goods and advertise for non-profits, participation will not go up at that location. Not in favor of city using public funds to support a few select groups to sell their goods.

- Jim Fallgetter – requested a count from the pool and has concerns about the condition. Need a community pool.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

- Jim McRea – gave power point presentation (copy to be filed with city clerk)
- Jerry Taylor – on a good year will we balance out or will there always be a deficit.
 - Jim McRea – will always have some deficit, not significant
- Jerry Taylor – asked if a reduction of fee structure would stimulus construction
 - Jim McRea – might help, economic development impact fees are for capital improvements. School fees just went up.
- Jerry Taylor – thanked city planner for seminar to planning commission.
- Jerry Taylor – housing element reduction keeps us from doing what?
 - Jim McRea – may not receive some funding from HTD. Without updated housing element, large subdivisions would be under review but we do not have serious stream of tentative tract maps. If some of those from 2010 don't reapply these will stop.
- Jerry Taylor – staffing to remain consistent for the whole department.
 - Jim McRea – currently staffed and no planned recruitments or planned attritions.
- Jason Patin – planning tech was less than half time with relative low cost to city.
 - Kurt Wilson – city would have to fund the cost up front and hope to be reimbursed. City would still have to pay other costs like unemployment. College only paid 75% of hourly rate. Unemployment is 66% of wages for 2 years.
- General Discussion – Prop 22 and ERAF.
- Chip Holloway – how do we justify the position of economic development project manager based on the low dollars budgeted for economic development.
 - Jim McRea – have to go out and talk to commercial entities and help them look for opportunity sites and that is what a manager is to be doing. We have done that with reasonable success but none have come into the community.
- Chip Holloway – frustration is we have the position but can't afford to give him the tools to do the job, setting the position up for failure. Should we reassign that position? Insignificant amount of money has been budgeted for the past couple of years. Public wants every dollar of the TAB money to go to streets.
 - Jim McRea – we do keep in reasonable contact with regional developers, do participate in some economic development organizations. Super Wal-Mart will open up space in buildings. Relative assurance that once Wal-Mart begins construction then those agencies we have talked with may get off the fence and begin development.
- Jason Patin – if you have a position for economic development but not the tools, should we put funds into economic development. If we aren't willing to do things

to get them here then why are we funding the position. Have to pick which direction we are going, long term solution or short term fix.

- Jerry Taylor – struggling with the long term payback.
 - Jim McRea – pay back is in the tax structure. Gave examples of new hotels and TOT; movie theatre opportunity to increase sales tax.
- Steve Morgan – not one to worry about naysayers with the manager position because if you do nothing you continue to fall behind, and while you can't point to a number of successes, once you do have some successes which I believe Walmart will be one once it is constructed. However you see empty stores year after year, and when a store closes and you ask why the answer is always the same because people shop out of town. Would prefer to see current staff take a portion of their time to staff the planning intern position or want to see that position back in the budget or have a housing element.
- Jason Patin – want to see the planning move forward and would like to see the cost of the intern position. If going to keep the economic development position then we need to give him the resources to move forward.
- Jerry Taylor – when down to planning and economic development we have an imbalance, overstaffed in economic development and understaffed in planning. Concerned we aren't getting bang for the buck. Would like to understand the costs for the part time position.

PUBLIC COMMENT – PUBLIC SERVICES

- Jim Fallgetter – have tried to make contact with economic development manager for five years but never received a return call. Comments from the manager was he knew about my issue and did nothing and personally told me 'NO'. Switch the money to the other side where it would be better used. Developers do track Wal-Mart and planning can help. Don't put the lack of success to a lack of ammunition; put your money where the action is. Support the intern idea from the college.

PUBLIC WORKS

- Dennis Speer – gave power point presentation (*copy to be filed with city clerk*)
- Jerry Taylor – discussion of Street Gas Tax fund and TDA Article 8 totals.
- Steve Morgan – believe there is no need for transit coordinator and position should be eliminated.
 - Dennis Speer – that person is administrative liaison between all federal and contract and compliance issues.
 - Kurt Wilson – because of the nature of the funding the position is vital.
- Jason Patin – with all federal mandates is funding supplied by the federal government?
 - Dennis Speer – no, these are unfunded mandates.
- Chip Holloway – went from public works supervisor to maintenance coordinator.
 - Dennis Speer – correct

- Jerry Taylor – how many of these persons are mechanics working on heavy and light vehicles.
 - Dennis Speer – correct
- Jerry Taylor – did not see anything pertaining to shared cost such as equipment.
 - Kurt Wilson – discussions are ongoing but nothing settled at this time.
- Jerry Taylor – given this budget makes no capital investments, hope we can get to the joint agreements before next year.
- Jerry Taylor – professional services request is for what?
 - Dennis Speer – advertising and marketing campaign for deviated fixed route.
- Jerry Taylor – are we really spending it this year, the current budget has \$15k to carry forward for next year.
- Jerry Taylor – small tools and minor equipment. Might be a replication and not needed for this budget.
- Jerry Taylor – thought didn't need new vehicles, but see funds here.
 - Dennis – these are for two busses and may not fit in garage.
- Jerry Taylor – fleet maintenance increase.
 - Tyrell Staheli – will have to check the fund.
- Jerry Taylor – Admin Allocation for overhead?
 - Tyrell Staheli – correct
- Jason Patin – clarify improvements for corp yard are being funded both by RDA and general fund.
 - Kurt Wilson – some improvements cannot wait for TAB monies.
 - Jim McRea – want to spend all gas tax funds first, then TAB money and general fund last.
- Jerry Taylor – glad to see doing micro paving maintenance of roads, would like to see more.
 - Dennis Speer – next project in this year's budget is chip/seal complimenting Upjohn widening.
- General discussion – methods of paving.

PUBLIC COMMENT – PUBLIC WORKS

- Stan Rajtora – heard presentation allude to new PMS study, but didn't hear that the report was recommending we spend a certain amount of money this year with renovation of the roads, if we are \$60 million in arrears on street maintenance, this budget is well below the roughly \$3 million that I was anticipating hearing. What was the dollar figure the PMS recommends as a beginning basis to get us up to standards on the streets.
 - Dennis – recommended annual maintenance is \$2.5 million to get current roads up to 60% adequate PCI. Report will be available at infrastructure meeting next Thursday.
- Stan Rajtora – have no problem with dropping down the percentage which is still better than what we have. Public should know what the budget should be at to get us where we need to be and then they can better understand why we are

behind. Also there has been ongoing study of sewer lines and don't see this addressed in the presentation.

- Dennis Speer – study will be finished with GIS mapping, proposal is being prepared for attorney review and then will come back to council for approval. Will be tied into camera survey of sewer lines.
- Stan Rajtora – cost of this study?
 - Dennis – need this mapping first with overlay to tie into overall study.
- Stan Rajtora – going to have problems in the future and was expecting to see funds budgeted to help take care of those problems.
 - Dennis – wastewater does have a reserve to take care of emergency needs. Entire collection system.
- Mike Neel – regarding wastewater, don't understand on page 52 the wastewater franchise tax that has been assessed over a number of years. Listed as an enterprise fund and not to be in the general fund. Not municipal code provision for franchise tax and why this amount. Would like to understand this.
 - Kurt Wilson – can't speak to the historical but the proposal in the current budget is zero.
- Mike Neel – that process is illegal and other cities have been taken to task for that, unfortunately we have lost a lot of funds that should have been in the wastewater fund.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

- Chip Holloway – currently have 3 adhoc committees for 3 items (HR, Grants, Building Inspector) and the other group to discuss new recommended options.
 - Kurt Wilson – need formal direction from council before going down the road this proposed budget outlines.
- Jerry Taylor – relative to building inspector was in the term of having more control rather than saving money. Quality of service to people. From my perspective there are a lot of things discussed, expect we capture from the list on recommendations and review.
 - Kurt Wilson – depending on how soon you have the adoption vote, you could do the adoption can come up with a listing reminding of which recommendations were suggested. Can have a list tomorrow that captures what you want from the budget.
- Jason Patin – will go thru this budget tomorrow before we see the list and may have more to discuss.
 - Kurt Wilson – we are fine with council choice. Can bring a list and work thru that with the budget document before you.
- Jerry Taylor – document stays as is until we go line-for-line. Want to see department's individual recommendations for their budget.
- Chip Holloway – this current budget has general fund reserve of \$500k. less one time funding.
- Kurt Wilson – we are at a standstill until we get direction from council.

- Jerry Taylor – with just consent calendar for Wednesday, is it necessary to meet tomorrow.
 - Kurt Wilson – it has been extremely difficult to match schedules.
- Jerry Taylor – notification of moving money movements be given to council at regular council meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Howard Auld – what I am hearing is that we are continuing to be reactive to what the situation is, don't expect the future to have any more help. For two years have made presentations to this group but have not received support from council on what to do. March 14 had meeting with Mayor and City Manager and had a letter requesting meeting with Congressman McCarthy for city, school, and college. Can't stand idly by and simply react to the amount of money we are going to get. One strategy discussed is focusing on solutions rather than why we aren't going to get any money. When he agrees to meet, we need to know how much money we are asking for. Probably talking about \$15million to help with reserve and schools. This will build case and give him an idea of what we need. Working to see if this can happen, but looks like if he can't come to us we need to be proactive and go to him regardless of location. Let's go make this case to him. Willing to donate \$1000 of own money to help fund the trip. If not Kevin then go to Boxer or Feinstein. Let's find solutions. I as a citizen write a letter it doesn't have the same impact as the council as a whole.
 - Chip Holloway – have been working with china lake alliance but Kevin hates earmarks and we are working on finding a different strategy than used in the past.
 - Jerry Taylor – election issue, best year is 2012, ask us to plan for a TOT tax for the November 2012 election.
 - Jason Patin – with regards to TOT, think this is better for 2012 election allows us time for education purposes.
 - Kurt Wilson – gives a chance to really find out what the people want.
- Ann Taylor – I am here tonight to advocate retaining my position in the proposed budget. I have been employed with the City full-time for 25 years and I have an additional 10 years part-time prior to that –totaling 35 years. I began in 1976 as a part-time employee at the rate of a \$1.98 per hour, and currently hold the position as Administrative Analyst III, of which grants, research analysis, compliance for grants, the SCE partnership account for 1/16th of my job description. I have captured for the city over the last 6 years a total of \$1,766,537 averaging \$294,423 each year. These revenues have been separate from those in education, energy efficiency products for residential and commercial through the SCE Partnership, which continue as additional monies. Last Thursday, I secured \$36,000 for two vehicles for the Police Department and was informed later that day that my position had been removed from the 2011 –

2012 Proposed .Budget. During my tenure, I have enjoyed working for the City; have been very dedicated, loyal and hard-working. I am requesting that you consider keeping my position in the budget at this time

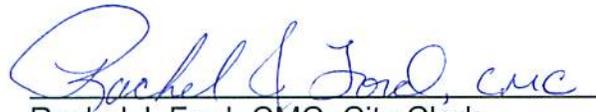
CLOSED SESSION

GC54957.6 Labor Negotiations – United Food and Commercial Workers Local 8 (UFCW); Police Employee Association of Ridgecrest (PEAR); Mid-Management Group of Employees (MM); Confidential Group of Employees (CO); Management Group of Employees (MG) – Agency Negotiator City Manager Kurt Wilson

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

- Report given to council, no action taken

ADJOURNMENT at 12:44 am


Rachel J. Ford, CMC, City Clerk