

SPECIAL WORK SESSION OF CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF EXCELSIOR SPRINGS
EXCELSIOR SPRINGS, MISSOURI
SEPTEMBER 6, 2005

The City Council of the City of Excelsior Springs, Missouri met in a Special Work Session at 7:11 PM, Tuesday, September 6, 2005 in the Council Chambers of the Hall of Waters Building to hear discussions regarding the proposed budget figures in the Special Funds and the Enterprise Funds for the fiscal year of 2005/2006. The meeting was called to order by Mayor R. D. "Sonny" Parker.

Roll Call of Members:	Present:	Mayor Parker, Mayor Pro-Tem Fousek, Councilwoman Fines and Councilman Taylor
	Absent:	Councilman Hartman
Present Representing the City:		City Manager Hennen Fire Chief Bill Stewart Assistant City Manager Kimsey Public Works Director Rex Brinker Finance Director Steve Marriott Superintendent of Construction Services Chad Birdsong Several City Employees

DISCUSSION OF FUND BUDGETS FY 2005/2006: (Tape #1 B1-B2000, Tape #2 A1-B1110)

PARKS & RECREATION: This fund gets its income from taxes. This fund is pretty much self-sufficient

WATER FUND: Rex advised that this fund is still operating going into reserves to fund large capital projects. It also reflects an eight percent increase in water rates. Mayor Parker asked if it reflects sale of water to Wood Heights and Rex stated they are not ready to purchase water yet. Rex stated they have employees in training and the Water Fund is doing all right.

POLLUTION CONTROL FUND: The City Manager stated the goal is to identify need to be a wastewater treatment facility for the City and Prathersville. The Williams Creek Bond will be paid off in 2012. Rex stated the City has never been in non-compliance with DNR. Councilman Fousek asked how many miles of sewer lines the city has. Rex stated we have 300-some miles of water lines and 200-some miles of sewer lines. Rex further stated that the department needs a sewer camera. The City Manager stated the City needs to start conversation on where the City needs to be in five years.

REFUSE FUND: This fund pays for residential trash pickups, dumpster pickups, annual clean ups, household hazardous waste pick up and the city-wide clean up.

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES: This is the City's internal construction organization. There will need to be budget amendments when information is received from Capital Improvements on projects. Mayor Parker stated the City is fortunate to have an in-house construction organization. Would like to tell all these employees they have done a good job.

TRANSPORTATION TRUST: This fund receives its income from Transportation Tax and it maintains the city's streets. Mayor Parker stated he would put our city's streets up against any city.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND: This is taxpayer supported. Expect this fund to be amended when Capital Improvements Authority decides on their projects. Mayor Pro-Tem Fousek asked if any capital purchases could be prolonged and he was advised that they could not in this fund.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: This fund is used to run the Federal Grant money along with transfers from other funds.

PUBLIC SAFETY SALES TAX: This income is from the Public Safety Sales Tax for public safety expenditures

for Fire, Ambulance and Police. Mayor Pro-Tem Fousek stated he wants employees of these departments to have raises but what if everything turns upside down in a few years...then the City will have to look at it.

CAPITAL EQUIPMENT FUND: This is a holding account for capital purchases. The City Manager stated this fund was established to buy equipment for departments. Mayor Pro-Tem Fousek asked if all this capital expenditure is necessary and can it be delayed.

At this point, Councilwoman Fines asked when we will get to what all these employees are here for. Steve Marriott stated he has several funds to go through yet but he could break in anytime.

Councilman Taylor stated it was published in the paper last week that Fire, Police and the Street Department were all to get a raise of \$2,500 per year coming out of the Public Safety Tax.

Mayor Parker stated that the City promised everyone a raise and in his opinion everyone should get \$2,500 per year raise.

Mayor Pro-Tem Fousek stated that all he promised was that everyone would get a 2.5% increase...that the decision we make today will impact tomorrow.

City Manager Hennen stated that Construction Services, Water and Sewer employees will also be given a \$2,500 per year increase but these funds had not been gone over last week when the other information was available in General Fund. These raises will become effective January 1, 2006 and everyone will not get \$2,500 per year increase. Those who do not receive this raise will receive a 2.5% increase. This is not personnel related...it is an attempt to get the city's pay system balanced and gave an example where the pay scale was not balanced. He was asked what an employee would get if they are "topped out" and he stated they will receive a 2.5% increase.

An employee of the Street Department stated that he understood a \$2,500 raise would be given "across the board".

Mayor Parker stated he thought it was to be "across the board"

The City Manager stated the Council needs to let him know what they want to do. Mayor Parker stated he did not want to take a vote of the Council with Councilman Hartman not being present. Therefore; it was decided that a Special Budget Meeting will be held at 6:00 AM, Thursday, September 8, 2005.

The City Manager stated that if the Council changes the pay-increase structure, they need to let him know what direction they want to go...how to do it. Do they want to lower expenses in each fund to balance the fund or do they want to run a deficit budget; or, use the "Pepsi" money to give raises.

DEBT SERVICES: This debt covers the fire truck, the police station and the Elms NID.

E-911 PHONE TAX: This tax is collection by Southwestern Bell.

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT: This covers the Elms and two more properties and will be paid off in 2011.

PRICE CHOPPER TIF: This is a special revenue fund collected on sales and property tax for debt service payments.

WALMART TIF: This is a special revenue fund...a project fund for debt service payments. Will be paid off in 2013.

AIRPORT FUND: This is rental income and the expenses is for insurance. They are currently behind three months in their rent. This contract runs through 2008.

GOLF FUND: Councilman Taylor asked how long this fund can continue to lose money and the City Manager advised that it is until the Council decides otherwise. There is currently \$500,000 debt service on the Golf Course. Mayor Pro-Tem Fousek stated he does not want to sell the Golf Course.

With no further business at hand, the Mayor adjourned the Budget Work Session at 9:55 PM.

ATTEST:

R. D. "SONNY" PARKER, MAYOR

FRANCES SMITH, CITY CLERK