

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
September 4, 2001
4:30 p.m.

The Budget and Finance Committee was called to order by Councilman Taylor, Chairman, with Councilpersons Robinson, Littlefield, Benson, Pierce, Franklin, and Lively present. Attorneys Randall Nelson and Michael McMahan and Shirley Crowover, Assistant Clerk to the Council, were also present.

Others present included Adm. Boney, Fredia Kitchen, Daisy Madison, Susan Dubose, Adm. Mitchell, Adm. McDonald, Mike Compton, Beverly Pasley Johnson, Kenardo Curry, Todd Womack, Judge Williams, Chief Dotson, Shelley Parker, and Bettye Jo Wells. Chief Coppinger joined the meeting later.

BUDGET ORDINANCE

Chairman Taylor noted that the discussion regarding the proposal of Councilman Page was tabled at the last meeting and was picked up on Friday at the recessed City Council Meeting. He turned the meeting over to Adm. Boney.

Adm. Boney stated that the Council had gotten a copy of the revised Ordinance this afternoon; that a few errors had occurred and there were some housekeeping matters to be attended to such as mis-names. A few did affect funding, and Adm. Boney went over these.

The first was the erroneous inclusion of funding for the MLK Development Corp.; there was an erroneous duplication of reduction for police vacancy in the City Judge Division. There were a couple of salary adjustments in the two judges' offices and a reduction of uniform allowances from 1000 to 500 for two officers. There was restoration of temporary staffing to be absorbed in existing budget. Adm. Boney stated that we had taken credit for three to be eliminated in the General Fund. These were cut in error and come from another funding source in the amount of \$67,452.00. Finally we need to add Westside Development Corp. for funding of \$75,000 in Mr. Traughber's budget for him to evaluate the need and enter into a Contract, which would be brought back to the Council for any major changes.

Chairman Taylor noted that the Budget Ordinance is on for first reading tonight.

Councilman Pierce stated that in regards to the \$75,000, he was not too clear on the request for this money. He asked what it was to be used for and questioned the need for a contract. He stated that he had tried to talk to Daphne, but it will be Thursday before she will be back, and he would like to know if she agrees with this.

Judge Williams, who is on the Westside Development Corp. Board, was present and stated that he understood what they were attempting to do; that they could work through this; that the prior Administration said that Westside would receive a certain amount of funds; that they got tremendous support from the Federal government and an additional \$5,000 Grant from OCS. He stated that they got over \$2 million dollars from the Federal government if they had support of the local government; that for every one dollar of local support, they could leverage \$5.00 to \$6.00; that the City pledged to give \$75,000, which would leverage additional federal dollars; that if they don't get local support, then the federal support goes away. He stated that he believed we could work through this; that Administration is not asking for details—just what they planned to use it for and how it will aid in getting additional dollars. He stated that they could work this out.

Chairman Taylor asked for a motion from this committee on the Budget Ordinance. There were no questions and no motion. He stated that they would address the Budget on the floor.

GRANT FROM THE U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE, LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

Chairman Taylor noted that we had a concern from the Police Dept. and turned the meeting over to Chief Dotson.

Chief Dotson stated that he had a Resolution asking for support to apply and accept a Grant from the United States Department of Justice, Local Law Enforcement Block Grant, in the amount of \$557,745.00. The second page of the Resolution, which is made a part of the minute material of this date, shows the programs that they are requesting this for which includes DVU space renovation in the amount of \$53,000; upgrade the firing range at \$53,000; Speed Reduction Task Force at \$84,000; Project Choices OT at \$15,000; S.T. E. P. at \$160,000; Crime Prevention at \$30,000; Technology at \$219,717; and Citizen's Police Academy at \$5,000.

Chairman Taylor asked if there were any questions. There being none, **on motion of Councilman Littlefield, seconded by Councilman Benson, this will be recommended to the full Council.**

Councilman Pierce stated that he was under the impression that after 30 days our Police Department would be up to par after losing our PST's. Chief Dotson responded that they were making a plan; that he could not promise that they would not skip a beat; that they were making a Contingency Plan to overcome this loss; that it could not be done over night; that there would be extended staff hours; that they are making plans with the supervisor to make up for the loss. Councilman Pierce asked if it would hurt the officers on the streets. Chief Dotson responded that it should have minimal impact. Chairman Taylor expressed appreciation for the job Chief Dotson was doing.

RESOLUTION FOR DEVELOPMENT RESOURCE CENTER (DRC)

Adm. McDonald asked to introduce a Resolution for purchasing for the DRC (Development Resource Center). He stated that in March of 2000, Artech Design Group procured furniture, and it did not come through the Purchasing Dept., and he was bringing a Resolution to the Council to that effect. He explained that three companies were involved: Chattanooga Office Supply @ \$734,438; Office Coordinators, Inc. @ \$408,991; and Ivan Allen @ \$19,775. He stated that this was a small amount to be added and that they were well below their budget, which is \$1.8 million. He also mentioned allowances for interior partitions and workspaces for the entire building. There is also funding for the Regional Planning Commission Room. He stated that these were all low bids and five people bid on the itemized list. He mentioned file cabinets, a catering kitchen and worktables. He mentioned one space, which was not bid, which was the Hamilton County GIS space. He stated that it was a late change and would be ready in the next couple of weeks.

Councilman Littlefield noted that this was all covered by the Capital Budget, and they were under budget. **On motion of Councilman Littlefield, seconded by Councilman Franklin, this will be recommended to the full Council.**

Adm. McDonald mentioned that the IS Department will have a purchase for the DRC for a voice data video a week from tonight in the amount of \$380,000 to Cisco, Inc. He stated that Bettye Jo Wells handled this and was present to answer any questions.

PURCHASE OF A WASTE REMOVAL SERVICES CONTRACT (FIRE DEPT.)

Chief Coppinger stated that he would like to have one item approved for a Waste Removal Services Contract; that the lowest and best bid was Safety-Kleen (TS), Inc. He asked if this needed to be in resolution form or if it could be acted on tonight. He stated that the contract would be good for a year to continue collecting waste. He stated that there was a \$40,000 budget, and it was driven by the number of instances on the street. He stated that he would prefer to have this acted on tonight.

On motion of Councilman Lively, seconded by Councilman Franklin, this will be recommended to the full Council for approval. Chief Coppinger reiterated that the Waste Removal Services budget was \$40,000, but it could not be controlled. Councilwoman Robinson verified that he drew against this as he used the services.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.