

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
Rapid City, South Dakota

August 27, 2007

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a special meeting of the City Council of the City of Rapid City was held at the City/School Administration Center in Rapid City, South Dakota on Monday, August 27, 2007 at 7:00 P.M.

The following members were present: Mayor Alan Hanks and the following Alderpersons: Lloyd LaCroix, Tom Johnson, Bob Hurlbut, Bill Okrepkie, Malcom Chapman, Ron Weifenbach, Karen Olson, and Ron Kroeger; the following Alderpersons arrived during the course of the meeting: Deb Hadcock; and the following were absent: Sam Kooiker.

Staff members present included Finance Officer Jim Preston, City Attorney Jason Green, Assistant Finance Officer Coleen Schmidt, Assistant Finance Officer Pauline Sumption, and Administrative Coordinator Jackie Gerry.

Council President Chapman called the meeting to order, noted that Alderman Kooiker would not be in attendance because of a family emergency. Chapman called upon Preston, who encouraged the Council to take the CPI because it is expected that there will be some big expenditures in the future such as parks, a new fire station in NE Rapid City, and employees. Preston also indicated that the Finance Office has been attempting to increase the reserve balance, over a five year period, to twenty percent. Preston reminded the members that for the past two years the City's population, boundaries, and acreages have increased, without having increased the City's FTE's that provide police and fire protection. He also commented on the need for FTE's in the field of Information Technology, and FTE's for park maintenance. Preston outlined possible changes that could fund a number of positions. He pointed out that the Council approved the ACE position, indicating that grants must be identified to fund the position. Preston suggested two police officers could be funded using money for the ACE position and some of the General Fund. He suggested taking the Horace Mann Pool, convert to a water park, and it would continue to serve the neighborhood and save the City an estimated \$80,000 annually, which could be used to fund a Park maintenance supervisor and laborer that are on the unfunded needs. He suggested giving the library .5 FTE and 1 FTE to provide the technical support on the second floor of C/SAC for Public Works and Growth Management.

Council President Chapman indicated to the members of the Council that they were able to review the proposed budget and bring any issue before the Council for discussion.

Responding to a question on automation from Alderman Johnson, Library Director Chapman explained that automation can not replace personnel, but merely increase efficiency. She indicated that the library has some installed software for some automation at the library.

Okrepkie moved, second by Olson to include the entire CPI in the budget. At the request of the Chair, Alderman Okrepkie withdrew the motion.

Council President Chapman addressed the affordable housing, included on the short list without a funding amount, indicating that he understood the Council's hesitancy of funding affordable housing from the General Fund. Chapman recommended taking the affordable housing issue to the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Committee for their consideration. LaCroix moved,

second by Hadcock and carried to refer the affordable housing in the amount of \$100,000 to the CIP Committee for consideration.

Okrepkie moved, second by Olson to take the entire CPI.

Substitute motion was made by LaCroix, second by Olson to take the entire CPI and fund the short list of unfunded requests. Alderman Okrepkie asked the Council to consider only the CPI and then discuss the items listed on the short list. Alderman Johnson asked the Council to consider and discuss the Festival of Presidents and Council increases.

Second substitute motion was made by Johnson, second by Hurlbut to take the entire CPI of \$331,790, approve the short list, increase the Festival of Presidents to \$10,000, add in the Council wage increase of \$20,314, and the remaining \$34,165 of the CPI be placed in Council Contingency. Alderman Kroeger addressed his concerns about giving the Council a wage increase and a technology allowance from the CPI, as it will forever be associated with a property tax increase. Alderman Johnson believed the City should purchase cellular phones for the Council, suggesting the Council should have the ability to be in close contact with the City and constituents. Alderman Hadcock offered support for the technology allowance for the Council, but not the wage increase for the Council or funding the Festival of Presidents when the Council had previously directed the organizers to submit an application to the Subsidy Committee. Council President Chapman offered support for taking the CPI and funding the short list; but did not support increasing the wages for Council and funding the Festival of Presidents. He suggested the organizers be required to submit an application to the Subsidy Committee.

Upon a roll call vote on the second substitute motion, the following voted AYE: Johnson, Hurlbut, and Okrepkie; NO: LaCroix, Hadcock, Chapman, Weifenbach, Olson, and Kroeger. Motion failed.

Second substitute motion was made by Johnson to amend the substitute motion to strike the Festival of Presidents and require them to make application to the Subsidy Committee, increase the Subsidy by \$20,000 (\$10,000 arts / \$10,000 human needs) with the recommendation that the Subsidy Committee consider the Festival of Presidents, and the remaining balance of the CPI going to the Council Contingency. Amendment was second by Hurlbut. Upon a vote on the amendment, motion carried.

Upon a vote on the substitute motion as amended, motion carried.

Council President Chapman brought forward the FTE's for water and solid waste collection, explaining that the rates for water and solid waste will need to be increased to fund the FTE's. Chapman indicated that the Parks & Recreation Department proposes to hire a landscape architect rather than use consultant services for projects. Alderman Johnson indicated his opposition to addressing the FTE's for water and solid waste until the Council has had an opportunity to discuss rate increases. Alderman Olson pointed out that the projects for the Parks are 2012 projects and small in scope. She indicated that Parks & Recreation is not proposing to eliminate contracting with landscape architects for large projects. Alderman Johnson proposed that the request should go before the 2012 Committee and a recommendation should come before the City Council. Preston explained that the landscape

architect would be an additional FTE from the General Fund; however, the funding would be handled through an interdepartmental transfer.

LaCroix moved, second by Hadcock and carried to approve the landscape architect.

ADJOURN

As there was no further business to come before the Council at this time, the meeting adjourned at 8:46 P.M.

ATTEST:

CITY OF RAPID CITY

Finance Office

Mayor

(SEAL)