



**MURRAY**  
CITY COUNCIL

**MURRAY CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL  
BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE  
Fiscal Year 2009-2010**

The Murray City Municipal Council met as the Budget and Finance Committee on Tuesday, May 12, 2009, in the Murray City Center, Conference Room #107, 5025 South State Street, Murray, Utah.

**Members in Attendance:**

Krista K. Dunn	Budget Chair
Jeff Dredge	Budget Vice-Chair
Robert D. Robertson	Committee Member
Jim Brass	Committee Member
Patricia W. Griffiths	Committee Member

**Others in Attendance:**

Daniel C. Snarr	Mayor
Pat Wilson	Director of Finance & Administration
Michael D. Wagstaff	Council Executive Director
Jan Wells	Mayor's Chief of Staff
Janet M. Lopez	Council Office Administrator
Greg Bellon	Power
Brent Davidson	Recorder's Office
Carol Heales	City Recorder
Jaclyn Sadler	Court/MCEA
Tim Tingey	Comm & Econ. Development Director
Mike Terry	Human Resource Director
Janie Richardson	MIS
G.L. Critchfield	Attorney's Office
Tom Steffey II	Finance Office
Gil Rodriguez	Fire Chief
Scott Stanger	Engineering
Anne vonWeller	Public Services
Doug Hill	Public Services Director
Pete Fondaco	Police Chief
Juliette Dorsett	Police
Craig Burnett	Police
Ron Koller	Treasurer
Peter Klinge	Citizen

Budget Chair Krista Dunn called the Budget and Finance meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and began by thanking everyone for making changes in the budget in such a short time. She expressed her pleasure at seeing what was removed and the thought that went into the revised plans.

Ms. Griffiths asked Ms. Wilson for an explanation of the last sales tax revenue report. Ms. Wilson stated that the redistribution amount was not included, however, overall, the receipts were down by 10%. Ms. Wilson did not see Honda's tax results listed so she is following up to discover what happened.

Ms. Dunn confirmed that from those expenditures being eliminated in other departments, additional money will be allocated for roads. She explained that every year the Council has cut road projects when it was necessary to trim budgets. Her desire is to make more progress on the long list of roads that are failing and getting worse. She offered her apology that this is the justification for many of the cuts.

Ms. Dunn explained that the request to the department heads was to reduce up to 5% of the budget, prioritize the items, or justify why cuts of that size could not be made. She feels that most departments have done a good job of reaching this goal.

Ms. Griffiths asked for clarification regarding the priority of the cuts. Ms. Wells suggested that the department head give information on priority as each area is addressed.

Mr. Brass mentioned that he is not a fan of across the board percentage cuts, however, there are items, such as professional services, with large dollar amounts in the budget. Many departments use that item, but others do not. He would like to see line items such as that cut, and later, if the money is needed it could be added back in. He confirmed that he does not want to impact public safety or system reliability in utilities, and finally, the Council does not want to be forced into a position to lose people. This is a difficult economic environment. His company is very financially sound, although, there have been lay offs in his operation, 50% cut in St. George, eight people in Orem, and others in Salt Lake. Outside the public sector, jobs get cut and these are the same people that pay taxes and cover City expenses. We do not want to see that happen. In six months, there is hope that things will improve. Michael Brodsky is selling units again and he is optimistic about the economy. Confidence needs to be restored.

**Justice Court:** Ms. Dunn mentioned three areas where cuts were offered in the Court: education and training, office supplies, and defense counsel. Jaclyn Sadler stated that policies have changed to help bring in more revenue through traffic school and tickets. Cutting unnecessary office supplies, and making due with less, has been requested of the employees.

Ms. Wilson commented that only one public defender is necessary cutting that

expense by \$50,000.

Ms. Dunn would prefer not to cut training, so that Murray employees have the best expertise and knowledge possible.

Ms. Griffiths mentioned that for travel many times the conferences include meals and when that is the case, then meals should be deducted from the per diem amount paid out. Ms. Dunn agreed with that.

This would cut \$55,000 from the Court budget. Mr. Dredge figured that with these decreases the court budget would be 13% less than the previous year actual expenditures and 17% less than budgeted.

**Mayor's Office:** This budget proposes to eliminate the Utah League of Cities and Towns (ULCT) Conference. Mayor Snarr commented that he is really not comfortable cutting the ULCT Conference but will if necessary, however, if the Council chooses to go, he would like his office to attend, as well. Ms. Dunn agreed that it is an important meeting.

Ms. Griffiths stated again that this is a case where meals are included and can be deducted from the per diem given. She feels that if meals are paid for, then the attendees should plan to attend because it is tax payer money that has been spent. In addition, she feels it would be wise to car pool and eliminate some mileage expense.

Mr. Robertson commented that with changes to the elected officials next year, it will be important for members to attend these important training sessions. The special training for new council members should be attended also. Mr. Brass agreed.

The Mayor's budget includes money for the Hall of Honor, although he has cut the amount back. There is one planned for the current year, and none was done the previous year. It is a spring event.

There was discussion on the computers, and they are working okay at the time. Mr. Larsen said that the majority of the personal computers in the City are more than four years old, and 25 to 30% are more than seven years old. The City gets the maximum life.

Ms. Dunn said that many departments have cut the computers and if half of them fail, then there is no money for computers. The Mayor said it could be left in but not spent if unnecessary. Ms. Dunn thought that was a good idea. The \$300 for local conferences is okay to leave in the budget.

Mr. Brass stated that he feels the Mayor's travel is okay, and he is comfortable

leaving the money for computers in.

Mr. Wagstaff said that the reduction was \$4,400.

**Human Resources (HR):** Mr. Terry gave the items he is willing to cut a higher priority number. HR proposed to cut office supplies by \$500.

Mr. Dredge asked if there is centralized purchasing to obtain volume discounts. Ms. Heales responded that there is a state contract that most people buy from. Office Depot gives the City about a 40% discount from the published prices.

Ms. Griffiths asked about printing costs. Mr. Terry stated the personnel handbook updates are on the web site, so they are no longer printed. Ms. Griffiths suggested that electronic files and reference would be preferable.

Vehicle maintenance is for a 1997 car and it is unknown what will be necessary. Two years ago about \$3000 was spent and currently less than \$100 has been used in repairs. Mr. Brass suggested that be left in the budget.

Ms. Dunn said that the computer money should be left in. Others agreed.

The professional services line item is for personnel matters, which is an unknown amount from year to year, and should be left in. Education and training should be left in.

The Civil Service Commission and Disability Boards have both been discontinued, therefore, \$1,500 can be eliminated. This produces a decrease of \$2,600 from the HR department.

**Finance:** The first line is office supplies and then telephone, which is fine to be cut.

Ms. Dunn asked about the travel, which she feels should be left in the budget. Ms. Wilson stated that about half of her training can be done locally. She did not attend the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) meetings last year, and she really does learn a lot at the national level. Some of these meetings are for certification. This will be left in.

Books and subscriptions can be cut. And the software for the payroll module can be left in, commented Ms. Dunn. Others agreed. Mr. Brass feels this will save money in the long run.

Overall, \$4,000 can be cut from the finance budget. Mr. Dredge mentioned that

this is up 23% from the prior year actual expenditures, which is primarily the software expense, and it is down 11% from the previous budget.

**Customer Service:** Vehicle purchase is budgeted at \$15,000, and Ms. Dunn asked if it can be delayed for a year, although, she is concerned that the next budget year will have the added burden of these delayed items.

Office supplies are proposed to go down \$1,000, books and subscriptions \$50.

Education and training are budgeted at \$1,700. Mr. Brass asked if training would be a good thing for the employees now that staffing has stabilized. The HTE software conference is the important training and some could be used. Mr. Brass suggested that be left in the budget. Ms. Wilson said that she will see if it needs to be used.

The truck expense was to eliminate the last full sized truck being utilized. Ms. Wilson said there is money for maintenance if necessary, so the Council agreed to remove the purchase of the truck. Ms. Wells informed the group that it is a 1998 with about 70,000 miles. Mr. Dredge commented that if it is deferred, next year two will not be necessary, so it seems like an item that can wait.

The total reduction in the department will be \$16,050.

**Non-Departmental:** Ms. Wilson explained that she pulled some items out so that they could be tracked easier, therefore, some expense has been moved into a new line item and, overall, she was able to reduce \$10,500 from that budget.

The employees' incentive program has been moved into its own line item. Miscellaneous supplies and special supplies would be removed. Office supplies had a total of \$50,000, however, she has moved \$35,000 of that into a new postage line item, and left \$15,000 in office supplies, which is for the copy room and break room supplies. Contributions in the amount of \$5,000 will be eliminated. (That was for the non profit performing arts group.)

Total reduction of \$10,500.

**Treasurer:** Books and subscriptions, office supplies and telephone are not a problem to reduce. Small equipment is shown to reduce \$500, with \$1,500 left for replacement of the front terminal if it goes out, Mr. Koller commented.

Ms. Dunn said that the Treasurer's office may keep the money for education and training, and travel, as have all the other departments.

Miscellaneous services can be cut and there will still be enough money for bank fees, and the shredding that needs to be done. Mr. Koller checked the costs for the last five years and figured he could reduce this item by \$2,000. Mr. Koller has reduced the equipment maintenance item and credit card discounts.

Total reductions will be \$3,900.

**Recorder:** In the Government Building department, Ms. Heales reduced the budget by more than \$21,000. Mr. Brass expressed his concern regarding this, based on the condition of the City Hall building. Mayor Snarr commented that in the current year repairs have exceeded the budget and he questions the wisdom of taking this money from the budget. It was the consensus of the group to leave it in.

**MIS:** Mr. Larsen explained that the car allowance has been the same for 14 years and he proposed to raise it this year, however, he will take it back to the previous level. Office supplies have been reduced by \$1,500. A couple of small items have been cut in software.

The professional services budget has been used historically, although, he can try to eliminate some projects. Mr. Larsen detailed the use of professional services as special projects done for servers, for DVD systems upgrade, for software to be set up, consultants to come in for specialized things, and for SunGard HTE. One large project planned is operational review, to make sure the department is doing the right things in the right way. Upgrading the current imaging system will require some professional services near \$7,000 to \$8,000.

Ms. Dunn pointed out that \$21,000 is still left in the account. She can either remove it now and add back in at mid year, if needed, or leave the entire amount in now.

The education and training budget is for an HTE conference to keep current on software and this reduction would prevent one person from attending. Mr. Dredge asked if two people need to go or could one attend and teach the other. Mr. Larsen stated that the applications they support are such a wide range that there is very little duplication between the two. They will go to different sessions within the same conference. Mr. Dredge asked if the City is on the latest version of HTE. Mr. Larsen said it is and another upgrade is scheduled this week.

Ms. Dunn stated that from her viewpoint, the funding needs to stay in for the HTE training. Others agreed.

GIS training has been reduced \$8,000 by not sending the number of people who generally attend. The City does receive some complimentary registrations. Ms.

Richardson stated that registration is paid for four people, which is \$1,500 each. She said she cut that expense because it is out of state. There is very little GIS training available locally. She left in funding for a conference in Moab, and GSRI training because the software is changing so quickly that it is impossible to keep up without some training. Three of the City's four GIS people are certified GIS professionals so they require continuing education (CEU) to keep the certification. If they do not go to conferences this year, they will need to attend in the next couple of years to maintain the certification. Ms. Dunn asked if the staff is rotated in attending conferences or all go each year. Mr. Larsen said that Ms. Richardson goes every year, and typically he rotates two of the three programmers. Ms. Dunn asked how often the CEUs must be renewed. The GIS certification needs to be renewed every four years. Mr. Larsen recommended that Ms. Richardson be allowed to attend so that she can provide direction to the other staff members.

Mr. Brass suggested that \$4,000 be added back into the budget.

In the special supplies budget the amount has been lowered to \$10,000, which has worked for the last couple of years.

The data processing equipment shows a revised budget reduction of \$57,500. There are two items that Mr. Larsen would like to keep, if at all possible. Those are the handheld GIS receiver and the report writer software. Council members agreed to that request.

Total reductions to the MIS budget are \$53,600.

**Attorney:** The travel items will be left in the budget. Whether or not the City will need professional services is unknown. It was decided that there was some money remaining and if more were needed at mid year, it would be reallocated.

Ms. Dunn said the cuts were \$7,000 and \$2,000, for a total reduction of \$9,000.

**Police:** Mayor Snarr stated that there were several items here that he would like to remain in the budget. He feels the Dare, Great, and Citizen Academy Programs are very worthwhile and he would like to keep them operational. In addition, the Tasers are out of warranty and that could cause problems with lawsuit issues if the manufacturer does not stand behind them.

Chief Fondaco stated that he plans to replace the Tasers with funding from the JAG grant, so that can come out.

The Chief said that the air cards in the records line item can be reduced by \$2,400 because the cost has gone down. This is an additional item to be included in the

cuts. The Chief would like to purchase the animal control vehicle because he has cut two K-9 trucks for the Mayor, and this would be a third vehicle. Eight vehicles are left in the budget, which is less than 10% of the fleet. Usually, the department is replacing 10 to 15 vehicles a year, so next year there will be a lot of vehicles to purchase to stay on track. The animal control vehicle has about 71,000 miles with no problems now, however, it will be in the budget next year.

Ms. Dunn said that she would like to remove it now and if at mid year there are problems, then the Council can discuss putting it back in.

Mr. Brass asked about the other items on the list. Chief Fondaco said the code books can be delayed and travel also. Training has been absorbed elsewhere.

Ms. Dunn asked the Chief about overtime and what could be cut there. He responded that he has historically been short on overtime funding, therefore, he left it as budgeted. He said that now he is down three officers, so shifts are being covered with flex time, which the officers are not happy about. Mandatory training must be covered too, which is 40 hours for each officer. He can tighten it as much as possible. On call hours are now overtime, too. Previously, any work up to 43 hours was straight time. That has changed, and more than 40 hours a week is overtime, time and a half. That has hurt the budget.

Chief Fondaco reminded the Council that the budget is overall higher, although, two of the Code Enforcement officers have been moved into the police budget.

Total police reductions are \$68,100. The budget is up 7% from actual spending last year, but about the same as the budget.

**Fire:** In the administration budget the office supplies have been reduced by \$2,000 and the travel can go back in. Chief Rodriguez said that the travel is for training in St. George, which was eliminated last year. Ms. Dunn said that would be added back into the budget. The Cadets' equipment will be reused so that money can be cut.

The suppression budget overtime was explained by Chief Rodriguez. He has decided to restructure staffing. The historical highest call volume is between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. When hiring back, he will run short through the evening hours. The other option is not to fill sick leave and maintain a three-man company. Mr. Brass asked if this would impact public safety. The Chief said that suppression calls are when manpower is needed. He stated that he might need to come back and ask for additional money. He would like to run the program to see if it works. Ms. Dunn wondered if he went too deep on the cuts. He did not think so, for the plan he has outlined. Vacation and sick leave are the problem times. Mr. Brass pointed out that he need not wait until mid year if more funding is necessary.



Ms. Dunn said the education and training money should be left in, as well as, the fire prevention and community events' money. Others agreed these were important. The special department supplies can be changed by adding half back in. Arson investigation will be fine as cut.

In the paramedic budget, the overtime cuts will be run on the same restructured staffing as described before. Ms. Dunn stated that the education and training can be restored. For ambulance operations, the Chief said cuts have been made in the amount of \$5,000, and the needs are unknown due to the age of the ambulance service. Ms. Dunn said it will be pulled, but if he needs it, come to the Council.

Total reductions from Fire will be \$59,250. That is 24% up from actual spending last year, and 18% down from budget.

**Public Services - Building Inspection:** Mr. Hill made an overall statement for his area pointing out that the reductions are listed by number and not prioritized. In light of the economy, the department is okay with all the listed cuts for a one year period of time. He expressed his concern for some items if it was necessary to go longer than one year. He agrees that if travel and training, education, and books and memberships could be restored those items educate the staff, and is part of what makes Murray good.

In building inspection, the uniform allowance can be cut for one year and the department will be fine.

The professional services line item has been cut a great deal and Mr. Hill believes with the reduction in building permits it will be okay. If there is a need for additional funds at mid year, then it will be requested. Ms. vonWeller said that if more is necessary, there will be additional revenue to offset it. Mr. Brass asked if the downtown plans have any bearing on those needs. He insisted it would be fine, for now.

**Roadways:** Travel and training will be back in for all the public services areas.

Mr. Hill informed the Council that for his accounts in the General Fund, these additional reductions amount to \$625,000 out of the budget. For perspective, travel amounted to about \$30,000 of that.

All other reductions in this account are fine.

**Shop & Garage:** No special notes, all cuts are fine.

**Engineer:** Add back in the books and subscriptions, travel, and education. The

total reductions here will be \$22,200.

Ms. Dunn asked how many of the public service books and manuals are available on line. He responded that the books and subscriptions budget is tied into travel, because part of that is for memberships to organizations, which cover attendance to conferences. The other important items are code books that must be available.

**Murray Park:** Here again, the travel, education, and books will remain in the budget. Mr. Hill added that he would like to maintain the safety program, which is an incentive for the employees. Several people mentioned that the miscellaneous services budget, which covers the graffiti painting, should be left available, due to the fact that the graffiti problem has increased.

Mr. Brass commented that with people staying closer to home, because of the economy, Murray Park will get heavy usage. Anything that reduces the level of maintenance will be a problem later. Even on temporary employees, maybe half of that should be put back in the budget.

Ms. Dunn asked what the temporary employees mean to the Park. Mr. Hill stated that most of the work there is with temporary staff. He can try to get by with less, but there may be a slight decrease in the level of maintenance. The Council agreed that the temporary employees line item should not be cut. The special supply line is okay, because it was not all spent the previous year.

Mr. Hill commented that this was a good exercise, because it did cause the department heads to go back and look at historical numbers, which is not always done. Some cuts are good because the budget amounts have not always been spent.

Mr. Dredge stated that the total reductions for Murray Park are \$25,500.

**Park Center:** Ms. Dunn asked about the overtime and temporary employees. Mr. Hill offered that, historically, less has been spent on the temporary employees, and those cuts are okay.

The books, travel, and education will be left in the budget. Postage is being reduced and Ms. Griffiths asked if that accounts for increases in the postage amount.

Mr. Robertson asked about the pro shop line items and if that is a revenue source for the items sold. Mr. Hill said that it is for diapers, swim goggles, towels, and water bottles that are sold with a little mark up for profit. Ms. Dunn said that those should be left in, for the profit, and for the convenience to the public.

Total reductions are \$66,898.

**Participant Recreation:** Mr. Hill commented that he listed the Boys and Girls Club, because it is a contribution, however, he would prefer that it not be cut at all. From a recreation standpoint, the staff feels it provides a substantial benefit. Mr. Robertson added that by keeping one child out of trouble, like the Dare Program, it saves a lot of money later on.

Mr. Hill confirmed that it is okay to cut overtime and temporary employees, based on historic usage. Again, books, travel, and education will all be added back in.

The total amount reduced here is \$10,996.

**Cultural Arts:** The Mayor suggested that the City Float be left in the budget. Mr. Hill discovered that many cities cancelled their floats. He added that in a down economy, the citizens need to see some fun things. Other Council Members agreed with that thought. Mayor Snarr stated that we do own the Armory facility now and some people are using it to build floats. These folks cleaned it up in order to utilize it.

Ms. Dunn asked about the production and advertising line items. Mr. Hill said that the Murray Arts Council will be producing two plays next year, reducing the performances put on by Cultural Arts to one. The advertising will be reduced for the arts events. Ms. Dunn said that the \$5,000 for advertising can be left in.

Ms. Griffiths asked if there are any parts of the float that can be re utilized from year to year. Mr. Hill answered that it is contracted out to be built by someone else. The City does not actually own it. If they reuse parts then the bid for building is lower.

Total reduction will be \$10,000.

**Swimming Pool:** The chemical costs, and requirements from the county have changed this year, so that funding may be necessary. Everyone agreed to leave that money in the budget. Temporary employees can be cut. Pro shop items can be put back in, as was done in the Murray Park budget. It is an in and out account with a little profit.

Reductions will be \$7,800.

**Heritage Center:** Mr. Hill mentioned that the last item is program (#6250), which does not make sense to eliminate. That would do away with one bus trip. By not doing the one trip, the revenue corresponding to it is also eliminated.

Education, books, and travel can all go back in. Mr. Hill pointed out that Ms. Gregory is a little nervous about the van. In the last year a lot more has been spent on repairs, and it may be something that the department will have to come back and request money for later. Mr. Brass observed that the maintenance line items total only \$5,000, so it may be wise to leave it all in. The van is used a lot. Others agreed with that.

The total cuts will be \$12,550.

**Cemetery:** The reductions here are all based on actual past usage. The education money will be left in, so the total reductions are \$11,800.

**Community and Economic Development:** Mr. Tingey said that he has tried to cut 5% overall and some of these items have been reduced to the bare minimum.

Ms. Dunn mentioned that travel will be back in.

Mayor Snarr said that the International Conference of Shopping Centers (ICSC) is not an important meeting to him. He does like to meet with General Growth. He and Mr. Tingey are going this year, however, he does not care about that for the coming year. Ms. Griffiths mentioned that she does not feel it is important for all the Council Members to go.

Ms. Wells reminded everyone that this is Mr. Tingey's first complete budget year, and some numbers may be unknown.

Mr. Brass confirmed that cuts to the Chamber of Commerce and Utah Economic Development Corporation are good, and the other items should be left in. All Council agreed with that.

The reductions amount to \$5,200.

Ms. Dunn asked Mr. Dredge for a total of all cuts at this point.

Following a short break the meeting resumed at 6:55 p.m.

From this meeting the budget reductions amounted to \$527,000.

**Road Construction:** Ms. Dunn asked the group if everyone agreed with the concept of taking \$500,000 from reserves for road projects. Mr. Brass stated that he feels it is cheaper to do roads now than it will be a year from now. Other Council Members agreed, and wanted to proceed with that plan.

Ms. Dunn asked how much money will come from the state in Class C road funds. Mr. Hill said the annual allocation is \$1.5 million, however, the projections are for a 10% decrease. It will probably be more like \$1.35 million. The plan with the administration was for \$1.49 million, based on two projected refund amounts. One is a refund on the overpass, probably near \$150,000 to \$200,000. The other is about a \$150,000 refund for the signal at Fashion Boulevard. It may be closer to \$1.65 million, however, being conservative, the estimate is the \$1.49 million for the next fiscal year.

Mr. Stanger said the City recently modified the road count, which had not been updated since 2005, so the amount went from 142.5 up to 144.33 miles in the City. The next time a payment is received this new mileage should be reflected in what is received. This was submitted the day before, and the payment should come in two months.

Ms. Dunn reviewed that there are \$1.49 million in Class C road funds, \$500,000 from reserves and \$527,000 from budget reductions. Of the \$527,000 her proposal would be to put an additional \$350,000 into roads, and put the remainder in a capital projects' fund (\$177,000), to be used in the later part of the next fiscal year. She would like that to be available through the beginning to mid part of the fiscal year, in case additional funds are required by the departments. Mr. Dredge agreed. Mr. Robertson thought that would be a good safety valve. If those funds are not needed in the departments, then it will be a good start on a capital projects' fund for the future, and the City can try to continue building on it. Ms. Wilson asked if that would be non specified capital projects. Ms. Dunn responded that it would.

Mr. Robertson said that he would not want to cut any more from road construction, due to the lower costs at this time.

Ms. Griffiths asked where the money would go, if additional funds come in, for example the possible \$1.65 million from the state. Would it go into road projects or capital projects? Ms. Dunn said that she would like that to go into roads. Others agreed.

**Class C Road Program:** Mr. Hill pointed out that projects have been proposed for the Class C road funds of \$1.49 million. The final payment will be made on the overpass bond, including the interest and trustees' fees. There is road salt of \$75,000 in the budget and four road projects:

- 5290 South, which was delayed from the current year budget.
- Allendale Drive overlay, after water and storm drains are completed.
- The Frontrunner project with betterments at Vine and railroad crossing. Mr. Stanger mentioned that UTA sent Murray \$137,000 rather than \$125,000.
- The bridge project at Main Street and Big Cottonwood Creek.

**Road Construction Projects:** Ms. Dunn confirmed that there is \$850,000 for these projects. At the previous meeting, Mr. Hill distributed a list of road projects with estimated costs. She asked if there are roads not on the list that should be considered.

Mr. Hill mentioned that Lincoln Street is not on the list, however, Mr. Stanger has information on that one. Mr. Brass was interested in a proposal on that street. Mr. Stanger said that if Lincoln is rebuilt and realigned the estimated cost is \$146,000. It needs a new water line, and there is money in the water budget for that. To do an overlay in the position it is in now is \$43,000. The problem is that the road is on the right-of-way. The developers on the street have paid in for about 475 feet of curb, gutter, and sidewalk, and a total of 1600 feet is needed. The funds have been paid into the General fund.

Mr. Brass reported on a meeting with the Lincoln Street area homeowners several months back to talk about the overall impact, homes not selling, and a variety of things. They want an overlay, not curb, gutter, and sidewalks, mostly because there are one to two homes that if the road is realigned, then it would be right up against front porch steps. Mr. Stanger confirmed that those are the two homes on the corner, and one would not be able to park his car in the driveway if the curb, gutter, and sidewalk go in. The other one is not as bad. Resident, Mr. Klinge, stated that the owners did not want to pay the assessments. The new road would greatly improve the appearance, and help to sell some of the homes on Lincoln.

Mr. Hill shared his opinion on this matter. He said you can put in a water line and still do an overlay, however, an overlay will look good for a few years, but over time the edges will start to break up, and the drainage will not be dealt with. If \$43,000 is going to be invested, and the City has collected fees toward one third of the curb and gutter, he feels it makes more sense to put in another \$100,000 and have a street that will last 30 years. Mr. Stanger can work with the owners on alignment. Now, it is about 10 to 12 feet west of where it should be.

Mr. Brass would never argue against a better road. The people have been through a lot and if curb and gutter is the way to go, then it should be fixed.

Ms. Dunn asked if the road list took into consideration all districts. Mr. Hill said that when the short list was done, they considered where the most complaints were coming from, legitimate needs, and each district. Ms. Dunn also mentioned the roads that are connected in a particular neighborhood. Ms. vonWeller added that some of the roads on the list are for maintenance only, such as an overlay that will help roads last longer. Mr. Stanger suggested that the City needs to do more of that before they get to the point that they must be rebuilt. With sealers and overlays the dollars can go further.

Ms. Dunn said that the list Mr. Hill put together has about \$1.2 million worth of road projects, not including Lincoln at \$150,000, for a total of \$1.35. With only \$850,000, Ms. Dunn suggested that each Council Member prioritize the roads in their district, realizing that some are connected.

Ms. Griffiths commented that the part of 1430 that needs the work is the section from Vine Street back to the new subdivision. Mr. Hill confirmed that is the only portion being done.

Ms. Dunn pointed out that New Haven is connected to Haven Chase and Havenoaks. Sanford is District 2. Silver Shadow is District 5. Walden Glen is District 1, as is Walden Wood, which is connected to Fairhaven. Creek View Circle is District 1 and it was an owner in this area that made a presentation during a Council meeting. Mr. Hill has spoken to her, and she is not happy with this small section, because this does not take care of the problem she would like to have repaired. To do the entire neighborhood would cost about \$500,000.

**District 5:** Ms. Dunn commented that Silver Shadow is awful. (\$199,640) She asked if it would make sense to leave out any of the Haven area roads to do part of the neighborhood. Mr. Hill said that New Haven (\$48,475) and Haven Chase (\$117,960) could be done and work back into the neighborhood another year.

**District 4:** Ms. Griffiths had only one road on the short list and it is her top priority. That is 1430 East. (\$93,235)

**District 3:** Mr. Brass also had only one street under discussion, and it is Lincoln Street. (\$150,000)

**District 2:** Sanford was the only road in Mr. Robertson's district. (\$240,800)

The total of the roads already mentioned is \$850,000.

Ms. Dunn said that there could be more money from refunds coming in. She suggested that she give up one project (considering the Haven area one project) and then see if the additional money becomes available. She would do whichever road is worse.

Mr. Brass said he thinks the Silver Shadow needs to be done first. And because the east side has had more attention allow something in District 1 to be done.

**District 1:** Mr. Dredge is trying not to make this a political battle and would prefer that the streets that are worse be done first. He asked Mr. Hill if enough of Creek View would be done to make a difference. He responded that it is a good sized section and is

probably the worst of those in his district. (\$192,510)

Ms. Dunn agreed to give up the Haven area. (\$166,435) She would prefer to go a little deeper into the capital projects' fund and allow a District 1 project to be completed.

Mr. Dredge asked if it is better to do an overlay to keep roads from getting worse, or if it is preferable to do a complete rebuild on a failed road. Mr. Hill said that is a tough decision. Mr. Stanger said that some heavy patching could be done on Walden Wood, the first block on Walden Glen, and the rest could use an overlay. This would be less expensive.

Mr. Brass stated that Walden Glen and Walden Wood roads would be about the same as doing Creek View Circle. Mr. Stanger commented that Creek View Circle is the worst street in District 1.

The final road projects were decided to be:

- 1430 East \$ 93,235
- Sanford \$240,800
- Silver Shadow \$199,640
- Lincoln St. \$150,000
- Creek View Cir. \$192,510

Ms. Dunn reviewed that these roads total approximately \$874,000 and patching can be done on other roads. If the other \$350,000 comes in then some of the Haven area can be done. The remaining money will go into the capital projects' fund, and can be worked with next year. She commented that she does not know how long these kinds of cuts can be made without eliminating payroll.

Mr. Stanger said that without the bond payment next year, there will be a couple of hundred thousand dollars more available.

Mr. Hill clarified that the budget for road construction has \$100,000 for sealer, so some roads that are not on this list may receive a seal coat. The same goes for heavy patching, which will improve some roads. He also pointed out the 1.5 ton truck was proposed to be eliminated, which could free up some additional dollars. The Council agreed to go ahead with the truck purchase. He also mentioned that a \$200,000 paver is really needed, but the department will carry out repairs and make it last another year.

Many projects are being bid less than the engineers estimate. Mr. Stanger said that a storm drain on Allendale was estimated at about \$400,000 and the bid came in at



\$274,000. Mr. Brass commented that will give the City a cushion. Ms. Dunn said that if that sort of bidding occurs, use the extra money to repair other streets. There is no need to get the Council approval.

Mr. Dredge said that the proposed cuts came in at \$834,000 and the Council cut \$530,000, maintaining 64% of the suggested decreases.

**Enterprise Funds:** Mr. Hill expressed his thoughts on the enterprise funds. Looking at water, there is a \$6 million reserve, and about \$2 million will be utilized for the automatic meters. Lists of suggested cuts adds up to about \$250,000, which really delays the costs of equipment to next year, when the expense will be higher.

Ms. Dunn said that the enterprise funds cannot be treated the same way as the General Fund Departments. These are independent businesses where there may be an opportunity to make some cuts and build reserves for the future. If cuts do not make sense, then do not make them.

Mr. Brass stated that rate increases are built in and these funds should be fine. For clarification, in water, with the new meters, the sewer will have realistic readings and more revenue may be recovered. This is an investment, with the possibility of more revenue.

Mr. Dredge said the concept is to limit the institutional creep upwards in budgets.

Ms. Dunn asked that the directors report back to the Council what is being cut in the enterprise funds and what amounts will be added to reserves. It will be left up to them.

**Central Garage:** This was overlooked, however, Mr. Hill pointed out that there were some proposed cuts there. Ms. vonWeller stated that only one compressor would be purchased and the water department will help with the air lines. There is no need for travel, and books will be added back in.

Total cuts amount to \$18,000. That can go into roads and capital projects.

**Shop & Garage:** Ms. vonWeller said that all cuts are for building maintenance and should not make any difference. It has been taken out and added into the computations.

There being no further business, Chairman Dunn adjourned the Budget and Finance meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Janet M. Lopez  
Council Office Administrator

