

**CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 8, 1995
WEST HOLLYWOOD PARK
647 N. SAN VICENTE BOULEVARD**

6:00 P.M. -- BUDGET STUDY SESSION

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Heilman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge was led by Judith Wright.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT -- Councilmembers: Guarriello, Land, Martin, Koretz and Mayor Heilman.

ALSO PRESENT -- City Manager Brotzman, Director of Finance Arevalo.

1. CITIZEN COMMENTS:

BRUCE TRAUB, WEST HOLLYWOOD, informed the Council he has been charged a Utility Users Tax, and displeasure from increases in property taxes over the last 10 years.

JEANNE DOBRIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, complained about smoking in a restaurant. She asked the Council to investigate how to collect Business License Taxes from nightclubs and bars.

2. COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS:

Mayor Pro Tem Koretz stated that investigation is needed on utility companies charging Utility User Taxes in West Hollywood.

Councilmember Land stated that her office was already working on the problem of Utility User Tax mis-charges with the City Clerks Office.

Assistant City Clerk Thompson stated that if any person has been charged a Utility User Tax, contact the City Clerks Office and we can assist them in obtaining a refund.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. FISCAL YEAR 1995-96 BUDGET OVERVIEW:

Mayor Heilman stated that two major changes have taken place since the budget was released last week. The first change is the proposed increase to the Landscape and Lighting Assessment district is not included in the preliminary budget. The other change is that a night code enforcement officer is now included in the preliminary budget.

City Manager Brotzman stated the budget presented maintains the current level of services we have been providing. He added, the preliminary budget anticipates \$39.6 million in revenues and \$39.6 million in expenditures broken down to \$38.4 in operating expenses and capital projects of \$1.9 million. He stated the budget as presented is balanced at this time and we are not proposing an increase to the Assessment District, due to the size of the reserves in that district. Modifications to the Improvement Projects to include security lighting program at West

Hollywood and Plummer Parks, pave Doheny and drainage at the Westmount culdesac, wheel chair ramp project. City Manager Brotzman would like to find funding for \$60,000 sidewalk improvement projects. The City Manager would also like to find funding for the supplemental lighting program. He indicated that supplemental library funding or funding for the Special Events and Arts Coordinators is not included.

Public Safety Manager Greenstein reported on the Sheriffs budget. She stated that Sheriff Sherman Block has provided to the City the actual rates for fiscal year 95-96, COLA was not at 5% this year as in the past, adding six Deputies from the crime prevention monies, and that funding for community patrols have not been included in the budget.

Mark Johnson, Director of Rent Stabilization, stated that the proposed Rent Stabilization budget was a \$26,000. decrease. He stated this was mainly from staffing reductions, professional services decrease for City Attorney fees, and increase in supplies for mailings of legislation updates.

City Manager Brotzman outlined issues regarding the Legislative Divisions. He stated that overall the legislative and administrations costs are lower, and clarified staffing modifications in the City Managers Department.

Charles Makinney, Assistant City Manager, outlined issues in the City Clerks Division, the Human Resources Division, and the Information Systems Division. He stated the City Clerks Division is a 3.25 decrease, Human Resources a 2.8% increase, Information Systems 7% increase.

Paul Arevalo, Director of Finance, corrected page 2 of the memo distributed to Council to reflect the total operating costs of \$212,600. Director Arevalo outlined the major issues, mostly staffing reductions regarding the Finance Operations. He added that costs of copiers will be allocated City wide, in addition the costs of the Information Systems Master Plan has been included in each divisional budget.

Gay Forbes, Director of Community Development, outlined issues for the CDD Divisions. Director Forbes stated the total budget for the Department increased by \$40,000 and highlighted the intern budget for each division has been reduced, the night time code enforcement officer has been added, and training includes master plan and geo base functions.

Lloyd Long, Director of Human Services, outlined issues for each of the HSD Divisions, overall the costs of the Department is increased by \$6,000. Director Long indicated that: Arts Coordinator is not in the budget; Special Events has some funding, comprehensive library services will be addressed at a later point; starting school based recreation programs; select a new community garden; re-negotiate the social service contracts, Landscape Division includes all contracts for the new city hall and streetscape capital improvement projects.

Councilmember Heilman took public input out of order.

HAMP SIMMONS, WEST HOLLYWOOD, MEMBER FINE ARTS ADVISORY BOARD, speaking in favor of creating a position of Arts Coordinator for the City.

Joan English, Director of Transportation outlined the major issues regarding the Transportation Divisions. Director English highlighted: total increase in budget of \$10,000., deletion of two part time bus pass persons and adding one full time position, adding one person in the parking division due to workload, new parking fine collection system, computerized parking management system, and \$60,000 for sidewalk repairs have not been included in the budget.

City Manger Brotzman gave a brief overview of Capital Projects, and other funds for \$11.1 million in Capital Projects.

B. COUNCIL QUESTIONS TO STAFF FISCAL YEAR 1995-96 BUDGET:

None at this time.

C. PUBLIC INPUT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1995-96 BUDGET:

No speakers except noted above.

D. COUNCIL DISCUSSION FOR FISCAL YEAR 1995-96 BUDGET:


Discussion was held relative to funding some position in the fine arts, library services and some source of ongoing funding for library services, social service contract funding, animal control code enforcement funding possibly offset costs due to fines, Special Events coordinator, and community patrols.

The City Council recessed to a Closed Session at 7:40 p.m.

REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION: The City Council reconvened at 7:45 p.m., Mayor Heilman reported that the City Council recessed to a closed session for conference with Real Property Negotiator to discuss property located at 7102 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, Negotiating Party, Luis and Susana Davidson.

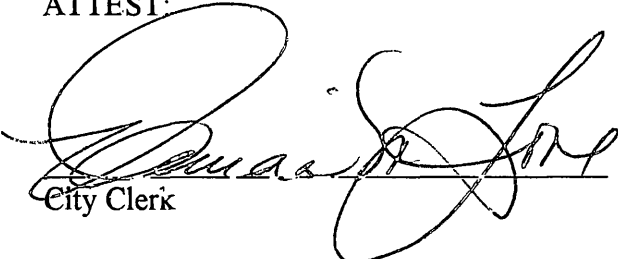
ADJOURNMENT: The City Council adjourned at 7:50 p.m. to their next regular meeting on Monday, May 15, 1995, at 7:00 P.M. , at West Hollywood Park, 647 N. San Vicente Boulevard.

APPROVED BY MOTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL THIS 24TH DAY OF JULY, 1995.



MAYOR

ATTEST:



City Clerk