

**STUDY SESSION NOTES
CITY OF WHEAT RIDGE, COLORADO**

October 1, 2012

Mayor pro tem Mike Stites called the Study Session to order at 6:29 p.m. Council Members present: Davis Reinhart, Bud Starker, Joyce Jay, Kristi Davis, Mike Stites, George Pond, and Tracey Langworthy.

Absent: Councilmember Joseph DeMott
Mayor Jerry DiTullio

Also present: City Clerk, Janelle Shaver; City Treasurer, Larry Schulz; City Manager, Patrick Goff; Public Works Director, Tim Paranto; Community Development Director, Ken Johnstone; Parks Director, Joyce Manwaring; Administrative Services Director, Heather Geyer; Management Analyst, Nathan Moseley; staff and an interested citizen.

1. Budget Retreat

Patrick Goff and Heather Geyer went through a power point presentation that outlined proposed revenues and expenditures for the 2013 budget. An increase in revenue for 2013 is largely due to the amount of grant money the City will be getting this year. Proposed revenue is estimated to be 2.8% above 2012, but proposed expenditures will be 5.5% higher than 2012. They went through details of how each of the City's goals is being addressed with the budget. The goals and major projects include:

[Note: Amounts with an asterisk in the "Goals" section are listed again in the capital projects budget (CIP). Both numbers refer to the same project.]

1: A Financially Sound City Providing Quality Services

- Employee compensation - \$450,000
- Performance Management Program - \$22,500
- Priority Based budgeting (year 2) - \$15,000
- Paid Time Off (PTO) Cash-Out - \$50,000
- Fleet replacement - \$385,000 (\$2M in needs deferred)
- Preventative street maintenance projects - \$1.6M* (CIP major project)
- Lakewood Crime Lab services - \$68,900
- Transfer to Equipment Replacement Fund for future equipment needs - \$100,000
(probably the last time we will transfer monies for this use)
- Employee safety and wellness programs - \$13,100

2: Supporting Economically Viable Activity Centers

- 32nd & Youngfield interchange improvements - \$5,517,000* (partially grant funded)
- 38th Avenue Corridor: Marketing plan implementation - \$120,000
 - Events - \$67,000
 - Street Improvements - \$100,000* (CIP major project)
 - Marketing map and directory - \$7,000
- Brownfields EPA Grant - \$350,000 (grant funded)
- Live Local Events - \$20,000

Wheat Ridge Business District (WRBD) loan program - \$90,000
Wadsworth Planning Environmental Linkage (PEL) project - \$1.2M* (partly grant funded)
Urban renewal funding for Renewal Wheat Ridge (RWR) projects - \$400,000

3: Provide a Choice of Viable Neighborhoods

Aging population needs assessment - \$3,000
Block parties - \$2,500
CDBG energy efficiency grant program administration - \$6,000
Home Investment Loan Program (HIP) - \$50,000
29th Avenue storm sewer improvements - \$850,000* (CIP major project)
Installation of 39 new bus benches - \$250,000* (partially grant funded) (CIP project)
District 2 neighborhood Park - \$875,000* (partially grant funded) (see Parks projects)
Police Dept. community oriented neighborhood programs - \$17,655
Police Dept. greenbelt patrol - \$17,280

4: More Attractive Wheat Ridge

Bus shelter and bench maintenance and cleaning - \$36,000
38th Avenue annual plantings - \$2,000
Dumpster Days - \$5,000 (not the same as Large item pick-up)
East Wheat Ridge targeted maintenance and upgrades - \$20,000
Kipling St. multi-use path and lighting - \$2,835,000* (partly grant funded) (CIP project)
Gateway signage program - \$100,000* (CIP major project)
City Hall plaza improvements - \$200,000* (with crime lab remodel under CIP projects)
Parks maintenance projects - \$50,000* (listed as a Parks project)
Large item pick-up program - \$5,000 (not the same as Dumpster Days)
50th Avenue median improvements - \$10,000

Other Notable Budget Items

Zoppe Family Circus - \$105,376
Outside Agency Requests - \$10,000
ADA compliance consultants/upgrades for the new ADA regulations - \$42,300
Carnation Festival cash contribution - \$12,500; in-kind assistance - \$28,000
City Council table sponsorship - \$3,000

Tim Paranto went through the CIP major projects (Capital Investment Program)

- 32nd & Youngfield interchange improvements - \$5.5M* (partially grant funded)
- Kipling Street pedestrian improvements - \$2.8M* (partially grant funded)
- Wadsworth Planning Environmental Linkage (PEL) project - \$1.2M* (partly grant funded)
- Preventative street maintenance projects - \$1.6M*
- Major drainage projects at 29th and Chase Street - \$850,000*
- City Hall improvements – courtyard and remodel of police crime lab - \$340,000*
- Bus bench installation - \$250,000* (partially grant funded)
- Public Improvements Projects - \$150,000
- Revitalization projects on 38th Avenue Corridor - \$100,000*

- Gateway signage program - \$100,000*
- Police radio repeater site - \$150,000

Joyce Manwaring went through the major projects for the Open Space Fund

- Kendall Park development - \$675,000 (plus \$200,000 from Cons. Tr. Fund)
- Parks staff - \$464,782
- Public Works/Parks shared operations facility – \$150,000
- Sign fabrications - \$110,000
- Anderson Park Master Plan - \$80,000
- Happiness Gardens improvements - \$50,000
- Jeffco River Corridor Trail Match (starts in Clear Creek County) - \$25,000
- Open Space Improvements (educational kiosks) - \$10,000
- Trail Replacement/Repair - \$10,000

The major projects for the Conservation Trust Fund (Lottery money) include:

- Anderson Building replacement - \$200,000
- Kendall Park Development - \$200,000 (plus \$675,000 from Open Space Fund)
- Recreation Center Maintenance - \$66,500
- Park maintenance projects - \$50,000 (listed under Goal #4)
- Resurface tennis/basketball courts - \$8,100

Mr. Goff noted there will be no staff increases for 2013.

Ms. Geyer noted that a new Compensation Plan is under development with consultation from the Mountain States Employers Council. The plan is to be presented to City Council before the end of 2012. The City provides the following insurance plans for employees and contributes a percentage towards premiums:

- + Medical (Kaiser) – 3 options
- + Dental (Delta)
- + Short- and long-term disability
- + Life and Accidental Death & Dismemberment
- + Wellness program

She went through some details of the various medical insurance options that will be available for employees in 2013. She also went through enhancements for the wellness program strategy to incentivize health management by employees, plus the Workers' Compensation and Property/Casualty coverage.

Budget Summary

- 2013 proposed General Fund budget is balanced without using reserves
- \$16M is directly linked to Council goals
- Continue to defer maintenance and large equipment replacement
- Projected reserves of 27% - unrestricted reserves at 23% - just under policy target of 25%
- Transfer to Equipment Replacement Fund of \$100,000

- Transfer to CIP \$860,000
- Projected last year of available funding for CIP

Anticipated schedule:

- Oct. 22nd - Public hearing on the proposed budget and CIP
- Nov. 26th - Adoption and certification of property tax mill levy

Council Direction:

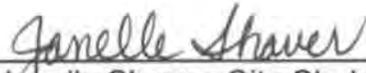
There was consensus by Council to approve the proposed 2013 budget as presented.
There was consensus to have a future discussion on a tax increase for the 2013 ballot.
There was consensus to add \$10,000 to the Outside Agency Contributions and have it designated for the Backpack Program.

2. Elected Officials' Report(s) none

3. Staff Report(s)

Mr. Goff reminded Council of the Town Hall Meeting scheduled for October 29. After some discussion there was consensus to cancel the Town Hall Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.



Janelle Shaver, City Clerk