



**AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES**

**WORK SESSION MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2013**

The City Council of Austin, Texas convened in a Budget Work Session on Thursday, May 2, 2013, City Hall at 301 W. Second Street, Austin, Texas.

Mayor Leffingwell called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

1. Briefing and discussion related to the departmental financial forecasts, the City's economic outlook, and the five-year financial forecast.

General remarks were made by Ed Van Eenoo, Deputy Chief Financial Officer.

General direction was given to all departments (other than Austin Water Utility) to provide a detailed breakdown for the department's cost drivers.

Questions and answers relating to department budget videos were responded to by:

EMS:

Michael McDonald, Deputy City Manager, Ernie Rodriguez, Chief, James Shamard, Assistant Chief, and Kerri Lang, Assistant Director.

Direction was given to staff to provide an analysis on the reimbursed and unreimbursed costs associated with special events.

Fire:

Michael McDonald, Deputy City Manager, Rhoda Mae Kerr, Fire Chief, Harry Evans, Chief of Staff, Dr. Ronnelle Paulsen, Assistant Director and Brian Tanzola, Fire Marshal.

Direction was given to staff to provide a fiscal assessment on the impact of special events and provide an analysis of the fees for mobile vending inspections to determine if the fees are covering all costs associated with the administration of the program and where the revenue from the fees are being used.

Police:

Michael McDonald, Deputy City Manager, Art Acevedo, Chief, David Carter, Chief of Staff, and Alice Suter, Assistant Director.

Municipal Court/DACC:

Michael McDonald, Deputy City Manager, Rebecca Stark, Municipal Court Clerk and Pete Valdez, DACC Court Administrator.

Direction was given to staff to provide performance indicators relating to case management services in DACC.

Parks:

Bert Lumbreras, Assistant City Manager, Sara Hensley, Director, Kimberly McNeeley, Assistant Director, Cora Wright, Assistant Director, Jesse Vargas, Assistant Director and Angela Means, Financial Manager.

Mayor Leffingwell recessed the meeting at 12:06 p.m.

Mayor Leffingwell called the meeting back to order at 1:03 p.m.

Briefing and discussion related to the department financial forecasts, the City's economic outlook, and the five-year financial forecast continued:

Animal Services:

Bert Lumbreras, Assistant City Manager, Abigail Smith, Chief Animal Services Officer, Chris Nobel, Deputy Chief Animal Services Officer and Kymberley Maddox, Chief Administrative Officer.

Direction was given to staff to provide the adoption fees projected for fiscal year 2013.

Library:

Bert Lumbreras, Assistant City Manager, Brenda Branch, Director, Dana McBee, Assistant Director and Victoria Rieger, Budget Officer.

Direction was given to staff to provide the names of the libraries that do not currently have youth librarians on staff; provide information on the impact on the libraries as the population grows including identifying service areas that would trigger increases in service demands based on population growth; provide information on how peer cities are funding library services.

Health and Human Services:

Bert Lumbreras, Assistant City Manager, Carlos Rivera, Director, and Kymberley Maddox, Chief Administrative Officer.

Direction was given to staff to provide a breakdown of the 26.9 million of social service contracts in the fiscal year 2013 budget and how peer cities compare; provide the proposal explaining the department's move from basic needs programs to life continuance programs or incorporating life continuance into the programs; and provide an analysis of the fees for mobile vending inspections to determine if the fees are covering all costs associated with the administration of the program and where the revenue from the fees are being used.

Housing and Community Development:

Bert Lumbreras, Assistant City Manager, Betsey Spencer, Director, Rebecca Giello, Assistant Director, and Alex Zamora, Chief Financial Manager.

Direction was given to staff to prioritize the list of items cut as a result of sequestration.

Transportation:

Robert Goode, Assistant City Manager, Robert Spillar, Director, Anthony Segura, Business Consultant and Howard Lazarus, Public Works Director.

Direction was given to staff to provide the amount of capital funding included in fiscal years 2013 and 2014 for the local area traffic management project and to provide projected budgets for addressing issues with the five major streets identified in the citizen survey.

Planning and Development Review:

Sue Edwards, Assistant City Manager, Greg Guernsey, Director and Lisa Nickle, Financial Manager.

Public Works:

Robert Goode, Assistant City Manager and Howard Lazarus, Director.

Direction was given to staff to provide the number of tickets issued within school zones.

Watershed Protection:

Sue Edwards, Assistant City Manager, Victoria Li, Director, Joe Pantalione, Deputy Director, Jose Guerrero, Assistant Director and Diane Gonzales, Financial Manager.

Convention Center:

Anthony Snipes, Assistant City Manager, Mark Tester, Director and Michele Gizelbach, Chief Financial Manager.

Austin Energy:

Cheryl Mele, Chief Operating Officer, Ann Little, Chief Financial Officer and David Kutach, Director of Financial Planning and Kevin Nobles, Corporate Budget Manager.

Direction was given to staff to provide the megawatt target for the Community Solar Program.

Austin Resource Recovery:

Robert Goode, Assistant City Manager and Bob Gedert, Director.

Austin Water Utility:

Robert Goode, Assistant City Manager, Greg Meszaros, Director and David Anders, Chief Financial Officer.

Aviation:

Questions from Council will be submitted in writing.

Code Compliance:

Questions from Council will be submitted in writing.

Mayor Leffingwell adjourned the Work Session at 4:45 p.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved on this the 9th day of May 2013 on Council Member Spelman's motion, Mayor Pro Tem Cole's second on a 7-0 vote.