



**Austin City Council  
MINUTES**

**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 16, 1997  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS—1:00 P.M.**

**Mayor Watson called to order the meeting of the Council, noting the presence of all Councilmembers.**

**ORDINANCES**

1. Approve first/second/third readings of an Ordinance adopting and approving the Operating Budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1997 and terminating September 30, 1998, and making appropriations for each department, project and account, including the errata.
  - A. **Motion to approve with amendments on second and third readings on Councilmember Slusher's motion, Mayor Pro Tem Garcia's second,**
  - F. **Approve increase of \$60,000 in appropriations for contracts with cultural agencies from contingency reserves for a contract with Zachary Scott Theater for total appropriations of \$2,454,011 on Mayor Pro Tem Garcia's motion, Councilmember Goodman's second, 7-0 vote.**

**Increase City Auditor's Office \$87,544 on Mayor Pro Tem Garcia's motion, Councilmember Lewis' second, 7-0 vote.**

**Amendment to convert 3 FTEs from temporary to permanent in PARD (no fiscal impact) on Councilmember Goodman's motion, Mayor Pro Tem Garcia's second, 7-0 vote.**

**Amendment to increase Municipal Court's budget by \$20,000 for Positive Parents Program on Councilmember Goodman's motion, Mayor Pro Tem Garcia's second, 7-0 vote.**

**Amendment to approve 1) reduce \$136,200 in Public Works by eliminating 6 FTEs in the parking enforcement program; 2) reduce \$119,812 in Radio Communications fund and have the savings accrue to the General Fund; 3)**

reduce \$117,000 in Police Department for vehicles and fund them from Asset Forfeit fund; 4) reduce \$43,513 in Mayor and Council for Councilmember Spelman's salary and benefits; 5) reduce \$47,000 for printing, binding and reproduction in the Health and Human Services; 6) reduce the General Fund transfer to Support Services and reduce appropriations for the Law Department by \$20,000 related to construction contracts; 7) reduce \$3,000 for telephone costs in PARD; 8) reduce \$10,000 in Financial Services Department for telenetwork program salaries; and 9) reduce \$18,686 in Health and Human Services related to administrative personnel costs on Councilmember Griffith's motion, Councilmember Spelman's second, 0-7 vote.

Amendment to cut \$35,910 in salary, benefits and allowances for Councilmember Spelman's position from Mayor and Council budget on Councilmember Griffith's motion, Councilmember Lewis' second, 6-0-1 vote, Councilmember Spelman Abstaining.

Amendment for 1 FTE for Historical Preservation Officer to DRID at a salary of \$28,000-\$32,000 to come from grant funding or bed tax funding (no fiscal impact) on Councilmember Goodman's motion, Councilmember Lewis' second, 7-0 vote.

Amendment to decrease \$60,000 from the World Technopolis Association fund in Financial Services Department on Councilmember Slusher's motion, Councilmember Griffith's second, WITHDRAWN.

Amendment to reduce in Financial Services Department \$25,000 from World Technopolis Association fund and \$50,000 from the transfer to the Telecommunity fund on Councilmember Slusher's motion, Mayor Pro Tem Garcia's second, 7-0 vote.

Amendment to increase City Clerk's Office by 1 FTE for paralegal position and \$31,500 to the appropriations and increase the beginning balance by \$31,500 on Councilmember Slusher's motion, Councilmember Goodman's second, 7-0 vote.

Amendment to eliminate 3 vacant FTEs and \$58,100 in parking control division of Public Works Department on Councilmember Griffith's motion, Councilmember Spelman's second, 3-4 vote, Mayor Watson, Mayor Pro Tem Garcia, and Councilmembers Goodman and Slusher voting NO.

Amendment to original motion to pass budget on second reading only by Councilmember Spelman, Councilmember Griffith's second, 4-3 vote, Mayor Watson, Mayor Pro Tem Garcia and Councilmember Slusher voting NO.

A. Approved with amendments on second reading, 5-0-2 vote, Councilmembers Griffith and Spelman Abstaining.

2. Approve first/second/third readings of an Ordinance adopting and approving the Capital Budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1997 and terminating September 30, 1998, and making appropriations for each project and account, including the errata.

**No Action Required**

3. Approve first/second/third readings of an Ordinance fixing and levying Municipal Ad Valorem taxes for the City of Austin, Texas for the fiscal year 1997-98; and for each year thereafter until otherwise provided, directing the assessment and collection thereof; approval of property tax exemptions for agriculture, historic property, persons with disabilities and elderly persons; validating all prior Ad Valorem taxes.

**Approve second reading setting the property tax rate for fiscal year 1997-98 in the amount of 54.01 cents on Councilmember Goodman's motion, Councilmember Lewis' second, 5-0-2 vote, Councilmembers Griffith and Spelman Abstaining.**

4. Approve first/second/third readings of an Ordinance authorizing fees, fines and other charges for City services and use of City facilities including errata.

**Approve on second reading with amendment on Councilmember Slusher's motion, Councilmember Lewis' second, 7-0 vote.**

**Amendment to decrease fees for the rental of Ziker Clubhouse from \$500 to \$300 and increase fees for commercial events at Auditorium Shore and Waterloo Park to offset revenue impact (zero impact) on Councilmember Slusher's motion, Councilmember Griffith's second, 7-0 vote.**

5. Approve first/second/third readings of certain Ordinances adopting Rates, as follows:

- a) Water and Wastewater Retail Rates
- b) Water and Wastewater Wholesale Rates

**b) Ordinance No. 970916-A approved for Water and Wastewater wholesale rates on second and third readings on Mayor Pro Tem Garcia's motion, Councilmember Goodman's second, 7-0 vote.**

**a) Ordinance No. 970916-B with amendment approved for Water and Wastewater retail rates on second and third readings on Councilmember Lewis' motion, Mayor Pro Tem Garcia's second, 7-0 vote.**

**Amendment to direct City Manager to defer all Water and Wastewater rate increase and or decrease recommendation for non-wholesale customer classes,**

**except for revenue neutral rate adjustments within the same customer class, until a comprehensive independent cost of service study is completed by September 30, 1999 on Councilmember Goodman's motion, Councilmember Spelman's second, 7-0 vote.**

**Friendly amendment by Councilmember Slusher to set these funds aside for study, ACCEPTED**

6. Approve first/second/third readings of an Ordinance adopting the Capital and Operating Budgets for the Electric Utility Department, for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1997 and terminating September 30, 1998, and making appropriations for each project and account, including the errata.

**No Action Required**

7. Approve first/second/third readings of an Ordinance providing for the classifications and number of positions in each classification of the classified Civil Service of the Police Department.

**Ordinance No. 970916-C approved on second and third readings on Councilmember Goodman's motion, Mayor Watson's second, 7-0 vote.**

8. Approve first/second/third readings of an Ordinance providing for the classifications and number of positions in each classification of the Civil Service of the Fire Department.

**No Action Required**

## **RESOLUTIONS**

9. Approve Fiscal Year 1997-98 Cultural Arts Services contracts in the amount of \$2,284,869. (Funding available in the Cultural Arts Fund.)

**No Action Required**

**Adjourned at 3:52 p.m. on Mayor Pro Tem Garcia's motion, Councilmember Slusher's second, 7-0 vote.**

**Approved this the 25th day of September 1997 on Councilmember Slushers's motion, Councilmember Spelman's second, 6-0 vote, Mayor Pro Tem Garcia off the dais.**

