



*College Station, Traditional Values,
Progressive Thinking in the Research Valley*

Mayor
Ron Silvia
Mayor Pro Tempore
Dennis Maloney
City Manager
Thomas E. Brymer

City Council
James Massey
John Happ
Robert Wareing
Susan Lancaster
Nancy Berry

**Draft Minutes
College Station City Council
Budget Workshop Meeting
Tuesday August 17, 2004 at 3:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers, 1101 Texas Avenue
College Station, Texas**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Silvia, Mayor Pro Tem Maloney, Council members Massey, Happ, Wareing, Lancaster, Berry

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Brymer, Assistant City Manager Brown, City Attorney Cargill Jr., City Secretary Hooks, Assistant City Secretary Casares, Fiscal Services Director Kersten, Human Resources Director O'Connell

Mayor Silvia called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Budget Workshop Agenda Item No. 1 – Presentation, discussion, and possible action on the FY 2004-2005 Proposed Budget.

Finance and Strategic Planning Director Jeff Kersten remarked that the strategic plan continues to be a driving force in the preparation of the budget. Mr. Kersten described how the pay plan and benefits decision was made over the past several years and revenue estimates that affect the proposed 2004-2005 budget.

Director of Human Resources Julie O'Connell presented a brief overview of the history of the City's current pay plan. In FY 2004, the pay plan was frozen, and increases in the retirement benefit were funded in conjunction with a 1% across the board increase to offset the additional cost of the retirement plan to the employees. As part of the pay plan, an annual salary survey was conducted to determine what the City pays in relation to the rest of the defined market. Based on the results of the salary survey, the FY 2005 budget includes funds to reinstate the pay plan. This would include a market adjustment for employees, as well as funding the skills and performance components of the pay plan. The pay plan cost is \$2.28 million across all funds.

Mr. Kersten displayed and described the General Fund-Sources and General Fund Uses, noting that the proposed FY 05 General Fund revenues are \$38,756,026. The proposed general fund budget changes will allow for an increase in the pay plan in the amount of \$1,691,462, maintain current service levels and enhance service levels. He highlighted the proposed service level adjustments.

Mr. Kersten reviewed the funding recommendations for outside agencies as recommended by the College Station Joint Relief Funding Review Committee:

Alzheimer’s Association	\$18,177
RSVP	\$ 5,000
Carpool	\$10,000
Easterwood Airport	\$16,700
Dispute Resolution Center	\$10,000
Total	\$59,877

Arts Council recommended funding for Art and Culture Outside Agency Requests:

African American National Heritage Society	\$17,000
Veterans Park Memorial (Arts Council)	\$50,000
Bush Presidential Library (Arts Council)	\$42,767
Total	\$109,767

No action was taken. The next budget workshop was scheduled for August 23, 2004.

Budget Workshop Agenda Item No. 2 – Presentation, discussion, and possible action on the FY 2004-2005 ad valorem tax rate.

Director of Fiscal Services Jeff Kersten remarked that the total assessed valuation is \$3.3 billion which was an 8.66% increased over 2003 assessed valuation. The increase is made up of two components, new value of \$154,801,455 and Existing Value Increase of \$107,422,593. Mr. Kersten presented four tax rate scenarios for council’s consideration and its impact on the budget. No action was taken.

Budget Workshop Agenda Item No. 3 -- Adjourn.

Hearing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 17, 2004.

PASSED and APPROVED this _____ day of October, 2004.

APPROVED:

 Mayor Pro Tem Dennis Maloney

ATTEST:
