

ANTIOCH CITY COUNCIL

**Study Session
6:00 P.M.**

**May 18, 2010
Maintenance Services Center**

6:00 P.M. - CLOSED SESSION

- 1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – Employee organizations:** Public Employeesq Union Local No. 1, Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3, Antioch Police Officersq Association, Antioch Police Sworn Management Association, Management Group, Confidential Group, Treatment Plant Employeesq Association. This Closed Session is authorized by California Government Code §54957.6.

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 6:33 P.M., and City Clerk Martin called the roll.

Present: Council Members Rocha, Moore, Parsons and Mayor Davis

Excused: Council Member Kalinowski

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tem Rocha led the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Attorney Nerland reported the City Council had been in Closed Session, stating there was no reportable action

STUDY SESSION

- 1. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF BUDGET DEVELOPMENT FOR GENERAL FUND AND OTHER FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEARS 2010-12**

City Manager Jakel introduced the budget item and discussed the significant challenges facing the City. He stated staff was seeking direction on the maximum funding for Recreation Programs and Animal Services, with consideration to reducing the reserve fund policy and confirming direction to staff to poll for a revenue measure.

Finance Director Merchant presented the staff report dated May 9, 2010 and gave a brief overhead presentation of the General Fund recommending the City Council provide direction and feedback to staff regarding the budget information provided at that meeting.

Interim Recreation Director Karste commended his staff for assisting in the budget process and gave a brief overhead presentation of the Recreation Department proposed General Plan subsidies and distributions.

Chief Hyde discussed the positive impacts of opening the Police Service Center at the new Community Center.

Councilmember Moore voiced his support for opening the Community Center noting the City had invested significant funds in the development and the community had paid for it through Mello Roos. Additionally, he noted the City would benefit by increasing programming and revenue.

Interim Recreation Director Department Karste reported the City had secured funding for the Gateway Centers for Learning from the County Library for 35 hours per week, which would be jeopardized should the Community Center fail to open.

Mayor Davis voiced his support of opening the Community Center and the adjoining Police Services Center.

Bob Martin, President of Antioch Historical Society, apologized for not attending the previous Council meeting, noting he was unaware the Historical Society funding was on the agenda. He thanked the City Council for their past support and requested they reconsider the direction given last week to eliminate funding. He discussed services they provide for the City and requested at least \$6,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax for their funding. He expressed concern should the City fail to fund their water, the grounds would no longer being maintained.

Manny Flores spoke in support of the Prewett Park staff and for opening the Police Service Station at the new Community Center.

Finance Director Merchant stated there was not a presentation for the Animal Control Fund that evening, as staff was exploring options for reducing costs. She requested direction from Council on the maximum level of funding support from the General Fund.

Councilmember Rocha stated she believed the General Fund contributions to the Recreation Department and Animal Services should be equal. She suggested transferring an additional \$60k from RDA to Recreational Services.

Barbara Sobalvarro, President of Friends of Animal Services, expressed her concern regarding the budget cuts and stated she hoped all segments of the City were participating in any budgetary cuts prior to cutting individual departments. She gave a brief history of the initiative and ballot process which approved and mandated the animal services program for the City. She stated Animal Services needed to be treated with the same dignity as the Antioch Police Department, adding Animal Services would continue to work with the City to the best of their ability.

Skip Swanlund, discussed the type of community the Antioch residents deserve and urged the City Council to be proactive and develop a clear and concise plan to move forward to build a sustainable community.

Nancy Fernandez, Antioch resident, stated Animal Services should be self-sustaining and spoke in support of their budget being reduced to half, with the other half going to Recreation or the Antioch Police Department. Additionally, she stated she felt they should be completely self-sustaining next year.

Mayor Davis read the ballot measure verbatim.

Should the people of the City of Antioch adopt the Following Ordinance? The people of the City of Antioch do ordain as follows: The City of Antioch shall re-establish, maintain and operate the City Pound and Animal Shelter. Funds therefore, shall be appropriated by the City Council annually. The City Pound and Animal Shelter shall be self supporting to the extent that the fees for dog licenses, and charged made for animal care, shall be paid or credited directly to its operation budget. Such fees and other income shall no longer be a part of the general fund of Antioch.+

Yes votes . 2,950

No votes . 1,922

Passed March 7, 1978

Councilmember Moore commended Mr. Swanlund for speaking so eloquently this evening.

Following discussion the City Council consensus provided the following direction to staff:

- “ Proceed with implementing Recreational plan as presented that evening including an additional RDA transfer of \$60k. Opening the Police Substation with the Community Center
- “ Return to Council with an impact/expenditure study for Animal Services for a \$400k level and the County cost level
- “ Direction to allow reserve level to fall within the 8-10% range.
- “ Proceed with poll for revenue measure, coordinating with the Antioch School District
- “ Support \$4k to the Historical Society Water Fund
- “ Report on service charges incurred at Historical Society to determine if they should be paid for or discontinued.

Mayor Davis did not concur with allowing the budget reserve to drop below 10%. He acknowledged the possibility that the City could be headed toward bankruptcy.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

COUNCIL/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Councilmember Parsons reported she attended the Christening of the newest Ferry Boat at the Port of Oakland.

Councilmember Rocha reported on her attendance at a luncheon at the Senior Center.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Jakel announced the next regular City Council meeting would be held on May 25, 2010, with Closed Session beginning at 6:00 P.M.

In response to Barbara Sobalvarro, City Manager Jakel stated the golf course was a non-profit; therefore, the City did not expect significant general fund expenses.

Finance Director Merchant announced the next Budget Study session would be on June 1, 2010.

With no further business, Mayor Davis adjourned the meeting at 8:28 P.M. to the next regular Council meeting on May 25, 2010.

Respectfully Submitted:

L. JOLENE MARTIN, CMC
City Clerk