

SUMMARY REPORT
OF THE COTTONWOOD CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION HELD MAY 23, 2012, AT 5:00 P.M., AT THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS BUILDING, 826 NORTH MAIN STREET, COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA.

This summary is a statement of direction given by the Cottonwood City Council at a Work Session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02(D.), and is being provided as required by A.R.S. § 38-431.01(D.).

Council Members Present: Mayor Diane Joens, Vice Mayor Karen Pfeifer, Council Members Jesse Dowling, Tim Elinski, Ruben Jauregui, and Linda Norman, Terence Pratt.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF:

DEPARTMENTAL BUDGETS

Dan Lueder, Development Services General Manager, reviewed the accomplishments, goals and proposed 2013 budgets for the following departments: engineering services, public works, planning and zoning, building maintenance, water, wastewater, airport, and street maintenance and construction.

Mr. Rodriguez reviewed the CIP (Capital Improvement Projects) Fund which included the architecture design for a new city hall; two new portal signs coming into the city; the Old Town Jail remodel; Riverfront Park improvements to the parking lot; design/consulting for a second fire station; and the remodel of the back half of the Council Chambers building.

FUNDING OF OUTSIDE AGENCIES THAT PROVIDE CORE SERVICES

Old Town Association

Lisa Pender, President of the Old Town Association, gave a report of the past year's accomplishments and stated they were requesting an additional \$10,000 to hire a part time manager.

Adopt for Life Center for Animals

Kyla Allen, Executive Assistant to the City Manager and President of the Adopt for Life Center board, introduced the new director and stated they were not requesting any additional funding for the next fiscal year.

Veterans Van

Camille Severson stated they had created a sister company and were working on acquiring the 501c3 required by the city council for their funding by the city.

Phil O'Neil addressed the Council and stated nowhere was it written that there was a requirement for non-profit agencies to acquire a 501c3 number.

Catholic Charities

Carol Quasula, from Catholic Charities, reviewed the funds that had been used the past year that were provided by the city for emergency assistance with water utility bills. She indicated the federal funding they used for utilities assistance had been cut by 50 percent this next year.

Senior Center

Elaine Bremner gave an extensive report of the Senior Center's events and meals served and delivered the past year. She requested additional funding for the center of any amount the Council saw fit.

BUDGET WRAP UP

Mr. Rodriguez stated staff was proposing adding two additional part-time staff members to work at the library to open the library half a day on Mondays; and a full time utility billing clerk to assist in covering the front counter when there is a staff shortage due to vacation, illness, etc.

The consensus of the council was to add both requests for additional staff to the 2013 budget.

Mr. Rodriguez stated \$30,000 had been added to the natural resources budget for consultant Robert Hardy; the compensation study costs had been reduced from \$35,000 to \$30,000; the growth study had been moved to fiscal year 2013; staff would get estimates for playground equipment repairs for Riverfront and Garrison Parks; the cost to replace two LYNX buses would be investigated; and \$1,551 had been added to the 2012 budget to complete the carpet replacement at the public safety building conference rooms and some offices.

Mr. Rodriguez stated there would be changes in the budget between now and when the tentative budget was presented on June 19 which was when a public hearing on the tentative budget would be held.

The consensus of the council was to keep the same funding amounts for outside agencies as last year which are as follows: Senior Center, \$45,000; Old Town Association, \$10,000; Humane Society \$40,000 (with an additional \$10,000 for the building fund that had been promised to them in the past); Veterans Van, \$2,500; Catholic Charities, \$10,500 (with an additional \$5,500 if there was the need); Verde River Days, \$2,000; Birding Festival, \$1,000; and Verde Valley Concert Association, \$2,000.

ADJOURNMENT

The budget work session adjourned at 8:15 p.m.