City of Wimberley
City Hall, 12111 Ranch Road 12, Ste. 114
Wimberley, Texas 78676
Minutes of Special Meeting of City Council
September 1, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

City Council meeting called to order at 5:09 p.m. by Mayor Tom Haley.

Councilmembers Present: Councilmembers Bob Flocke, Bill Appleman, Steve Thurber, and John White. Councilmember Roccaforte had an excused absence.

Staff Present: City Administrator Don Ferguson and City Secretary Cara McPartland.

Workshop Session:

Workshop to discuss issues relating to the proposed Fiscal Year 2010 City of Wimberley Budget

City Administrator Ferguson highlighted revenues and discussion addressed:

- Reasoning for arriving at the proposed FY 2010 Sales & Use Tax figure and the overall budget timeframe, including any needed amendments to the FY 2009 Budget
- Miscellaneous income
- Increases in franchise fees
- Health fees to be collected for health inspections/permitting and septic permitting
- Parking lot revenue
- Community Center rental fees and transition process as the City assumes operations
- Conservative revenue projection for the Community Center and possible ways to maximize revenue

City Administrator Ferguson highlighted expenditures and discussion addressed:

- No salary adjustments for City personnel
- Additional expenditure for contract Fire Marshal offset by corresponding Fire Inspections revenue line
- Continuation of health benefits monthly stipend versus City-provided health insurance and long-term need to provide benefits
- Consideration of alternative small business program(s) to provide health services
- Specific dues paid to various organizations and benefits derived from membership
- Telephone expenses breakdown
- Rent for City Hall/storage space and certain lease terms
- Specific costs for leased equipment such as copier, postage meter, and emergency radios
- Expenditure for water cooler versus installation of a vending machine

- Records Management including recodification, electronic records, software licenses, system support/back-up, and website update/maintenance
- Capital Outlay – Technology expenditure for computer upgrade
- Advantages of digitizing records and future issues such as data migration and compatibility
- Training/travel related expenses
- Election costs
- Financial Management Services provided contract accountant and audit firm
- Public Relations/Receptions expenses such as fireworks and plaques, some of which will be offset by corresponding revenue lines and the need for volunteer recognition
- Fitness Council expenditures offset by grant revenues
- Decrease in Contract Inspector/Site Plan Reviews costs due to slowing economy
- Public Works operating costs including mileage, training, supplies, fuel, and vehicle maintenance
- Increased Road Maintenance expenditures including contract animal removal and possible collaborative effort to establish a regional incineration facility
- Capital Outlay Roads costs including improvements for LaPais Drive, La Buena Vista Drive, and Las Flores Drive and terms of the Hays County Interlocal Agreement for road maintenance
- Funding options to meet need for immediate and long-term street improvements such as capital improvement programs
- Balancing priorities in order to pay for needed street improvements and identify critical needs
- Itemized Road Engineering costs including expenditures for street assessment
- Specific Signs/Barricades costs
- Master Planning Traffic Studies and Survey Services costs, with discussion of the need for completion a statutorily required city limits survey
- Water Quality Testing costs for analysis, including volunteer testing program and supplemental sampling/analysis
- Public Restroom Wastewater expenses for cleaning, supplies, and purchase of a hand dryer and portable restroom(s)

After calling for a ten-minute recess at 6:12 p.m., Mayor Haley reconvened the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

City Administrator Ferguson highlighted:

- Public Safety personnel costs, noting no salary increase
- Public Safety operating costs including Municipal Court judge, City prosecutor, training, animal control, and fuel
- Specific Public Safety operating supplies such as body armor, handheld radar unit, racial profiling report software, forms/tickets, and ammunition
- City Marshal vehicle maintenance and vehicle lease payment/terms

- Parks & Recreation operating expenses including research and development for a "pocket" park adjacent to the Lumberyard property (with Rotary Club funding assistance for development)
- Nature Trail operations clean-up costs including mowing and tree-trimming
- Community Center personnel expenses and existing agreements
- Community Center operating expenses such as maintenance and repair, advertising/marketing, and occupancy rates
- Community Center security (alarm system) and supplies expenses
- Utilities cost breakdown, energy conservation measures, and air conditioning issues
- Comparison of Community Center revenues/expenditures and resulting budget deficit

City Administrator Ferguson presented Blue Hole Regional Park's proposed FY 2010 Budget, noting higher grant-related construction expenditures, with operating costs remaining consistent with last season. He anticipated the influx of miscellaneous grant funds into Blue Hole's budget and outlined the timeframe for project phases. Discussion addressed use of grant funds for personnel expenses (which is not allowed) and development of long-term park maintenance endowment financing.

Discussion addressed use of Hays County grant funds for development and preliminary endowment financing efforts. City Administrator Ferguson cited gate/rental fees, noting no increases at this time. Expenditures were highlighted for summer labor costs, utilities such as fans and misters, increased money for mowing in anticipation of rain, and trail maintenance. Operational expenses included supplies such as wristbands and shirts, contract supplies, landscaping, and regular trash clean-up. The need for adequate trash receptacles was briefly discussed.

Other highlighted expenditures included:

- Equipment rental, materials, signage
- Public restroom facilities for porta-cans and maintenance
- Capital Outlay Equipment expenses for a turf vehicle to help with hauling and a lightning detection system
- Capital Outlay Facilities reflecting a percentage of the total build-out

Council comments included:

- Councilmember Flocke requested cost estimates for employee health benefits, cost of living increases, and possible future ceilings on certain job classifications
- Councilmember Appleman stressed the need to re-prioritize the budget to focus on basic services and examine the need for continuation of City Marshal and Municipal Court expenditures
- Continued reliance on Hays County law enforcement, future costs, and positive impact of the City Marshal on the local community and code enforcement
- Suggestion by Councilmember Appleman to cut City Hall rental expenses by holding meetings at the Community Center

- Councilmember Thurber concurred with Councilmember Appleman's cost-saving suggestion to move meetings to the Community Center
- Councilmember White stated that law enforcement related expenses could be postponed until more pressure is exerted on the City by Hays County to take over law enforcement. He agreed with previous comments regarding use of the Community Center for meeting space.

Hearing no further comments, Mayor Haley called the meeting adjourned.

Adjournment: Council meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Recorded by:

Cara McPartland

These minutes approved on the 17th of September, 2009.

APPROVED:

Tom Haley, Mayor