

DEPARTMENT OF CITY CLERK

CITY HALL

MAY 23, 1988

The Committee on Finance reconvenes this day at 5:00 o'clock P.M. in Committee Room "A", City Hall.

PRESENT: Chairwoman Brassil, Councilmen Dillon, Glavin, O'Connor and Farmer.

Also present are Finance Director Baron, City Internal Auditor Woerner, Alex Prignano and Mark Dunham of the Finance Department and Councilwoman Fagnoli. (Rose M. Mendonca, Clerk.)

Subsequently, Director of Administration Simmons and Deputy Chief of Staff Brooks join the Committee.

RELATIVE TO BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 1988 - 1989

Present relative to their budget are Director of Public Parks, Nancy Derrig and Deputy Director, Robert McMahon.

Chairwoman Brassil questions as to whether there are any new employees to which Mrs. Derrig responds, they have one, a veterinarian at the zoo. The total number of employees in the zoo has not changed as they have changed a zookeeper to a veterinarian. She states that the veterinarian is paid the same amount of money as the zookeeper. The pay is coming from two sources of money. The zookeeper which is a salary of \$18,000., and \$10,000. is coming from the overtime account.

Chairwoman Brassil recommends the position be added properly to the 1988 budget. Chairwoman Brassil questions as to whether there are any changes in zoological services.

Councilman Glavin questions the amount of money in salaries as he is of the opinion that it is over the 4.7%, to which Mrs. Derrig responds there are no new positions.

It is brought out by Mr. McMahon that certain upgradings had occurred in the course of the year that were not reflected during that time. That perhaps is the reason for Councilman Glavin questioning the increase in item 0.

Chairwoman Brassil informs Mrs. Derrig and Mr. McMahon they should not reorganize the department without an ordinance being presented to the City Council. The Committee on Finance cannot figure what has been done in the departments during the course of the year when changes have been made without proper Ordinances.

Mrs. Derrig states two mechanics were funded and senior mechanics were available by ordinance, but not funded. In the course of the year the money got transferred to the positions together to take advantage of the job. She states the worker's comp. money is now being allocated to overtime. The money was

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taken out of Item 0 and put into worker's comp. They had to increase overtime due to the people that are out on worker's compensation.

Questioned by Chairwoman Brassil, Mrs. Derrig states there are some problems with worker's comp., but not serious. They have been talking to the personnel department, and Sergeant Verrecchia about certain people out on worker's comp. for a long period of time. Mr. McMahon states they have 8 people out on worker's comp. and 4 employees do not look like they will be coming back.

Chairwoman Brassil states they have funded temporary seasonal in the budget. There is almost a 9.7% increase in salaries for zoological services.

Councilman Dillon reminds the members that there is included in the budget a two-year period, which reflects the raises for both years which would inform as to the reason there appears to be more than a 4.7% increase.

Councilman Dillon further questions as to how much money is taken in the zoo in fees to which Mr. McMahon responds the zoo brought in approximately \$250,000.00, and that is gone. There is expenditure in the care of the buildings. When the fees began they had costs for building the cash registers and booths. They have 4 temporary people and one full time person. The zoo is open from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. They have one supervisor and one assistant supervisor. One of them is always at the zoo.

Discussion ensues as to the manner in which the zoo is handled with respect to school groups and tours, and it is brought out that when a group from a school is at the zoo, the cost is \$.50 per head. Mrs. Derrig states the funds from the zoo have paid for the master plan, the engineering studies and borings. The money is controlled by the Board of Park Commissioners jointly with the Zoological Society. They have just hired two new zookeepers which will cut down on the overtime in that department.

Questioned by Chairwoman Brassil as to whether any additions have been made to the Parks Environmental Services, Mrs. Derrig states the deficit has decreased over the years due to the funding from the Charles A. Smith Estate. Mrs. Derrig is questioned as to whether there are any new positions in the Superintendent of Parks division to which she responds there were some middle of the year transfers last fiscal year. She explains to the members that she was left with Jim Diamond's personal secretary, a non-union position, and she has her working in grounds maintenance. She is a Clerk IV and does secretarial work.

Questioned by Chairwoman Brassil as to why she has not put her under the Grounds Management Division, Mrs. Derrig states

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they just have never transferred her. She was not interested in joining the union. She states one of the difficulties in giving the secretaries Clerk IV titles with different divisions, it impedes her ability to transfer people around. They have two pending grievances right now due to that. It is best to have a Clerk IV pool to have them work wherever they are needed.

Chairwoman Brassil questions the administration as to transferring all Class IV's to Mrs. Derrig's office so she can place them where they are needed.

Mr. Simmons states he would like to review the matter prior to changing it and will discuss it with Mrs. Derrig.

At this time, Director of Parks Derrig and Deputy Director McMahon are excused.

Raymond Brown, Director of Recreation, joins the Committee at this time.

Councilman Farmer states there is a 32% increase in the salaries.

Councilman Glavin states there is a \$70,000.00 increase in salaries.

Mr. Brown states he has added 4 temporaries, two in the Fall and two for in the Spring. He states he has deleted a clerk typist II and added the positions of Staff Assistant at \$18,600. and Special Events co-ordinator at Gr. 21 (not filled) and a Clerk IV at \$17,500. per year.

Discussion ensues relative to the programs to be forthcoming by the Recreation Department following which Mr. Brown is excused.

Councilman Glavin states this is definitely not a lean budget when they start looking into it. The day of reckoning will come and people are going to say - "where were you when this stuff was going on"? The time will come when the City Council will be held accountable for all the new positions.

He wants to go on record for saying it. If everyone else wants to maintain their silence, or whatever, that is their responsibility, he does not, it is starting to bug him.

Councilman Farmer states they need a specific issue, if he wants to do anything, that is the only merit.

Councilman Glavin states they have to talk about these things.

Chairwoman Brassil questions as to whether or not Councilman Glavin wants to take these positions out of Recreation.

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Councilman Glavin states he wants to talk about them.

Chairwoman Brassil states she has no problem if he wants to delete any positions - he can move on them.

He states he is raising an issue as a matter of discussion.

She questions as to whether he wants to make a motion to delete positions in the budget.

Councilman Glavin responds that he does not think they are in a position right now where they will be amending the Ordinances.

Chairwoman Brassil states it is unfair for him to say there were a lot of jobs created. There were two new jobs in Recreation. She does not think in all of the budget right now, they have come in with new positions.

Mr. Simmons states there is a net reduction of positions within the City. They have defunded some and changed titles for others.

Chairwoman Brassil brings out the fact that in all the departments they have reviewed so far, there are two new jobs in the budget, and she disagrees with Councilman Glavin. She feels it is unfair for him to say the Council does not care. Councilman Glavin disagrees with the Chairperson strongly. He is of the opinion they take a cursory review of the budget and do not ask hard difficult questions. They get half of an explanation and say "yes, okay" and go along. He thinks it is time to raise the issue at this point and time.

Chairwoman Brassil states if he is opposed to the positions, he should make a motion to delete them.

Councilman Glavin responds he is raising an issue and thinks there is nothing wrong in discussing it.

Chairwoman Brasil is of the opinion that Councilman Glavin is criticizing them for sitting there silently and she does not feel they have. They have asked the questions when the other departments have come in, just as now.

Councilman Glavin states if he did appear to be critical of the members, he apologizes, he did not mean that.

(For verbatim record, tape is in City Clerk's Dept.)

Chairwoman Brassil states the Committee will be in recess at 6:05 o'clock P.M. to meet again on Wednesday, May 25 at 5:00 P.M.

COPIED

J.B.

Rose M. Mendoza
CLERK

COMPARED

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