

**TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY
TOWN COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

**SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES – July 6, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Nassif called to order the Special Meeting of the Apple Valley Town Council at 3:30 p.m.

Roll call was taken with the following members present:

Roll Call

Present: Council Members: Coleman; Emick; Roelle; Mayor Pro Tem Stanton; Mayor Nassif.

Absent: None.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Nassif.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

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| <i>BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL</i> |
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1. FY 2011/2012 Budget Workshop – Continued

Delbert Lane, Apple Valley, expressed concern regarding the state of the Town of Apple Valley budget and the lack of supplies that field employees of the Town are given for them to adequately perform their job duties. He also questioned whether or not the Town deficit would be shared between all departments or limited to just a single department.

Janice Moore, Apple Valley Chamber of Commerce, stated that the Chamber Board supports the budget submitted by the Assistant Town Manager of Economic and Community Development. She stated that the Board also supports the additional position in the Planning Department as well as the GIS Software program proposed by the department head. She stated that this department works hard to improve the Town of Apple Valley and the board fully supports their efforts.

Marc Puckett, Director of Finance, presented the budget workshop as previously filed with the Town Clerk's Office. He presented a workshop follow-up memorandum regarding proposed budget reductions. He also commented on three bills approved by the State that would further reduce the Town's budget and cause an additional fiscal impact.

Kenneth Henderson, Assistant Town Manager, Economic and Community Development, commented on bills AB126 – RDA Dissolution Act and AB127 RDA Continuation Act. He explained the requirements of this new legislation and the amount of funding that will need to be paid in order to be in compliance. He also commented on restrictions that the new bills require.

Emily Wong, Assistant Director, Economic and Community Development, provided clarification to the Town Council regarding how the required funding of approximately \$1.4 million could be made to the State.

Discussion continued regarding the RDA bills proposed and how the funding would impact the Town's proposed budget.

Mayor Pro Tem Stanton asked questions regarding the fiscal year highlights and goals and objectives of the Public Works budget.

Mr. Puckett provided clarification regarding the transfers to the Street Maintenance budget.

Discussion continued regarding the Capital Improvement/Measure I funding and General Government facilities and the Parks and Recreation budget.

Mayor Pro Tem Stanton commented on the need to thoroughly review the Parks and Recreation budget due to its continuing deficit.

Council Member Coleman reiterated her previous concern and request of establishing a committee to review the Parks and Recreation budget and make recommendations to the Town Council in an effort to reduce the deficit of the Park and Recreation fund.

Ralph Wright, Park and Recreation Manager, stated that the Master Plan for the Parks is approximately three-fourth percent complete. He explained that it will be approximately three (3) months before completion.

Council Member Coleman recommended that a joint meeting be held with the Parks and Recreation Commission to discuss some of the issues surrounding the Parks deficit.

Discussion ensued regarding the Parks and Recreation programs and the need to involve the community to come up with ways to reduce the budget as well as ways to attract funding to help reduce costs.

Council Member Coleman also recommended looking at outsourcing maintenance to see if there was a cost savings.

It was the consensus of the Town Council to schedule a joint meeting with the Parks and Recreation Department to discuss these issues in an effort to reduce the Parks and Recreation deficit.

Mr. Wright commented on the possibility of contracting with Alliance Sports for the operation of the BMX Park. He stated that staff has looked into it and the City of Fontana subsidizes the company approximately \$70,000 annually, after revenue has been deducted.

Mr. Puckett reminded the Town Council that due to the change in redevelopment funding with the approval of the State budget, various items within the budget would need to be brought back in the near future.

Mr. Henderson concurred and stated that the department will have to be very conservative when re-working the budget.

Mr. Puckett explained that the Town Council may elect to wait and adopt the budget after the RDA funding has been adjusted and the cost allocation plan is completed or adopt the budget as submitted with the caveat that staff would bring back a plan to amend the budget as needed for the redevelopment funding and cost allocation plan. He also informed the Town Council that staff has purchased the necessary software that will help expedite the cost allocation plan process.

Mayor Nassif recommended approving the budget as submitted.

Mayor Pro Tem Stanton questioned the status of the employee survey regarding benefits.

Mr. Puckett stated that the survey had been completed and that staff would be emailing the results to the Town Council.

Discussion ensued regarding the proposed benefit reductions to Town employees.

Council Member Roelle stated that he did not agree with making employees pay for their retirement.

Council Member Roelle also commented on the need for additional public safety and stated that he requested that this issue be brought back with funding options at the last meeting. He reminded the Town Council that public safety is a number one priority in the Town and recommended that the Town review the possibility of hiring two additional deputies. He recommended staff bring back the requested information pertaining to the funding for additional deputies at the next meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Stanton expressed a need for an additional budget workshop so that the Town Council could review and approve additional issues dealing with staff, Parks and Recreation, the Golf Course and the Wastewater Fund.

Council Member Emick commented on the desire to fund additional deputies if the Town has the funding to do so now and in the future. He agreed that the community needs to be safe; however we also need to have Parks and Recreation services for the community. He stated that he believes there is true value in conferences, but does not have a problem cutting back on travel if necessary. He also stated that he agrees with instituting a two-tier retirement program, but that option does not include an instant savings.

Frank Robinson, Town Manager, commented on the budget workshop progress. He stated that staff presented to the Town Council a budget with a request to consider and make recommendations to address the \$700,000 budget deficit. He believed one additional workshop would be needed where the Town Council could review the results from the employee survey and the golden handshake request. He explained that whatever funds are still necessary after all options have been considered would be funded out of the general fund. He also briefly commented on the reduction of the Vehicle License Fund for cities due to the State budget.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

Motion by Council Member Emick, seconded by Council Member Coleman, and unanimously carried, to adjourn the Special Meeting at 5:53 p.m.

Mayor

Town Clerk