

JOHN F. COOK
MAYOR



JOYCE WILSON
CITY MANAGER

CITY COUNCIL
ANN MORGAN LILLY, DISTRICT 1
SUSANNAH M. BYRD, DISTRICT 2
EMMA ACOSTA, DISTRICT 3
CARL ROBINSON, DISTRICT 4
RACHEL QUINTANA, DISTRICT 5
EDDIE HOLGUIN JR., DISTRICT 6
STEVE ORTEGA, DISTRICT 7
BETO O'ROURKE, DISTRICT 8

**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
JULY 29, 2010**

The City Council met at the above place and date. Meeting was called to order at 1:08 p.m. Mayor John Cook present and presiding and the following Council Members answered roll call: Susie Byrd, Emma Acosta, Carl Robinson, Rachel Quintana, Eddie Holguin, Jr., Steve Ortega, and Beto O'Rourke. Late arrival: Ann Morgan Lilly at 1:13 p.m.

AGENDA

For discussion and action: FY 2011 budget, as presented by the City Manager:

Budget Wrap-Up

Ms. Joyce Wilson, City Manager, provided a summary of the budget cuts proposed so far by City Council, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and the City Manager.

The City Council asked questions and deliberated on the proposed budget.

Mayor Cook and the City Representatives questioned City staff.

The following City staff members commented:

1. Ms. Joyce Wilson, City Manager
2. Mr. David Almonte, Director of the Office of Management and Budget
3. Mr. Charlie McNabb, City Attorney, gave legal advice.
4. Ms. Carmen Arrieta-Candelaria, Chief Financial Officer
5. Ms. Ellen Smyth, Director of Environmental Services
6. Mr. Paul Pacillas, Assistant Police Chief
7. Mr. Otto Drozd, Fire Chief
8. Mr. Michael Hill, Director of Department of Public Health
9. Ms. Carol Brey Casiano, Library Director
10. Mr. Jay Banasiak, Director of Sun Metro
11. Mr. Said Larbi-Cherif, Director of International Bridges
12. Mr. William Lilly, Director of Community and Human Development
13. Mr. Daryl Cole, Street Director
14. Mr. Alan Shubert, City Engineer
15. Ms. Nanette Smejkal, Director of Parks and Recreation
16. Ms. Veronica Myers, Parks Recreation Supervisor
17. Ms. Paula Powell, Parks Sport Manager
18. Mr. Wright Stanton, Aquatics Program Manager

The following members of the public commented:

1. Mr. Jerry Thiedt
2. Ms. Lisa Turner
3. Mr. Bob Geyer
4. Ms. Bea Heist, Heist Disposal

5. Mr. Chuck Heist, Heist Disposal
6. Mr. Jorge Artalejo

1ST MOTION – GENERAL FUND

Motion made by Representative Ortega, seconded by Representative O'Rourke, and unanimously carried to **ELIMINATE VACANT POSITIONS FOR A GOAL OF \$500,000 GENERAL FUND SAVINGS.**

2ND MOTION – GENERAL FUND

Motion made by Representative Ortega, seconded by Representative Byrd, and carried to **EXTEND THE 4-10 WORK WEEK FOR THE DURATION OF THE CALENDAR YEAR, WITH AN OPTION TO EXTEND FOR THE FULL YEAR.**

AYES: Representatives Lilly, Byrd, Acosta, Quintana, Holguin, Ortega, and O'Rourke

NAYS: Representatives Robinson

3RD MOTION – CAPITAL ACQUISITION

Motion made by Representative Byrd, seconded by Representative Ortega, and unanimously carried to **USE \$100,000 OF THE CAPITAL ACQUISITION FUND TO COVER THE COSTS OF CAPITAL OUTLAY IN DEPARTMENT BUDGETS.**

4TH MOTION – CITY ATTORNEY

Motion made by Representative Ortega, seconded by Representative O'Rourke, and carried to **DEVELOP A THREE YEAR SALARY REGULATION SCALE TO ALIGN WITH ANNUAL BASE GS SALARY RATE FOR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.**

AYES: Representatives Lilly, Byrd, Acosta, Robinson, Quintana, Ortega, and O'Rourke

NAYS: Representatives Holguin

5TH MOTION – CELL PHONES FOR CITY OF EL PASO

Motion made by Representative Ortega, seconded by Representative Lilly, and unanimously carried to **ELIMINATE CELL PHONES FOR CITY EMPLOYEES, UNLESS IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR THEIR JOB DESCRIPTION.**

6TH MOTION – MAYOR AND COUNCIL - DISCRETIONARY AMOUNT

Motion made by Representative Ortega, seconded by Representative Byrd, and carried to **REDUCE THE DISCRETIONARY AMOUNT FOR THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL FROM \$5,000 TO \$2,500.**

AYES: Representatives Lilly, Byrd, Quintana, Holguin, Ortega, and O'Rourke

NAYS: Representatives Acosta and Robinson

7TH MOTION – MUSEUMS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Motion made by Representative Holguin, seconded by Representative Quintana, and carried to **DENY FULLY FUNDING SALSA SATURDAYS FOR SATURDAYS DURING THE SUMMER AND ADD FOUR DAYS TO MUSIC UNDER THE STARS AND ENHANCING CHALK THE BLOCK PROGRAM.**

AYES: Representatives Lilly, Byrd, Acosta, Robinson, Quintana, and Holguin

NAYS: Representative Ortega and O'Rourke

8TH MOTION – PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Motion made by Representative Byrd, seconded by Representative Ortega, to **BID OUT ALL CITY OWNED SURFACE PARKING LOTS AND VACANT LAND IN DOWNTOWN FOR HOUSING, EXCEPT CITY HALL. THE MOTION FAILS.**

AYES: Representatives Byrd, Acosta, Ortega, and O'Rourke

NAYS: Mayor Cook and Representatives Lilly, Robinson, Quintana, and Holguin
The Mayor broke the tie, voting nay.

9TH MOTION – BRIDGES

Motion made by Representative Byrd, seconded by Representative Lilly, and carried to **ELIMINATE FREE LOADING ZONES IN AREAS LIKE DOWNTOWN WITH METERED PARKING.**

AYES: Representatives Lilly, Byrd, Acosta, Ortega, and O'Rourke

NAYS: Representatives Robinson, Quintana, and Holguin

10TH MOTION

Motion made by Representative O'Rourke, seconded by Representative Lilly, and unanimously carried to **RETIRE** into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 2:57 p.m. pursuant to Section 3.5A of the El Paso City Charter and the Texas Government Code, Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney).

11TH MOTION

Motion made by Representative Quintana, seconded by Representative Ortega, and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** the Executive Session at 3:02 p.m. and **RECONVENE** the meeting of the City Council.

12TH MOTION – MASS TRANSIT – LIFT FEES

Motion made by Representative Quintana, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Acosta, to **DENY THE REQUESTED INCREASE OF THE LIFT FARE. THE MOTION FAILED.**

AYES: Representatives Byrd, Acosta, Quintana, and Holguin

NAYS: Mayor Cook and Representatives Lilly, Robinson, Ortega, and O'Rourke

The Mayor broke the tie, voting nay.

13TH MOTION – SUN METRO – MILITARY DISCOUNT

Motion made by Representative Byrd, seconded by Representative Lilly, and carried to **ELIMINATE THE MILITARY DISCOUNT FOR SUN METRO.**

AYES: Representatives Lilly, Byrd, Acosta, Quintana, Ortega, and O'Rourke

NAYS: Representative Robinson and Holguin

14TH MOTION – SUN METRO – ADVERTISING POLICY

Motion made by Representative Byrd, seconded by Representative Lilly, and carried to **KEEP THE ADVERTISING POLICY FOR BUSES AS IT IS.**

AYES: Mayor Cook and Representatives Lilly, Byrd, Ortega, and O'Rourke

NAYS: Representatives Acosta, Robinson, Quintana, and Holguin

The Mayor broke the tie, voting aye.

15TH MOTION – SUN METRO – BUS SHELTER AND BUS INTERIOR ADVERTISING

Motion made by Representative Quintana, seconded by Representative Robinson, to **AUTHORIZE BUS SHELTER AND BUS INTERIOR ADVERTISING. THE MOTION FAILED.**

AYES: Representatives Acosta, Robinson, Quintana, and Holguin

NAYS: Mayor Cook and Representatives Lilly, Byrd, Ortega, and O'Rourke

The Mayor broke the tie, voting nay.

16TH MOTION – SUN METRO – MARKETING FIRM

Motion made by Representative Byrd, seconded by Representative Ortega, and unanimously carried to **ELIMINATE THE FUNDING FOR THE MARKETING FIRM AND AUTHORIZE \$100,000 TO ENLIST AN ALTERNATIVE FOCUSED ON SALES AND PROMOTION.**

17TH MOTION – MASS TRANSIT – CIRCULATION STUDY

Motion made by Representative O'Rourke, seconded by Representative Byrd, and unanimously carried to **ELIMINATE FUNDING FOR THE DOWNTOWN CIRCULATION STUDY.**

18TH MOTION – LIBRARY

Motion made by Representative Byrd, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Acosta, to **INCREASE BOOK FUNDING BY \$100,000, PREOBLIGATED FROM CONTINGENCY AND THAT BE RELEASED AFTER SIX MONTHS IF REVENUE TARGETS ARE MET. THE MOTION FAILS.**

AYES: Representatives Lilly, Byrd, and Acosta

NAYS: Representatives Robinson, Quintana, Holguin, Ortega and O'Rourke

19TH MOTION – PARKS YOUTH PROGRAMMING FEES

Motion made by Representative Ortega, seconded by Representative Robinson, and carried to **IMPLEMENT A SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR \$332,500, FOR CHILDREN IN NEED FOR PARKS YOUTH PROGRAMMING FEES.**

AYES: Representatives Lilly, Byrd, Acosta, Robinson, Ortega and O'Rourke

NAYS: Representative Quintana and Holguin

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The City Council Meeting was **RECESSED** at 4:36 p.m. in order to convene the Special City Council Meeting regarding the Introduction of an Ordinance levying FY2011 taxes.

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The City Council Meeting was **RECONVENED** at 4:42 p.m.

20TH MOTION

Motion made by Representative Quintana, seconded by Representative Lilly, and unanimously carried to **SUSPEND THE RULES OF ORDER** to allow additional speakers to address the Council after the sign-up period.

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Motion made by Representative Robinson, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Acosta, and unanimously carried to adjourn this meeting at 5:10 p.m.

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APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

Richarda Duffy Momsen, City Clerk