

CITY OF BURTON
BUDGET WORKSHOP SESSION
MAY 13, 1996, 6:15 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Budget Workshop was called to order by Ted Hammon AT 6:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Abbey, Cox, Cross, Hammon, Martinbianco, Walls and Zelenko.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Charles Smiley; B. Becker, Treasurer/Controller; J. Benthall, Police Chief; W. Mahler, Fire Chief and G. Webster, Clerk.

PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOP: Discuss the proposed City of Burton 1996-1997 Budget.

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED BUDGET:

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Mr. Becker gave an overview of the Fire Department budget. He said the department is trying to cut down on funds dealing with part-time firemen. He reported the department has aging trucks and needs capital improvements and equipment.

Chief Mahler said he was trying to sell old trucks, but nobody wants them at this time. He would like to collect funds from several agencies to help recoup costs of runs that deal with downed power lines, false alarms, homeowners fire insurance claim, hazardous material stand by, etc.

Mr. Cox wanted to know how many runs were related to downed power lines and the total number of runs.

Chief Mahler said 80 runs dealt with downed power lines and the total number was about 600.

Mr. Martinbianco suggested contacting MML for information on this topic. He said these user fees might be established through ordinance driven regulations.

Review of the fire department's budget continued with discussion of permanent

salaries, usage and cost of fire cars, projected fire vehicle maintenance costs and fire department staffing. Mr. Stewart's salary is now coming out of the building department budget.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Mr. Becker reviewed the revenue portion of the Police budget. He said the DDA charges are new to the budget. A new officer for the DDA district will be added and that would cover the \$15,000 fee. District Court fees will be added to the budget.

Mr. Martinbianco asked about the proposed District Court fund of \$205,000.

Mr. Becker said these are specific court fees. The Judge gave his assurance that revenue would go toward covering officer's fees. There has been an increase of \$46,000 in these funds, so far this year.

BUDGET WORKSHOP SESSION

MAY 13, 1996, 6:15 P.M.

PAGE -2-

Mr. Becker continued with the expenditure side of the budget. An officer will be promoted to Sergeant and 2 new officers will be added.

Discussion continued with the police budget. Items, such as, insurance, usage and purchase of police vehicles, FANG, fringes, health insurance, dental insurance and retirement funds were discussed.

Mr. Cross inquired about the Police Chief installing voice mail and contractual services.

Mr. Benthall said it would cost about \$10,000 to add voice mail, and thought it was too costly.

Mr. Becker said contractual services covered such items as the alarm system, janitorial services, copying machine, radios and minor services.

Mr. Benthall explained the need for additional officers in Burton. One new officer would primarily deal with traffic enforcement. This would help cut down

on injuries, fatalities, and crime, while freeing up other officers.

Mr. Becker projected the two new officers would bring in enough revenue from tickets and citations to cover the cost of their salary, which would be about \$100,000.

Mr. Benthall said under the new system, the retirement fund will be substantially less for new officers than current officers.

Mr. Cox said the rubbish budget would be moved to the next meeting scheduled for May 21, 1996 at 6:15 P.M.. Another budget session is scheduled for May 22, 1996 at 6:15 P.M.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Gary Kautz, 4062 Woodrow, commented on fringe benefits and the use of fire cars. He suggested only the fire chief use a city vehicle to save expenses.

Mr. Becker said some fringes might not be used due to new positions and staffing in the department. Any savings in fringes will be returned to general fund.

Don Sanderlin, 4460 Killarney Pk. Dr., said the fire department responds to accidents on the expressway that might have some costs recouped.

Les Hawtin, 2245 McLaren, Deputy Chief, spoke in favor of the officers driving fire cars. He said that a chief car responding to a call quickly assesses the situation, saving the trucks, equipment and firemen from being dispatched. This can save the City a substantial amount of money. It cost the City \$500-\$700 dollars each time a truck responses.

Mr. Cox requested some statistics pertaining to these matters.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Larry Petrella, 1081 Howe Rd., spoke about the poor police response to an accident by Hardy's Restaurant.

BUDGET WORKSHOP SESSION

MAY 13, 1996, 6:15 P.M.

PAGE -3-

Chief Benthall said all the officers were on call and he is reviewing the accident.

Pauline Dargel, 6119 Hugh, spoke on issues of traffic safety, patrol guards and school activities.

Mr. Benthall said they will train crossing guards, if a school requests that service. The schools are basically responsible for hiring and paying for patrol guards. The Chief said the Police Department is involved in school programs and activities.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Gayle Webster
Burton City Clerk

GW/cml