

**CITIZENS OVERSIGHT AD HOC COMMITTEE
MINUTES – Monday, May 7, 2007**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Homer Alexander, Joyce Lundy, Cheryl Taylor, Lanny McKay

MEMBERS ABSENT: Graham Pask (physically; listened via conference call)

STAFF PRESENT: Susan Slayton, Finance Director

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Alexander called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None (Keith Taylor was present)

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from 5/2/07 unanimously approved

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Discuss allocations and planned spending for 2007 - 2009 budget

Fire Chief Mike Pond was invited to address proposed expenditures for the Fire Department's allocation of district transaction tax funds. Chief Pond explained why he is not planning to use the \$390K allocation for the Fire Station in the upcoming fiscal year. He stated that while his top priority is the Fire Station, he doesn't feel that any funds will be spent in the first fiscal year. The architectural design has an approximate 52-week timeline and it will take about two years to build the station. With no debt service for the first couple of years, he has decided that the best use of the money would be to buy an engine and place any residual funds into the equipment reserve fund. The approximate cost of the fire engine is \$400K.

Chief Pond also discussed the new staff members that need to be hired. He can apply for a Safer Grant that will provide \$100k over a 3 year time period for each firefighter hired, but the grant has to be secured before the people are hired. He wants to wait to hire personnel until 2008/09.

The committee members discussed the Public Safety allocation of \$65K. Chief Pond is asking to use \$9,640 for the City's share of the Assistance to Firefighter's Grant for communication equipment. The rest will go to the Police Chief, who plans on using the money to finance vehicles. Committee members discussed whether or not replacing police vehicles fit into the public's desired use of the money or if this was really an ongoing operations cost. It was decided that replacing the vehicles was an appropriate use.

Chair Alexander presented a draft letter to the committee that would be submitted at the May 10 budget meeting. Committee members adjusted the letter, and all members present signed it.

Chair Alexander mentioned the transaction tax on vehicle sales that would be coming to City. This is a new amount that is only available to the City because of Measure Q.

The next meeting will be tentatively set up for mid-November, but if no spending has occurred, the meeting may be postponed. Chair Alexander asked that Susan Slayton notify the members if the meeting is to be postponed.

III. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Review year-to-date sales tax revenues and expenditures – detail revenue and expenditure status reports through October 31 will be provided; if no activity, meeting will be rescheduled

IV. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for November 28, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. in City Hall's conference room.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.