

The Washington City Council met in a continued session on Monday, May 23, 2011 at 5:30 pm in the City Council Chambers at the Municipal Building. Present were: Archie Jennings, Mayor; Bobby Roberson, Mayor Pro tem; Doug Mercer, Councilman; Edward Moultrie, Councilman; Gil Davis, Councilman; William Pitt, Councilman; Pete Connet, Interim City Manager; Cynthia S. Bennett, City Clerk and Franz Holscher, City Attorney.

Also present were: Matt Rauschenbach, Chief Financial Officer; Robbie Rose, Fire Chief; Mick Reed, Police Chief; Allen Lewis, Public Works Director; John Rodman, Planning Director; Philip Mobley, Parks and Recreation Director; Gloria Moore, Library Director; Keith Hardt, Utilities Director; Mike Voss, of the Washington Daily News and Delma Blinson, of the Beaufort Observer.

Mayor Jennings called the meeting to order and Councilman Davis delivered the invocation.

#### **APPROVAL/AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA**

Mayor Jennings requested moving the Castle Soccer and Excel T-Ball from the Cultural Leisure budget review and have it as a separate discussion at the beginning of the agenda.

By motion of Councilman Pitt, seconded by Councilman Moultrie, Council approved the agenda as amended.

#### **PRESENTATION – JANICE LABARBER – CASTLE SOCCER**

President of the Optimist Club, Ms. Janice Labarbera noted that Castle Soccer is a Soccer League started for exceptional children. This league is for kids between the ages of 5-15. Ms. Labarbera stated they were able to offer Castle Soccer free of charge last year and requests Council waive the fees (\$30 per child) and allow the children to play free this year as well. The games will be played on Sunday afternoons because the Soccer Complex is full on Saturday's.

#### **PRESENTATION – ALLEN PITTMAN – EXCEL T-BALL**

Director of Exceptional Children Enjoying Life, Allen Pittman requested Council waive the fees for Excel T-Ball again this year. The children with special needs range from ages 3-18. The children play six (6) games in the fall due to medication, various disorders and heat. Mr. Pittman stated the first game has been scheduled for September 11, 2011 and last year they had 35 participants. The cost is \$50 per game with six (6) games being played. The requested waiver amount is \$600.

Mayor Pro tem Roberson inquired if Mr. Pittman had requested any help from Beaufort County Commissioners and Mr. Pittman responded 'no'. He approached Council because of rental fees for the City's fields and in the fee schedule. Mayor Pro tem Roberson suggested contacting Civic Clubs as well.

#### **MEMO – BILL FORMAN, WASHINGTON MARINA PHASE 3**

(begin memo:) Subject: City of Washington Marina – Phase 3  
Memorandum to Washington City Council  
Date: May 9, 2011

This memorandum is to reiterate and expand on information presented to the City Council at the May 2, 2011 meeting by Bill Forman related to the subject project. A summary of project events is as follows:

Contract was awarded to T.D. Eure Construction Company of Morehead City. The general scope of the work as defined by the Contract Documents is as follows:

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Base Bid:

- Heavy timber construction of 14 new fixed dock boat slips complete with water and marine power utilities.
- Construction of approximately 2,900 square feet of marine pile supported timber docks and decking.
- Installation of potable water and electrical utilities to serve the new fixed docks including relocation of an existing sewer pumpout device on Dock A.

Add Alternate 1 – Remove and dispose of approximately 2450 square feet of treated timber decking on Docks A and B and replace with 2 x 8 treated timber decking.

Add Alternate 2 – Remove existing utility pedestals on Docks A and B and resurface fiberglass gel coat with marine paint products.

The Bid prices and the subsequent Contract Prices is as follows:

Base Bid:	\$329,900
Add Alternate 1:	22,000
Add Alternate 2:	2,500

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Total Contract Price	\$354,400
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This project has taken over three years to permit even though it was a simple expansion of an existing marina. We have had disputes over location of channel limits and negotiations with the Corps of Engineers Navigation Branch on how close to the channel limits structures can be built. The project was finally started in March but still under an environmental moratorium that prohibited driving of piles in the Pamlico River between April 1 and September 30 of each year. We were able to negotiate relief from the moratorium with N. C. Wildlife Resources Commission to delay the start of the moratorium until April 16, 2011. We also started the project without resolution of a permit condition introduced by the Corps of Engineers that prohibited mooring of boats to the outboard ends of the expanded docks A and B because they and the Coast Guard were of the opinion that those boats would add to an existing boating safety problem in Washington Harbor. We performed a boat traffic study based on similar studies done for large California marinas and found no basis for a boating safety or congestion problem. That study was presented to the Corps of Engineers and they rescinded the permit condition.

Pile driving was started on or about March 30, 2011 with the Contractor providing assurance that all 84 timber piles in the two dock structures could be driven by April 15, 2011. We tried very hard to get the project started in March so that we could meet the objectives of the Parks and Recreation Department to have the completed docks available for use in summer of 2011.

Within two days of starting to drive piles, the Contractor reported that he could not drive the timber piles more than 5 to 6 feet into the bottom. The project was stopped in order to investigate the pile driving conditions. Keep in mind that since 1999, over 220 timber piles have been driven along the Stewart Parkway waterfront for construction of docks A through F, side-to dock G-L, and for three 6-pile fendering dolphins at dock L. There was no compensation by the contractors that drove those piles. There was no reason to believe that the pile driving conditions in the phase 3 project would be any different.

Geotechnologies, Inc. of Raleigh has been engaged to perform borings offshore of docks A and B to determine the subsurface conditions and recommend pile driving equipment appropriate for the conditions. The field investigation portion of that work was completed on Tuesday, May 10, 2011. Once we have the geotechnical report, we will work with the geotechnical engineer, Ed Hearn, to formulate a plan to proceed with pile diving on October 1, 2011, the end of the pile driving moratorium period. The Contractor

has assured us that he can complete the project by the January 1, 2012 construction deadline in the grant if he can start driving piles on October 1.

We have prepared some worst case estimates of what the additional costs associated with the pile driving conditions might be. Those numbers are based on giving the Contractor what he believes he is entitled to and his additional cost for pre-drilling the piles. I did not present those estimates to the Council because we have not formulated a strategy for addressing the differing conditions, if they indeed exist and we did want the Council to react to those numbers when they did not represent the final recommendations. The strategy will be to evaluate the equipment brought to the job by the Contractor and adequacy of that equipment to perform the work as described in the Contract Documents. The overall objective is to work modifications to the scope of the project together with negotiations with the contractor to complete the work as defined by the contract. (end memo)

Mayor Pro tem Roberson requested the total number of fixed docks. Mr. Mobley stated 12 because of the structured grant but building 14 (detailing the change from 12 to 14 to satisfy the BIG P).

Councilman Mercer stated Council approved the contract in the amount of \$354,400 for a specific job that included the construction of (12-14) piers. This included replacement of decking on part of the pier and the addition of some piping for fire safety proposes. It is now being requested that Council modify the project to take out the replacement of decking that was stated to be needed for safety purposes and the installation of a water line for fire safety. He feels we are not getting the project that we contracted for. Mr. Mobley and Chief Rose provided an explanation of funds and modifications of the project. Councilman Mercer said we have a project that was contracted and once finished will we have the project that we originally contracted for? Mr. Mobley stated he could not give a “yes” or “no” answer because the engineering firm is continuing to work with the contractor that said he was going to do a certain project. This may require litigation to have the job done as requested. To clarify, Mayor Jennings stated the contract appears to be in the form of being modified, the reason, the contractor may or may not be able to deliver on the original agreement and Mr. Mobley agreed. Councilman Mercer felt there would be additional cost added to the contract for the City. Mayor Jennings inquired if there was a budget amendment and Mr. Rauschenbach responded ‘no’. Mr. Rauschenbach stated that in the recommendation from Mr. Forman & Mr. Mobley he understands to offset the additional cost for the geotech surveying and the \$13,000 mobilization by not doing alternate 1 & 2.

Councilman Mercer reminded Council they had voted not to approve change orders to this contract that would increase the cost of the total project. Mayor Jennings noted for clarification relative to what Council agreed to “the net cost is not going up by virtue of alternate 1 & 2 being eliminated”.

Mayor Pro tem Roberson voiced his concern by stating we have a disagreement on this project between the original contractor and Mr. Forman concerning what the sub surface will be. Mayor Pro tem Roberson stated it looks like we will be in litigation and that is a problem. He voiced his concern on the code requirements (fire) as well.

**ADOPT – RESOLUTION SUPPORTING NOMINATION OF NORTH MARKET STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT TO NATIONAL REGISTER**

Planning & Development, John Rodman stated, at the request of Council, the public hearing on the nomination was held on May 3, 2011 at 7:00 pm in conjunction with Historic Preservation Commission meeting. The HPC recommended approval of the application.

By motion of Mayor Pro tem Roberson, seconded by Councilman Moultrie, Council unanimously adopted the resolution supporting and recommending that the

nomination of the North Market Street Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places be approved.

**RESOLUTION  
NORTH MARKET STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, the City of Washington has created one National Register Historic District to preserve the character of existing neighborhoods, designate properties as historic landmarks, and safeguard the heritage of the City, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Washington wishes to promote the use and conservation of the National Register District for the education, pleasure, and enrichment of the residents of the City, and;

WHEREAS, the above referenced National Register Historic District Nomination has been scheduled for presentation to State of North Carolina National Register Advisory Committee, and;

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that the listing of a property in the National Register places no obligation or restriction on a private owner using private resources to maintain or alter the property, and;

WHEREAS, both the City Council and the Washington Historic Preservation Commission support the application for nomination, and;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington City Council recommends the application for the nomination of the North Market Street Historic District to the National Register be approved.

ADOPTED this the 23rd day of May, 2011 by the City Council of the City of Washington.

**ATTEST:**

**s/Cynthia S. Bennett**  
City Clerk

**s/N. Archie Jennings, III**  
Mayor

**AWARD – CONTRACT FOR LABOR AND EQUIPMENT FOR  
LIGHTING RETROFIT**

Public Works Director, Allen Lewis called Councils attention to the Bid Tabulation distributed to them prior to the Council meeting. Mr. Lewis stated staff recommends LPS Bowden Electric out of Mount Holly, NC be awarded the contract for the retrofit project.

Councilman Mercer voiced concern on the cost of replacing 60 watts light bulbs with 13 watts CFL's (\$10 per bulb). Mr. Lewis deferred to Community Development Planner, Bianca Gentile. Ms. Gentile shared that cost reflects labor and disposal cost in compliance with the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA). Mayor Pro tem Roberson stated we need to be in compliance with the Federal Government because there is a proper way to dispose of things and recalled the issue with the electric transformers.

By motion Councilman Mercer, seconded by Councilman Moultrie, Council unanimously awarded the contract for the labor and equipment for lightning retrofit per the bid specifications to LPS Bowden Electric.

**6:00 PM – PUBLIC HEARING – BUDGET**

Mayor Jennings opened the public hearing.

Ms. Carolyn Harding who lives at 329 Sunnyside Drive in Washington suggested the proposed budget calls for a 5% decrease to City residents on electric and why should County residents not be included in the 5% rate reduction. She was told that City

residents pay county taxes as well as City taxes but she expects City residence uses County services (Health Department, Social Services, Mental Health, Sheriff Department and Hospital etc.) would equal the number of County residents. The County residence has help support the City budget through annual transfers of millions from electric utilities. Also, please consider shopping, eating at local restaurants and supporting local businesses.

Mr. Russell Morgan a member of the Washington Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee requested Council waive the \$30 facility use fee for the children that play on the fields in the Washington utility area. We have approximately 1300 children at a cost of approximately \$39,000. If the City Council will consider this request, I will request the County pick up the same fee for those outside the City. This was a recommendation to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee that was voted on and passed (as long as there will not be any adverse budget cuts to the Parks & Recreation department).

Councilman Mercer shared he attended the committee meeting and normally there are a majority of the committee members yet there were only 5 people that voted on this issue – 3 positive, 1 negative and 1 abstain. Mr. Morgan noted there was a correction from Ms. Hamilton, stating there were 6 members with 4 voting yes, 1 opposed and 1 abstain.

There being no further public comments, the public hearing was closed.

**ADOPT – FAIR HOUSING PLAN AND ANTI-DISPLACEMENT PLAN FOR  
THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT, HOUSING  
DEVELOPMENT  
09-C-2050**

Community Development Planner, Ms. Bianca Gentile stated this was standard procedure for CDBG to have these policies in place. This action is the result of a recent monitoring visit.

By motion of Mayor Pro tem Roberson, seconded by Councilman Moultrie, Council unanimously adopted the Fair Housing Plan and Anti-displacement Plan for the Community Development Block Grant, Housing Development 09-C-2050.

**CITY OF WASHINGTON  
FY2009 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT  
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM  
FAIR HOUSING POLICY**

WHEREAS, the City of Washington desires that the citizens of the city be afforded the opportunity to attain the national objective of a decent, safe and sound living environment; and

WHEREAS, the City of Washington deplores discrimination in the provision of housing on the basis of race, religion, color, creed, sex, national origin, young children in a family, or handicapping conditions; and

WHEREAS, the City of Washington desires that every citizen be afforded the opportunity to select a home of his or her choice; and

WHEREAS, the City of Washington wishes to ensure that programs and activities undertaken by the city relating to housing and urban development be administered in a manner to affirmatively further fair housing as required by Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended; 24 CFR 107, Nondiscrimination and Equal Opportunity in Housing under Executive Order 11063; and the North Carolina State Fair Housing Act, NCGS, Chapter 41A;

NOW, THEREFORE, to accomplish the above, the City of Washington does adopt the following procedures for receiving and resolving housing discrimination complaints:

1. Any person or persons wishing to file a complaint of housing discrimination in the City of Washington may do so by informing the City of Washington Planning

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Department at (252) 975-9317, or NC Human Relations Commission (919) 807-4420, Toll-Free (866) 324-7474, TDD# (919) 807-4420 (or Relay North Carolina TTY# 1-800-735-2962) of the facts and circumstances of the alleged discriminatory act or practice;

2. Upon receiving a housing discrimination complaint, the City of Washington Planning Department shall acknowledge the complaint with ten (10) days in writing and inform the North Carolina Human Relations Commission about the complaint. The city shall then assist the Commission and the complainant in filing an official written housing discrimination complaint with the Commission, pursuant to the State Fair Housing Act and Title VIII.
3. The City of Washington shall offer assistance to the Commission in the investigation and reconciliation of all housing discrimination complaints which are based upon events occurring in the city.
4. The City of Washington shall publicize within the city that the City of Washington Planning Department is the local office to contact with housing discrimination complaints.

Adopted this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2011.

**ATTEST:**

**s/Cynthia S. Bennett**  
**City Clerk**

**s/N. Archie Jennings, III**  
**Mayor**

CITY OF WASHINGTON  
FY2009 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT  
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM  
RESIDENTIAL ANTIDISPLACEMENT AND RELOCATION ASSISTANCE PLAN

In accordance with requirements of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, hereinafter referred to as the Act, as amended, the City of Washington hereby certifies that it shall adhere to the following guidelines and procedures to minimize adverse impacts from residential displacement required as a result of programmed activities in its FY2009 CDBG Housing Development Project.

- 1) The City of Washington will replace all occupied and vacant occupiable low/moderate-income dwelling units demolished or converted to a use other than as low/moderate-income housing as a direct result of activities assisted with funds provided under the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, as described in 24 CFR 570.488.

For the CDBG program, the term "vacant occupiable" or "suitable for rehabilitation" means a unit which is no worse than moderate according to the needs gradient scale published in the Housing Development Application Guidelines, may be brought up to Section 8 HQS for an expenditure of less than \$4,000 in rehabilitation costs, and will have an expected useful life of at least 10 years with routine maintenance upon completion of the rehabilitation. In addition, a vacant unit may be classified as "not occupiable" if it has been condemned, is condemnable or otherwise unsuitable for human habitation under the local government's housing code or redevelopment plan.

For occupied units, "low and moderate-income dwelling unit" means a unit that either is occupied by a low or moderate income family, or rents for an amount that would be affordable to a low or moderate income family (that is, rent and utilities would not exceed 30% of the gross monthly income of a family that would occupy the unit without overcrowding).

For vacant units, a "low-moderate income dwelling unit" means a unit whose fair market rent would make it affordable to a low or moderate income family, as calculated above.

- 2) All replacement housing will be provided within three years of the commencement of the demolition or rehabilitation relating to conversion. Before obligating or expending funds that will directly result in such demolition or conversion, the city will make public and submit to the Office of Community Investment and Assistance (CI) the following information in writing:
  - a. A description of the proposed assisted activity;
  - b. A general location on a map and approximate number of dwelling units by size (number of bedrooms) that will be demolished or converted to a use other than as low/moderate-income dwelling units as a direct result of the assisted activity;
  - c. A time schedule for the commencement and completion of the demolition or conversion;
  - d. The general location on a map and approximate number of dwelling units by size (number of bedrooms) that will be provided as replacement dwelling units;
  - e. The source of funding and a time schedule for the provision of replacement dwelling units; and
  - f. The basis for concluding that each replacement dwelling unit will remain a low/moderate-income dwelling unit for at least 10 years from the date of initial occupancy.
- 3) The city will provide relocation assistance, as described in 24 CFR 570.488, to each low/moderate-income household displaced by the demolition of housing or by the conversion of a low/moderate-income dwelling to another use as a direct result of assisted activities.
- 4) Consistent with the goals and objectives of activities assisted under the Act, the city will take the following steps to minimize the displacement of persons from their home:
  - a. The city will avoid demolition of occupied, severely deteriorated residential structures where possible through substantial rehabilitation as opposed to clearance.
  - b. The city will attempt to locate comparable replacement housing in or near the neighborhood where demolition activities occur to further minimize neighborhood disruption caused by clearance activities.

Adopted this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2011.

**ATTEST:**

**s/Cynthia S. Bennett**  
City Clerk

**s/N. Archie Jennings, III**  
Mayor

**AUTHORIZE – CITY MANAGER TO SIGN CONTRACT WITH HARRY LEE’S  
LANDSCAPING FOR INSTALLATION OF STAMPED CONCRETE  
CROSSWALKS AT THE INTERSECTION OF STEWART PARKWAY AND  
RESPESS STREET**

By motion of Mayor Pro tem Roberson, seconded by Councilman Pitt, Council unanimously authorized the Manager to sign a contract with Harry Lee’s Landscaping in the amount of \$8100 for the installation of stamped concrete crosswalks at the intersection of Stewart Parkway and Respepp Street.

**CONTINUED – BUDGET WORKSHOP**

Page 113 – **Library**, City Manager, Pete Connet stated Gloria Moore, Library Director, was here to answer any questions Council may have. Mayor Pro tem Roberson inquired about the difference in last year’s budget vs. this year’s budget. Councilman

Mercer responded and shared he visited the Library and Ms. Moore took quite a bit of time to show him the existing problems and shared we do not maintain our facilities. This money will be used to play catch-up and Councilman Mercer requested Ms. Moore not skimp on the amount requested. Ms. Moore stated the increase is due to maintenance and repairs of the building. Mr. Connet spoke to the HVAC unit replacements and shared that in an email Ms. Moore indicated one out of the three had been replaced. Mr. Connet inquired if the other two will need replacing and Ms. Moore felt it was possible they could wait another year.

Mayor Jennings stated Ms. Moore has been running the Library on a shoe string budget which has been a challenge for several years. In addition, she is housed in a Historic Building and the maintenance is very challenging as well. Mayor Jennings inquired as to the bidding process for air conditioning and roof repairs – are we requiring Ms. Moore to submit bids? Ms. Moore stated staff (Eddie Gurganus, Mike Whaley and Allen Lewis) is very supportive and help her by doing this process. Councilman Davis inquired if funds to replace the 2<sup>nd</sup> unit were included in the proposed budget and Mr. Connet responded ‘no’. Mr. Connet mentioned the increase of \$300 by moving the phone lines and Councilman Mercer stated now was a good time to answer his request for the cost of phone lines:

Fire alarm line	\$28.08
Burglar alarm	\$15.00
Fax line	\$24.68
Regular line (without long distance)	\$30.00 (approximate)
Computer line	Network (will give this report later)

Mr. Rauschenbach and Mr. Hardt stated Mr. Segal performed a phone audit about 2 years ago with quite a bit of savings to the City.

Mr. Connet & Ms. Moore presented the recommended operating hours for Brown Library: Council was presented with a graph and Ms. Moore explained that the graph indicates there is very little activity between the hours 7-8 pm and people are standing at the door by 10 am. The recommended hours will save approximately \$1,000 a year.

Monday – Friday:	10 am. – 7 pm.
Saturday:	10 am. – 3 pm.
Sunday:	<del>1 pm. – 4 pm.</del> (Maintain 1 pm. – 6 pm.)

Mayor Pro tem Roberson was ok with the recommended operational hours. Councilman Mercer suggested having the Sunday’s hours stay at 1-6 instead of 1-4 because it has only been in operation for approximately 3 months.

Mayor Jennings directed Ms. Moore to keep Sunday operating hours from 1-6 and implement the changes on Monday thru Saturday.

Page 118 – **Recreation Admin.** Interim City Manager, Pete Connet stated this budget was slightly less than what it was the previous year. All major line items are pretty consistent.

Page 122 – **Events Facilities.** Mayor Jennings inquired if any allowance had been made for the Festival Park. Ms. Hardison stated they haven’t set the fee scale for the Park and Mr. Mobley shared he will look at the New Bern policy.

Mayor Pro tem Roberson inquired about item number 10-40-6121-1502 Main/Repair HVAC at Oakdale – is it the separate building. Mr. Mobley stated it would be for the Bobby Andrews center (in the lobby). Councilman Mercer inquired if there was a unit in there now and Mr. Mobley responded ‘yes’. Discussions followed concerning the SEER rating and Councilman Mercer suggested getting maximum bang

for buck with a 18-20 SEER rating instead of 16 (may be worth the difference in the long haul).

Mayor Jennings noted a correction on the justification sheet - requesting increase should be \$33,920 and not \$36,000.

Following the conclusion of Parks & Recreation session of the budget process, Mayor Jennings called Council attention back to **Events & Facilities** to address the issues of Castle Soccer & Excel T-ball.

Council agreed to pay as they did last year for the Excel T-ball - \$50 per council member.

Recess at 7:40 pm.

Mayor Jennings polled Council for their opinion on elimination of fees for the children to play free. Mayor Jennings feels you will have more participation if you can reduce the total cost at all walks of life. There will still be a league fee to cover some of the cost but the City fee will be set aside.

By motion of Councilman Davis, seconded by Councilman Pitt, Council unanimously agreed to extend the meeting to 8:30 pm.

**Councilman Moultrie** – Concurs (in agreement) but we need to look out for our employees

**Mayor Pro tem Roberson** – Opposed to eliminating fees. Mayor Jennings stated staff recommended taking half of the proposed reduction from contingency fund. Mayor Jennings suggested we have a fractured relationship with the league and we need to rebuild the relationship.

**Councilman Mercer** – Where will we get the money? Mayor Pro tem Roberson and Council Mercer stated this would be a recurring expense.

At this point, Mr. Connet noted his recommendation that was forwarded to Council: The contingency would be \$116,000 if his recommendation is considered for the following & would allow the discussion on the Recreation fees:

EDC  
WHDA  
Turnage Theatre  
Hotel Feasibility Study  
Economic Development

By motion of Councilman Davis, seconded by Mayor Pro tem Roberson, suggested to table this discussion until next meeting. Motion fails: For the motion: Council Davis and Mayor Pro tem Roberson. Against the motion: Councilman Mercer, Pitt & Moultrie.

By motion of Councilman Pitt, seconded by Councilman Moultrie, Council extended the meeting until 9:00pm. Voting against the motion: Councilman Davis.

**Mayor Pro tem Roberson** stated he seconded because he does not have any budget numbers in front of him. The budget is \$63 million that affects a lot of people's lives and he wants to take care of City employees as well in this budget. They have not had a raise in over 3 years – 1<sup>st</sup> give all employees an increase. Councilman Davis agreed that we need the figures in front of us.

**Mayor Jennings** clarified what he heard from some members of Council stating the need to see some numbers generated. One consideration if we can find the money, different consideration if we don't have matched savings for the idea. Mayor Jennings inquired what about the consideration "if we find the money – make the commitment to make the change if we can find the money"?

**Councilman Pitt** stated he is in agreement that we need to know where the money will come from but we need to be an all inclusive City to be an effective Council. We have cut things that don't involve the entire City and found the money if it means to cut here and cut there – everyone should get a piece of the pie.

**Councilman Davis** shared he is a Parks & Recreation professional. He has seen fees come and go but he has never in his career seen a reduction of a fee causing an increase in participation. The Recreation Department has always been asked to produce more revenue and now we are saying don't worry about revenue we will just fund it. He doesn't feel that is a legitimate way to operate, we have to be fiscally responsible to our citizens. He agrees with Councilman Moultrie, Mayor Pro tem Roberson in that we need to do something for our employee's they are our most important asset. The league can get a reduction by providing a list of the people who live in town and they will get a \$5 rebate. Mayor Jennings shared that we all value our employees but this is a separate issue and we should keep these issues separate. We can take up our employees increase at the right time. He can't see where dropping the fees by over half wouldn't provide more participation. Councilman Davis mentioned we cover everyone we are aware of that can't pay the fees and Mayor Jennings suggested there are many people that we are not aware of.

Mr. Connet addressed the comments concerning employees not having anything in this budget, there is a merit and job maturity in this budget and assumes Council is talking about something more across the board and Councilman Davis responded 'yes'. Approximately 10 out of 242 employees last year did not receive anything.

Council directed the Manager to look for the money and stated they did not want it out of contingency.

Mayor Pro tem Roberson stated we need to stop funding outside agencies every year (\$69,000). Give them advance notice (a number of years to fund).

Page 127 – **Athletics & Programs**, Mr. Mobley stated the County reimbursement funds are coming through. Councilman Mercer inquired if the part-time help was one individual and Mr. Mobley stated it is two individuals. Mr. Connet inquired if the tennis nets was a carry-over from previous years and Mr. Mobley responded 'yes'.

Page 129 – **Senior Programs**, Councilman Mercer made the following observations: Replacements of Stove & Refrigerator at \$3200; Ms. Everett stated the Manager had requested she speak with Lowes concerning this purchase and she was given enough discount to get them for \$2300. Mr. Connet advised checking on State Contract as well. Ms. Everett providing Council with a document showing how many people are being fed & stated the appliances were installed in 1993. Ms. Everett shared that in the month of March they serve over 3,000 services and the average in the fitness room is approximately 40 people a day.

Page 135 – **Waterfront Docks**, Mr. Connet noted the budget was a \$40,000 decrease but the \$40,000 was in capital outlay last year and we don't have it this year.

Councilman Mercer inquired as to the rental income for the docks. Ms. Hamilton stated the projected for this year was \$75,000 and they have already reached that and predicting they will have about \$80,000-\$85,000 this year.

Councilman Mercer asked if the radios are working (why the change to cell phones). Mr. Mobley stated the radios are for contacting the boats and the cell phone is contacting the boats and us.

Mayor Jennings asked Mr. Rauschenbach if he have numbers that take into account the transition to transient docks – permanent docks (the cost for carry on the debt service – some sort of projection as to what the revenues would be). Mr. Rauschenbach responded ‘no’ for the debt service (no interest earned) Mayor Jennings, well do we have any reasonable projection of what the additional revenue would be and Mr. Rauschenbach stated they didn’t budget additional revenue.

Mayor Jennings inquired if there were any funding or strategy that would preclude the Council from changing the current transient slips to permanent. Various suggestions were provided by Council, Attorney and Staff but with no clear answer.

Page 139 – **Civic Center**, Mayor Pro tem Roberson shared they have decided to wait to get the bids on replacing the material for maintenance items. Mr. Rauschenbach explained further by stating the latest information received from Ms. Lewis regarding the cost of replacing the decking was \$15,000 and they need to receive additional quotes. Mayor Pro tem Roberson shared they don’t have an estimated amount of how much it will cost to replace the decking to be in compliance with the ADA audit. Mr. Rauschenbach stated he suggested this go out for bids and will bring back to Council.

Page 141 – **Aquatic Center**, Councilman Mercer addressed concerns on part-time salary vs. full time. Councilman Mercer noted this facility have not come close to breaking even and never will.

Mayor Jennings requested info on swimming lessons – how many are being taught at the center. Ms. Hardison stated the lessons in the summer stay full (they keep a waiting list). During the winter months they can only teach on weekends because of the High School swim team and water aerobics

Page 147 – **Parks & Grounds Maintenance**, Councilman Mercer asked why the increase in part-time help and Mr. Mobley stated preliminary work for the trail at Jacks Creek. Councilman Mercer voiced his concern over the maintenance/repair cost.

- Replacement of countertop as recommended by the Health Department (Ms. Hardison stated they can remove this from the budget)
- Replacement of Playground equipment (Mr. Mobley explained it was repairing parts)
- 2 Waterfountains at Havens Gardens
- Concrete walkway for public by concession stand at complex (Mayor Jennings and Ms. Hardison explained). Councilman Mercer requested more information on the concrete walkway and discussions followed.
- Grasshopper Lawnmower (staff explained and stated what type of mower this was; also they were given a discount on this one plus traded in a John Deer Tractor). This has a zero turn and it will fit on the trailer to go around town for mowing. Councilman Davis inquired how much grass is mowed each week – approximately 200 acres that’s mowed once a week with the complex & fields being mowed twice a week. Places they mow –Veterans Park, Health Department, Girl Scout, and State property.
- \$25,000 for Decking on the Boardwalk (Mr. Mobley explained they will be replacing 1/3 deck board – composite wood on wetlands). Total cost will be \$75,000.

By consensus Council agreed to add another budget session on Monday, June 6, 2011.

**ADJOURN – UNTIL MONDAY, JUNE 6, 2011 AT 5:30 PM IN THE COUNCIL  
CHAMBERS AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

By motion of Councilman Davis, seconded by Mayor Pro tem Roberson, Council adjourned the meeting at 9:05 pm until Monday, June 6, 2011 at 5:30 am in the Council Chambers at the Municipal.

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**Cynthia S. Bennett, CMC  
City Clerk**