

CARSON CITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Minutes of the Special May 4, 1994 Meeting

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A special meeting of the Carson City Board of Supervisors was held on Wednesday, May 4, 1994 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, NV at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS - Mayor Marv Teixeira
Kay Bennett
Greg Smith
Tom Tatro

**PARKS & REC.
COMMISSION -** Chairman Pete Livermore
Donna Kuester
Linda Marrone
Doug Martin
Ed Moran

STAFF - Mary Walker, Finance Director
Steve Kastens, Parks and Recreation Director
Paul Lipparelli, Deputy District Attorney
Larry Nair, Building Superintendent
Barbara Singer, Recreation Supervisor
Scott Fahrenbruch, Parks Superintendent
Mitch Ames, Recreation Superintendent
Kurt Meyer, Recreation Specialist
Fran Smith, Recording Secretary
Sheila Dargert, Recreation Office Supervisor
Sandy Tschumperlin, Accounting Technician
(BOS/PR 5/4/94 1-0000)

NOTE - Unless otherwise indicated, each segment was introduced by Mayor Teixeira. Individuals speaking are identified following the introduction of each. A tape recording of these proceedings is on file in the Clerk-Recorder's office. This tape is available for review and inspection during normal business hours.

CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Teixeira called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. A roll call was taken of the Board of Supervisors and a quorum was present although Supervisor Ayres was absent and Supervisor Smith had not yet arrived. (Arrived at 7:10 p.m.)

A roll call was taken of the Parks and Recreation Commission and a quorum was not present at this time. Members Ayres, James, Leck and Meierdierck were absent. Member Martin arrived at 6:15 p.m. constituting a quorum.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Parks and Recreation Director Steve Kastens led the pledge.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS - None.

AGENDA ITEM - PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING THE FISCAL YEAR 1994-95 BUDGET FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT - (1-0110) Ms. Tschumperlin opened the

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department's presentation by explaining the new format that had been used in developing their budget.

(1-0174) Mitch Ames presented a film which depicted the responsibilities of the department. Included were maintenance of parks, City facilities such as the Community Center, cemeteries, landscaping, restrooms, fences, buildings, re-modeling, electrical, swimming pools, heating, air conditioning, painting, carpentry, repair of furniture, asbestos removal, and moving of furniture from one location to another.

(1-0733) Mr. Ames also presented slides showing the number of citizens who utilize various facilities and what it costs them per month. Following the slide presentation Mr. Ames presented his request for a part-time employee in the person of a student. He cited his increased workload in running the theater as the reason for this request. He pointed out that the experience gained by this person will help further his/her education and also provide technical assistance when there is an event in the theater. Supervisor Bennett felt this was a reasonable request and suggested this be on the first cut list.

(1-1477) Kurt Meyer requested an additional lifeguard for the early morning lap swim. Mayor Teixeira directed this be put on the first cut list. He explained he had studied this and felt strongly that the public had paid to build the facility and deserved an added opportunity to utilize it.

(1-1962) Mike Fischer had donated \$3,000 toward opening the pool a month early this year. He told of how this had provided additional practice time for students who had, in turn, done well in competition. He asked that it be opened early again next year for the same reason.

(Supervisor Smith arrived at 7:10 p.m.)

(1-2609) Larry Nair had included a request for an additional full time skilled trades technician in his priorities. He provided slides depicting the cramped conditions of his shop area. He also had slides showing the poor condition of his department's maintenance buildings and explained what is stored in these buildings and the value involved. He then detailed all the things his department is required to do but cannot do so in a timely manner because he is short both in time and manpower. The discussion included the fact that work priorities cannot be maintained because of this lack. The subject of privatization of some of these duties was included in this discussion as well. Mayor Teixeira expressed his agreement with the problems and felt that this should be considered for an alternate funding source if Mr. Nair's request does not make the first cut list.

(Mayor Teixeira declared a five minute recess at 7:35 p.m. When he reconvened the meeting at 7:40 p.m. quorums of both the Board of Supervisors and the Parks and Recreation Commission were present.)

(2-0187) Scott Fahrenbruch presented slides that detailed the tasks required of his department. Included were maintenance of all the ball fields, turf in general, medians, weed abatement, tree maintenance, maintenance and/or replacement of playground equipment. He also discussed his belief that some

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kind of a forestry system is needed. The slides also highlighted the poor conditions at many of the parks and Mr. Fahrenbruch commented on what needs to be done to refurbish the landscaping as well as equipment. He, too, commented on the lack of manpower and time to manage all that is required and noted his request for upgrading two part time employees to two Parks Maintenance Worker I positions. Mayor Teixeira inquired if adding two more seasonal positions will help the situation. Ms. Walker said it will help but will be a one shot item and Supervisor Bennett asked that these be put on the cut list. Mr. Fahrenbruch revisited the subject of privatization of some custodial services. He felt this could free up manpower to handle some of the turf maintenance problems and, in general, help the infrastructure of the park system. He also noted that whatever costs savings are achieved with privatization will be put back into the General Fund. Mayor Teixeira requested that Mr. Fahrenbruch prepare a report representing an overview of the entire parks system maintenance. He asked that Mr. Fahrenbruch also research what services are available in the private sector and the cost to the City. Supervisor Smith asked that \$12,000 be put on a one shot basis for "out-sourcing". He felt that this can be used by the department to determine how they can save the City money as well as utilizing some of their manpower to deal with the problems that have been discussed. Mr. Fahrenbruch emphasized his feeling that an urban forester should be enlisted to conduct the maintenance of the tree program in the system. Supervisor Smith referred to the complaints the public had registered last year on the condition of the park system and complimented the department on the improvements they have made despite their manpower problems.

(2-1345) Parks and Recreation Commission Chairman Pete Livermore reported that the Commission had requested help from staff to establish an "Adopt-A-Park" program. He said the Foundation for the Betterment of Carson City Parks is donating new garbage cans for Mills Park amounting to approximately \$1,365.00. Mr. Kastens reported that Southern Pacific Power and the Save the Earth 4-H Club have joined the movement and that Eagle Valley Middle School is in the process as well. Supervisor Bennett felt that new corporate entities in the community could be encouraged to participate.

(2-1405) Rich Harvey, a State urban forester, said he has worked with communities throughout the state in developing urban forestry programs. He described how trees increase property values and how the City benefits in the form of property taxes. He provided figures showing how much a single tree can return to the City during its lifetime. He also cited figures from Tucson and Fresno as examples of what can be achieved. He reported on the environmental benefits derived from trees as well - controlling air pollution, energy savings, reduction of soil erosion, water infiltration, etc.

(2-1478) Mr. Harvey pointed out that a City forester can help the City to avoid potential hazards and litigation caused by falling limbs, blowing dust, etc. He explained that this person can manage what is planted that will help to avoid broken water lines, cracked sidewalks, and invasion of sewer systems by roots. He also commented on what this person can do to control insect infestation. He reported that an urban forester can also be valuable by making landscaping recommendations for new developments. Supervisor Bennett suggested this position be added to the first cut list. She complimented Mr.

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Harvey and the Shade Tree Council for all their hard work. Supervisor Smith suggested adding \$2,500 to the remainder of last year's funding for this on a one shot basis in the event it does not make the cut.

(2-2000) Parks and Recreation Commission Member Ed Moran had developed a proposed Parks and Recreation budget for fiscal year 1994-95. He reviewed this briefly for the Board and Mayor Teixeira commented that the conclusion is for the City to either cut down on the number of parks facilities or find the funds to maintain and operate them properly.

(2-2215) Mr. Kastens reported that one of the items in the Capital Improvements budget was resurfacing of the tennis courts at Centennial Park for \$70,000. He added that this \$70,000 had not made the Board's cut list. He felt that the Tennis Club should be afforded the opportunity to comment on the condition of the courts and introduced Denise Heald of the Carson City Tennis Club. Ms. Heald provided photos and talked about the poor condition of the City's courts. She noted that the last three surfacings of the courts at Centennial had been paid for and done by the Tennis Club members themselves. Supervisor Smith said he was unaware of the condition of the courts. He felt that the cracks, as discussed by Ms. Heald and shown in the photos, could present a liability problem to the City. He asked if this will be pursued and Mayor Teixeira stated this is the purview of Capital Improvement Projects.

(2-0345) Mr. Kastens then reviewed the Parks Administration budget requests. He noted an increase associated with the salary account. He explained that is due to the fact that the Secretary position was transferred from the Parks Division to Parks Administration because the duties are more closely associated with that operation.

(2-0780) Discussion ensued on projects that are funded by RCT taxes. Mr. Kastens commented that the demand exceeds the availability of funds and only a part of these are completed each year. He added that more are added each year as well. He reflected that perhaps a moratorium can be put on new projects to allow for those awaiting funding to be completed. Mayor Teixeira expressed his concern about the situation. He commented that the citizens work hard to improve the community and deserve more than what they are getting. He speculated that perhaps the City can work with the builders on a program and then pass an ordinance to assess taxes on new construction for the betterment of the community - this being separate from the RCT taxes.

(3-0115) Jo Saulisbury, representing the Park and Recreation Foundation, said she was here to request that the Board fund the restoration of the Wungnema House in Mills Park. She noted that this project has been accepted by the Historic Architecture Review Committee as well as the Parks and Recreation Commission. She added that several uses for it have been identified - meetings, tourist information center, etc. and felt that it will pay for itself through revenue from rentals.

(3-0205) Barbara Singer said the Recreation budget is not radically different from last year. She reported that most of the programs have maxed out in terms on participants and facilities. She said there are two supplemental requests to be discussed by Sheila Dargert.

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(3-0270) Ms. Dargert explained the supplemental request for a full time Secretary I position was because of the workload in the Recreation office and described the myriad of duties involved. She expressed her belief that by adding this position the office can be a "one stop shop" for the public. She said this will help citizens by eliminating the need for them to visit several entities when they arrange for the use of a facility. Ms. Singer commented on the request for \$10,000 for scholarships in the latchkey program, noting that without these children are home alone after school. Mayor Teixeira directed that this be put in the one shot category.

(1-0263) Mr. Livermore commented that the Parks and Recreation Commission had not been made aware of Capital Improvement Projects activities and felt that had they been perhaps the priorities might be different. He asked that the Commission be invited to participate in the future.

(3-0401) Dave Ruf of Greenhouse Garden Center provided the Board with sets of photos he had taken at parks and the golf course. He said his remarks were on behalf of establishing the urban forester position. He explained the problems shown in each picture and emphasized that a forester has the expertise to remediate these types of things and provide a savings to the City as well. Mr. Ruf also reported that the pruning needs can keep a crew of 12 people busy all winter.

(3-0911) Mary Walker had a five-year spread sheet covering revenues and expenditures for the pool, the Community Center and Recreation Division. She pointed out that taxpayer subsidies have increased by 100 percent during this period and that the primary reason is revenues have remained flat while expenses have doubled. She said pool fees have not been increased in three years, the Community Center's in nine years, and suggested a review might be appropriate.

(3-1015) Supervisor Bennett revisited the urban forester question and inquired if a consultant service has been considered. Ms. Walker said the Board had previously provided some funding for contractual services of which \$2,000 remains. Supervisor Smith suggested adding \$3,000 so that this can be pursued. Mayor Teixeira concurred with this one shot item.

(3-0140) Ms. Tschumperlin concluded the department's presentation by stating it was their feeling that the Board will now have a greater feel for what the Parks Department does and how they operate. Mayor Teixeira thanked the Shade Tree Council and the Parks Department for all their hard work and complimented Parks on the professionalism of their presentation.

Parks and Recreation Commission Member Moran moved to adjourn the Parks and Recreation Commission. Member Marrone seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0. Chairman Livermore adjourned the Parks and Recreation Commission at 9:33 p.m.

Supervisor Bennett moved to adjourn the Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Tatro seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0. Mayor Teixeira adjourned the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

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Supervisors

ARE SO APPROVED _____ June 2 _____, 1994

_____/s/_____
Marv Teixeira, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____/s/_____
Kiyoshi Nishikawa, Clerk-Recorder