

A Special Meeting of the Manitou Springs City Council was held in the City Council Chambers, 606 Manitou Avenue, Manitou Springs, Colorado, on November 29, 2011. Mayor Snyder called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT FOR ROLL CALL:

Mayor Marc A. Snyder
Mayor Pro Tem Matt Carpenter
Councilwoman Aimee Cox
Councilman Ed Klingman
Councilman Rick Barry
Councilman Michael Gerbig, Jr.
Councilwoman Coreen Toll

COUNCILMEMBERS NOT PRESENT FOR ROLL CALL:

None

STAFF PRESENT:

City Administrator Jack Benson
Public Services Director Bruno Pothier
Police Chief MaryJo Smith
Library Director Margaret Morris
Interim Finance Director Rebecca Davis
City Clerk Donna Kast

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm.

B. ROLL CALL

All Members of City Council were present for roll call.

C. BUDGET OVERVIEW/SALARY DISCUSSION

Jack Benson showed a PowerPoint presentation and gave an overview of the FY2012 governmental funds budget. Rebecca Davis gave an overview of the FY2012 enterprise funds budget. During both presentations, questions from City Council were addressed and comments and suggestions were made.

Jack Benson proposed a 3.5% COLA for all employees. Most on City Council disagreed with the recommendation, stating that they desired to address significant deficiencies between what our department heads are paid compared to their peers at other cities. Councilwoman Cox stated that for the same cost of a 3.5% across the board COLA, all the department head deficiencies could be corrected while still allowing all other employees to receive a 2.5% COLA.

Mayor Snyder called for a break at 9:07 pm. The meeting resumed at 9:16 pm.

Councilwoman Cox said she desired to continue discussions regarding employee salaries. She proposed a 3% COLA for all regular employees. In regards to those department heads classified as management 1, she proposed a 3% COLA to the aquatic director's salary, and then an increase to the city clerk's and library director's salaries to bring all three department heads to the same salary. In regards to the department heads classified as management 2, Councilwoman Cox proposed to bring the public works director's salary to the entry level of the management 2 salary range plus provide an additional 3% COLA. It was noted that this would complete all management 2 department head salary adjustments as all others for this classification have already been brought within the established peer range. Councilwoman Cox also proposed going to the voters in the future to ask for a mill levy increase to aid in funding additional pay increases for public safety personnel.

D. ORDINANCE NO. 2311, AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A GENERAL TAX LEVY FOR THE PURPOSE OF RAISING REVENUE FOR THE GENERAL OPERATING FUND, AND THE VOTER APPROVED MILL LEVIES FOR OTHER FUNDS OF THE CITY OF MANITOU SPRINGS – 1ST READING

Upon a motion by Councilman Barry and a second by Councilman Gerbig, Ordinance No. 2311 was unanimously approved as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

E. ORDINANCE NO. 2411, AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2012 AND TO SAFEGUARD PUBLIC FACILITIES BY AMENDING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2011 – 1ST READING

Councilman Barry made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Cox to approve Ordinance No. 2411 with the amendment previously proposed by Councilwoman Cox. That amendment was to approve a 3% COLA for all regular employees, a 3% COLA to the aquatic director’s salary, an increase to the city clerk’s and library director’s salaries to bring all three management 1 staff to the same salary; and an increase to the public works director’s salary to bring it to the entry level of the management 2 salary range plus provide an additional 3% COLA.

Councilman Elect Gary Smith asked to address the City Council. He stated that he didn’t agree with the motion as he didn’t believe it was right to compensate a small group of employees and not the whole group.

Police Chief MaryJo Smith spoke about the need to provide better compensation to officers and dispatchers, noting the high turnover rate and the weighty responsibility carried by those receiving very low compensation.

Upon a call for the vote, the motion was unanimously approved as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to conduct, Mayor Snyder concluded the Special Meeting at 9:58 p.m.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

CITY CLERK