



City of San Marcos

630 East Hopkins
San Marcos, TX 78666

Meeting Minutes City Council

Thursday, February 27, 2020

4:30 PM

City Council Chambers

630 E. Hopkins - Budget Policy Workshop

I. Call To Order

With a quorum present, the budget policy workshop meeting of the San Marcos City Council was called to order by Mayor Hughson at 4:31 p.m. Thursday, February 27, 2020 in the City Council Chambers, 630 E. Hopkins, San Marcos, Texas 78666.

II. Roll Call

Council Member Marquez arrived after roll call at 4:41p.m.

Present: 7 - Council Member Melissa Derrick, Mayor Jane Hughson, Mayor Pro Tem Ed Mihalkanin, Council Member Joca Marquez, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Mark Rockeymoore, Council Member Maxfield Baker and Council Member Saul Gonzales

PRESENTATIONS

1. Receive a Staff presentation and hold discussion regarding the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget Policy for the City of San Marcos, and provide direction to the City Manager.

Bert Lumberras, City Manager provided a brief introduction and thanked the Council for the direction provided last week. Staff received a lot of good feedback that will be integrated in the budget development over the next few months.

Both the Budget Policy statement and Strategic Initiatives are scheduled to be on the March 17 Council meeting for consideration and approval.

Heather Hurlbert, Director of Finance and Melissa Neal, Assistant Director of Finance led the presentation.

Ms. Neal provided a recap from the previous Budget Policy Workshop held on February 20, 2020.

Council provided consensus to increase the Municipal Judges hours from 30 to 40 hours per week. This will be a budget impact of \$36,000.

Last week Council proposed funding the Homebuyer Incentive Program at \$70-75K annually, a decrease from \$100K. After further Council discussion

this evening, consensus was to dissolve this program. If there are legal considerations and it cannot be dissolved we would continue to fund it at the level needed.

Council held discussion on sales tax revenue projections and the need to be very conservative when budgeting with the current climate of the economy. Staff will be taking a very conservative approach and bring back projections as the year goes on and numbers are available. It is early in the process and the ability to see how the actuals develop is difficult. However, once the tax rolls come in in April, staff will be better able to present a strategy.

Dr. Mihalkanin asked about an emergency contingency fund if an emergency were to occur, specifically spoke on the Corona Virus. Ms. Neal indicated there are federal funds and the City has a contingency fund of \$100,000 set aside that City Council can utilize in the event of an emergency.

Staff reviewed the 2020-21 Strategic Initiatives, which include:

Multi Modal Transportation

- A. City reviews the benefits and challenges of creating an integrated, seamless transit partnership between the City and Texas State University. (Dr. Mihalkanin Abstained)**
- B. City continues other multi-modal initiatives**

Workforce Development

- A. Leverage and partner with the community.**
- B. Facilitate opportunities for Training and Programming.**

Workforce Housing

- A. Update, consolidate, and communicate housing policies and action plans.**
- B. Develop dedicated housing and revenue sources.**
- C. Implement land use and zoning regulations that support diverse, mixed income communities in all areas of the City.**

Downtown Vitality

- A. Support diversified business activity.**
- B. Take measures to improve downtown quality of place.**
- C. Accessibility to and within the downtown.**

Sustainability

- A. Develop a baseline of sustainability performance measures.**

- B. Promote sustainability practices throughout the community.**
- C. Determine strategies to incorporate sustainability into City construction and operations.**
- D. Develop economic development and procurement policies to encourage sustainability for businesses that work with the City.**

After a brief discussion, consensus is to maintain the strategic initiatives as presented. This will be brought back for formal adoption at the March 17th City Council Meeting. The Sustainability Committee will submit their report to include in the strategic initiative adoption prior to the March 17th regular meeting.

III. Adjournment.

Mayor Hughson adjourned the budget policy workshop meeting of the City Council at 5:32 p.m. Thursday, February 27, 2020.

Tammy K. Cook, Interim City Clerk

Jane Hughson, Mayor