

I. CALL TO ORDER: 5:09 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL:

Present: Dean Kunicki, Greg Stratton, Darryl Nind
Absent: Lee Kennedy, Richard Rogero
Staff: Eric Levitt, City Manager; Linda Swan, Deputy City Manager; Jody Kershberg,
Administrative Services Director, Carolyn Johnson, Budget Officer;

III. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES

Committee Member Stratton moved, and Committee Member Nind seconded, the approval of the minutes from the April 10, 2018 meeting. The motion passed 3-0.

IV. OPENING REMARKS FROM CHAIR

Committee Chair Kunicki gave an overview of what the Budget Advisory Committee has accomplished to date. He indicated that City Council has asked the Committee to continue their analysis and that the Committee is interested in hearing City staff share their perspectives on the City budget and any ideas or suggestions they may have for future expenditure cutting or revenue generation. Chair Kunicki reviewed each of the Budget Committee's recommendations to City Council and gave the current status of each recommendation.

V. PUBLIC STATEMENTS

There were no public statements.

VI. REPRESENTATIVES OF BARGAINING GROUPS – PERSPECTIVES ON FY2018-19 BUDGET

Simi Valley Police Commander and President of the Police Management Association, Bob Brill shared his concerns with the current difficulties in hiring Police Officers. He indicated that some Cities are offering a hiring bonus to new officers, along with the promise of future pay increases, while Simi Valley has no hiring bonus and no pay increases for the three-year term of their current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). He also indicated that having senior level positions "frozen" and not filled, has left some staff wondering if the positions will ultimately be eliminated, reducing their chances for promotion and deters recruitment efforts. Commander Brill expressed concerns about one employee who left the City due to apprehensions about the City's financial stability. Mr. Brill also indicated that the City needs to concentrate its efforts on updating fees and service charges in order to cover the cost of providing these services. Mr. Brill commented that the General Fund can no longer subsidize City services as it takes away from funding to other areas.

Simi Valley K-9 Police Officer and President of the Police Officers Association, Tim Wedemeyer addressed the Committee and said that he agreed with Commander Brill comments. Mr. Wedemeyer added that they have been working around the vacant officer positions by pushing more tasks down to the volunteers, when appropriate, however supplanting job duties has been an issue with the Police Officers Association in the past. Mr. Wedemeyer also indicated that some cities are streamlining their Workers Compensation process, which gets people back to work faster and reduces the vacancies. He indicated that he would do some research and provide the Committee with more details on this issue.

Both speakers agreed that the City should align revenues with costs, for the Water and Transit Funds as well as in the General Fund, before considering a tax increase. They also spoke of needing to make changes now and to not keep delaying the implementation of ideas.

Chair Kunicki agreed that the City is subsidizing the water costs for the residents. He also pointed out that the Police are very highly regarded in Simi Valley and thanked the speakers for their service. Committee member Stratton pointed out that increasing revenue in the Water and Transit Funds won't help the General Fund, unless the General fund is subsidizing the funds. Committee member Nind stated that the Committee is working to find ways to solve the City's problems and they have no intention to delay acting on potential solutions.

VII. FUTURE AREAS OF FOCUS FOR COMMITTEE DISCUSSION (BASED ON COUNCIL DIRECTION)

Chair Kunicki requested that the City Manager continue to reach out to the members of the Service Employees International Union to invite them address the Committee at a future meeting. The Committee Chair and attending members requested that the following topics be agendized in upcoming meetings:

- 1) Transit funding – Staff to explore options available to access use of funds in other areas. Committee Member Stratton requested information on how the City of Thousand Oaks was able to get approval to use transit funds for their roads.
- 2) Water Rates – Staff to provide information on existing water rates and determine how much revenue is required for the Water Fund to be cost neutral.
- 3) Landscape District – Further discussion on conditions affiliated with the District's Planned Development permits and the 218 process
- 4) Outside Legal Costs – Staff to provide an analysis of outside legal costs.

VIII. FUTURE DISCUSSION ON PENSION COSTS

City Manager Levitt to address in next meeting.

IX. FUTURE ANALYSIS/RESEARCH

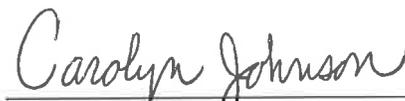
Committee discussed in above (VII).

X. CALENDAR FOR QUARTERLY MEETINGS

The Committee agreed to try to find a date in October, that would work for everyone, for the next meeting.

XI. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.



Carolyn Johnson, Budget Officer