



MAYOR  
Geno Martini

CITY COUNCIL  
Julia Ratti, Ward I  
Ed Lawson, Ward II  
Ron Smith, Ward III  
Mike Carrigan, Ward IV  
Ron Schmitt, Ward V

CITY ATTORNEY  
Chet Adams

**CITY COUNCIL BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING MEETING MINUTES**  
**9:00 A.M., Tuesday, May 15, 2012**  
**City Council Chambers, Legislative Building, 745 Fourth Street, Sparks, Nevada**

**1. Call to Order** (Time: 9:02 a.m.)

The Budget Public Hearing meeting of the Sparks City Council was called to order by Mayor Geno Martini at 9:02 a.m.

**2. Roll Call** (Time 9:02 a.m.)

Mayor Geno Martini, Council Members Julia Ratti, Ed Lawson, Ron Smith, Mike Carrigan, Ron Schmitt, City Manager Shaun Carey, City Attorney Chet Adams, and City Clerk Linda Patterson, PRESENT.

ABSENT: None

Staff Present: Steve Driscoll, Jeff Cronk, Stacie Hemmerling, Wayne Webber, Adam Mayberry, Steve Keefer, Bob King, Trish Kuehl, Neil Krutz, Tracy Domingues and Teresa Gardner.

**Invocation Speaker** - None

**Pledge of Allegiance** (Time: 9:03 a.m.)

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Ron Schmitt.

**Comments from the Public** (Time: 9:03 a.m.) - None

**Approval of the Agenda** (Time: 9:04 a.m.)

**Consideration of taking items out of sequence, deleting items and adding items which require action upon a finding that an emergency exists.**

A motion was made by Council Member Ratti, seconded by Council Member Schmitt, to approve the agenda taking item 7.1 before item 6.1. Council Members Ratti, Lawson, Smith, Carrigan, Schmitt, YES. Passed unanimously.

**3. Recommendation to Approve Minutes** - None

**4. Announcements, Presentations, Recognition Items and Items of Special Interest** - None

**5. Consent Items** - None

**6. General Business**

**6.1 Consideration and possible adoption of the Final budget for the City of Sparks for fiscal year 2012-2013. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION) (Time 9:05 a.m.)**

An agenda item from Financial Services Director Jeff Cronk requesting approval of the final budget which was determined by modifying the tentative budget to include 1) the City Manager recommendations which were approved by City Council on April 23, 2012; and 2) any additional direction and adjustments received from Council on April 23, 2012. The budget document also reflects the budget authority for capital improvement activities according to the City's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) as approved by Council on April 23, 2012, including subsequent adjustments to the CIP as presented to Council on May 14, 2012.

According to direction received from Council on April 23, 2012, the following adjustments to the City Manager's budget recommendations are now included in the attached Final Budget document for fiscal year 2012-2013:

- Three additional Police Officer positions (General Fund);
- One additional Code Enforcement Officer position (General Fund);
- Not committing any money to the Stabilization Fund (\$200k was originally recommended by the City Manager, and results in budget savings for the General Fund)

In addition, subsequent to the Council meeting on April 23, 2012, the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency Governing Board approved their fiscal year 2012-2013 budget that included a decreased contribution from the City of Sparks by about \$45,000 (approximately down from \$250,000 to \$205,000).

The effect of these changes as outlined above to the City Manager's budget recommendations is expected to result in an unrestricted ending fund balance within the General Fund equal to 8.1% of expenditures for fiscal year 2012-2013. This is about \$125,000 under the fiscal policy goal of 8.3%.

Council Member Schmitt asked where the ending fund balance is projected to be for this current fiscal year and Mr. Cronk believes we will finish the current year with an 11.5% – 11.7% ending fund balance, and will draw it down to 8.3 and include the difference in the fiscal year 2012-13 budget. Council Member Schmitt said that with the additional \$250,000 in expenses and income projections to be \$700,000 less for fiscal year 2012-2013, adding these on-going expenses will burn up the ending fund balance quickly. Mr. Cronk estimates this budget to be stable and a \$2.6 million cut may be necessary in fiscal year 2013-2014.

A motion was made by Council Member Smith, seconded by Council Member Carrigan, to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2012-13 as outlined by staff. Council Members Ratti, Lawson, Smith, Carrigan, YES. Schmitt, NO, Motion carried.

**7. Public Hearing and Action Items Unrelated to Planning and Zoning**

**7.1 Public hearing as required by NRS 354.596 to allow public comment on the Tentative Budget of the City of Sparks for fiscal year 2012-2013. (Time 9:04 a.m.)**

A public hearing to allow public comment on the tentative budget. No public comment was received. No action taken.

**8. Planning and Zoning Public Hearings and Action Items - None**

**9. Comments**

**9.1 Comments from City Council and City Manager (Time: 9:10 a.m.)**

Council Member Ron Schmitt asked why we are required to have this public hearing and believes resources are being utilized to hold this special meeting and the same action could have been addressed at a regular council meeting. Council Member Schmitt suggested staff look into a change to the legal rules that require the budget hearing to be a separate meeting, may be a topic for the city's BDR.

City Manager Shaun Carey said the issue will be added to topics to discuss for the statewide common platform with others to make a change. Mr. Carey agrees this process has been in state law too long and should be left to individual communities.

Council Member Carrigan said the State law was changed from all budget hearings on one day to one day for cities, one from counties, and one for boards and commissions. He agrees it would make sense to change.

Mr. Cronk said the only thing required on the third Tuesday at 9:00 am is the public hearing.

**9.2 Comments from the Public – None**

**10. Adjournment (Time: 9:14 a.m.)**

Council was adjourned at 9:14 a.m.