MINUTES OF A WORK SESSION ON THE MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 1986-87, HELD BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL, MUNICIPAL BUILDING, MONDAY, JUNE 2, 1986 7:30 P.M.

Council Member R. D. Smith called the meeting to order. Council Members present were:

Julie Andresen David Godschalk David Pasquini Nancy Preston Arthur Werner

Mayor Wallace, and Council Members Howes and Thorpe were absent, excused. Also present were Town Manager David R. Taylor, Assistant Town Managers Sonna Loewenthal and Ron Secrist, and Town Attorney Ralph Karpinos.

The following is a summary of discussions that took place at the work session.

Town Manager David R. Taylor stated that following the May 12 public hearing on the budget, Council Members had requested a work session to further discuss and review items requested in the public hearing and possible suggestions from Council Members. He said requests from the ArtSchool and Entranceways Task Force which were received in the public hearing needed some discussion. Also, he said he had received requests from Council Members for additional Public Safety officers and cablecasting of Council meetings.

Entranceways

Council Member Godschalk suggested the Council discuss the merits of the request from the Entranceways Task Force and provide direction to the Manager regarding the need for a master land-scape plan.

Discussion followed regarding the merits of first developing objectives and criteria for entranceways or a master landscaping plan.

Ralph Karpinos, Town Attorney, told the Council that the Town had authority to create a special appearance district which was similar to the authority the Council now has with the Historic District.

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Council that a work session would be held following the consideration of the land use plan to discuss goals and objectives for entranceways which would provide direction to a Landscape Architect to prepare a Master plan. The Entranceways Task Force would be invited to attend the work session. Council Members requested the Manager to add \$15,000 to the operating budget for the master landscape plan.

ArtSchool

Council Member Preston asked the Council Members to consider a one-time gift of \$10,250 to the ArtSchool to assist the ArtSchool in purchasing a 7' grand piano and cover. Council Member Pasquini indicated he was not in favor of providing funding to the ArtSchool.

Library

Council Member Smith referred to a memorandum the Council had received from the Library Board of Trustees requesting \$2300 for a contractual staff position. Mr. Taylor replied he had considered this request in the context of the Library budget and had not elected to include it.

Public Safety Officers

Manager Taylor said he had heard from the Mayor and some Council Members about the need for more public safety officers (PSO's). He said some thought more patrol officers could be used downtown, others thought more patrol of residential areas was needed and another thought we could use more officers to help direct traffic out of town during rush hours. Mr. Taylor said in order to increase patrol strength by 2 more officers 7 days a week, 24 hours a day, that approximately 10 people would be needed.

Discussion followed regarding the potential benefits of adding 1 to 2 patrol officers to the Police Department, the 1985 recommendations of Rusten Associates regarding utilization of personnel, the role of the recommended civilian positions to the Police Department, and what any additional officers would do if provided.

Police Chief Herman Stone said any new PSO's would be assigned to the E Platoon which performs downtown walking patrols and special assignments to areas in need.

It was the consensus of the Council to add one PSO to the Police Department at an annual cost of \$25,000.

Cablecasting

Council Member Godschalk, saying he was not in attendance at the Council's May 27 meeting, expressed his opinion that the Council ought not move into cablecasting its meetings until a new meeting facility was available.

Council Members Andresen and Werner said they felt cablecasting of meetings ought to begin as soon as possible in the present facility.

Council Member Pasquini asked if the meetings could be broadcast on the radio instead. Mr. Taylor said he did not have information on the feasibility of broadcasting the meetings.

Personnel Services

Council Member Smith asked clarifying questions on personnel service line items in the Library and Parks and Recreation Department's recommended budgets. He also said he felt the Town would have to look very closely at projected growth and proposed annexations, because the demands on the Police Department were growing rapidly and more personnel may be needed soon.

Recycling

In response to a question from Council Member Preston, Mr. Taylor said that a proposed new recycling program, if approved, would be funded from the Landfill Fund and further discussions would follow on this subject.

Conclusion

Town Manager Taylor said he felt the Council could add approximately \$50,000 to the Recommended Budget without affecting the tax rate. It was the consensus of the Council to add the following expenses to the general fund:

\$15,000 Entranceways

25,000 Public Safety Officer

10,250 ArtSchool

Approximately \$1500-\$2000 for Human Services Contracts to meet the recommendation of the Human Services Advisory Board

Approximately \$600 for a recognition dinner for retiring members of Town Boards and Commissions (For a total of \$50-\$55,000)

The Council instructed the Manager to prepare the budget ordinance for the Council's consideration on June 9th to include the items described above.

Site Plan Review

Manager Taylor referred the Council to a memorandum that Planning Director Roger Waldon sent to him requesting the delay of the public hearing on site plan review until the fall following completion of several growth management issues.

A consensus of the Council did not materialize on this issue and Mr. Taylor said he would continue to schedule the item on the June 16 public hearing agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Mayor James C. Wallace

Town Clerk