

Special Work Session of the City Council, City of Farmington, New Mexico, held Tuesday, September 1, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in the Executive Conference Room at City Hall, 800 Municipal Drive, Farmington, New Mexico, in full conformity with the rules, regulations and ordinances of the municipality.

At such meeting the following were present, constituting a quorum:

MAYOR	William E. Standley
COUNCILORS	Dan Darnell Mary M. Fischer George F. Sharpe Jason Sandel

Constituting all the members of the Governing Body.

Also present were:

CITY MANAGER	Rob Mayes
ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER	Bob Campbell
CITY ATTORNEY	Jay B. Burnham
CITY CLERK	Dianne Fuhrman
DEPUTY CITY CLERK	Melody Coyner

UPDATE ON H1N1 FLU PREPAREDNESS

Deputy Fire Chief Terry Page stated that representatives from Farmington and San Juan County fire departments, San Juan County Office of Emergency Management ("Emergency Management Office") and San Juan Regional Medical Center ("SJRMC") participate in weekly conference calls with the State Health Office to stay abreast of developments concerning the H1N1 flu virus. He reported that 300,000 H1N1 vaccines will be available statewide, with an anticipated 15,000 to 20,000 being distributed locally. He also noted that the vaccine will consist of a minimum of two doses that will be administered on separate occasions. Furthermore, Mr. Page stated that the World Health Organization (WHO) will ultimately determine the priority of the recipients of the vaccine, but reported that school-age children, pregnant women and those pre-disposed or susceptible to immune-type deficiencies are being considered first. He pointed out that SJRMC has agreed to be the receiving agency for the H1N1 vaccine and will be responsible for disbursing it to the vaccination sites, but explained that due to the potential of exposure, the Fire Department's mass decontamination trailer may be used as a "mobile vaccination site" since it can be hosed-down and sterilized as needed. In closing, Mr. Page stated that the Emergency Management Office will be releasing a regional plan for the H1N1 virus on September 16, 2009 and noted that the Center for Disease Control has announced that the seasonal flu vaccine is available in unlimited quantities.

Mr. Page introduced Dr. Eric Ketcham, Head of Emergency Medicine for SJRMC.

In response to concerns expressed by Councilor Sandel that there might not be enough seasonal flu vaccine available, Dr. Ketcham described the supply as a "bumper crop", but explained that there is a higher demand than in previous years. Although he encouraged everyone to get the seasonal flu vaccination, he strongly recommended that the elderly, those with underlying illnesses, healthcare professionals, emergency medical service workers and firemen get vaccinated.

Following brief discussion, Councilor Sandel suggested that the Four Corners Safety Network be contacted to help distribute information concerning the Regional H1N1 Emergency Management Plan. Councilor Fischer suggested that such information be posted on the City's website.

In closing, Dr. Ketcham stated that it would be helpful if the Fire Department facilities were made available to assist with administering the H1N1 vaccine to the public.

PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2010 BUDGET REVISION

Providing opening remarks, City Manager Rob Mayes stated that this is the third year in a row that staff has worked to reduce spending and eliminate waste, noting that the adopted FY 2010 budget is equal to the FY 2009 actual budget. However, he noted that staff is now expecting a \$4.2 million deficit in the General Fund by the end of FY 2010 because of the recent downturn in gross receipts tax revenues. He provided the Council with a handout titled, "General Fund Budget Revision Discussion Draft" which identifies expenditure reductions and revenue adjustments equal to \$4.2 million. He also pointed out that it is the long-term plan of staff to reduce the personnel budget in the General Fund (excluding Police and Fire) by 10 percent, or 60 positions, through attrition. Mr. Mayes also pointed out that staff is recommending that the reserve account be increased by \$459,200 to cover emergency purchases that cannot be absorbed by the reduced budgets.

In response to concerns expressed by Mayor Standley regarding the proposed \$250,000 reduction in jail costs, Mr. Mayes assured him that this reduction will not require a change in Police Department policies or procedures governing arrests. He also noted that the proposed FY 2010 budget for jail costs is still higher than what was budgeted in FY 2009.

Following further discussion, Councilor Sharpe contended that staff has presented a responsible recommendation that adequately addresses the projected FY 2010 deficit.

Councilor Darnell concurred with Councilor Sharpe's comments and thanked Utility Director Maude Grantham-Richards for agreeing to increase the Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILT) by 2.5 percent to boost the General Fund revenues by \$900,000 per year.

Councilor Sandel echoed their comments, but asked that staff perform their tasks as safely as possible in order to prevent accidents and to avoid unnecessary lawsuits. He also asked that staff explore areas where the Farmington Police Department and the San Juan County Sheriff's Office could coordinate efforts; that the City Manager identify other funding sources to replace the City's contractual obligations to the numerous community contracts (i.e., federal lobbyist, San Juan Safe Communities Initiative, San Juan Economic Development Services, etc.); that the City Attorney determine whether a City Councilor could donate his salary to the General Fund; and that staff research new revenue sources, such as annexation. Expanding on that comment, Councilor Sandel contended that there is a strong potential for additional revenue in the areas around County Road 350 due to the large number of existing businesses. Following brief discussion, it was a consensus of the Council to direct staff to identify the pros and cons associated with annexing that area and to make a recommendation to the Council in the near future.

Thereupon, a motion was made by Councilor Sharpe, seconded by Councilor Darnell to direct staff to draft a resolution approving the recommended FY 2010 budget revisions, and upon voice vote the motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion was made by Councilor Darnell, seconded by Councilor Sharpe to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 a.m., and upon voice vote the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED this 22nd day of September, 2009.

William E. Standley, Mayor

SEAL

ATTEST:

Dianne Fuhrman, City Clerk