

MINUTES

City of Des Moines Finance Committee
September 9, 2002; 9:00 a.m.
Community Development Conference Room

Present:	Council Member Maggie Steenrod (chair)	City Manager Tony Piasecki
	Council Member Richard Benjamin	Assistant City Manager Corbitt Loch
	Council Member Gary Peterson Kilgore	Budget Accountant Peggy Watson
	Community Development Director Judith	

The committee began by reviewing the forecasted Building Permit Revenue. Judith Kilgore reported that she was confident in the numbers provided. The confidence came from architects and engineers already hired for some of the projects and the fact that the legislature has approved the Highline Community College appropriation. The \$156 M Highline School District Bond Issue that passed included three schools in Des Moines; Olympic Elementary, North Hill Elementary, and Mt. Rainier High School. All of the projects listed will happen, but there may be a timing issue. The revenue from permitting and plan review, along with sales tax, will be received, but the year received may be 2003 or 2004, depending on the construction timeline.

Because the newly forecast numbers differed from the original forecast from several months prior, the committee asked to see the original model for comparison.

Maggie stated that it would be very difficult to "set the tone" for budget cuts without taking the lead themselves (council members). She recommended cutting Legislative Travel at the 15% cut level which included all travel, but that for the Economic Development Council.

The committee recommended no cuts to the Food Bank and an increase if possible. Tony will report back to the Finance Committee on the direction of the Human Services Committee.

It was recommended that the purchase of all three (3) patrol vehicles replaced annually, be postponed one (1) year, realizing that money would need to be placed in the budget for maintaining them.

There was discussion on reducing cell phone expenses, both by the number of units and savings in monthly fees. Corbitt Loch is leading this project and will have the final numbers within the next two (2) weeks.

The committee wants to explore the D.A.R.E. Officer cut. It was suggested that they sit down with the Safety Committee and the Chief of Police for further discussion.

Looking at the revenues, Maggie suggested that the city receipt \$150,000 of utility tax revenue in the Airport Defense Fund and the remaining \$218,000 that would be receipted in Airport Defense, to the General Fund.

Tony is meeting with all employee groups and a poll is being conducted at this time. The employees are being asked to voluntarily reduce their health benefits along with voluntary furloughs.

The next meeting date is as follows:

September 16, 2002 at 3:30 p.m.