



California

CITY OF OCEANSIDE

JOINT MINUTES OF THE: CITY COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2006

ADJOURNED MEETING 4:00 PM COUNCIL CHAMBERS

4:00 PM - OCEANSIDE CITY COUNCIL

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| Mayor
Jim Wood | Deputy Mayor
Shari Mackin |
| Councilmembers
Rocky Chavez
Jack Feller
Esther Sanchez | City Clerk
Barbara Riegel Wayne |
| | Treasurer
Rosemary Jones |
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| City Manager
Steve Jepsen | City Attorney
John Mullen |

The adjourned meeting of the Oceanside City Council was called to order at 4:05 PM on May 24, 2006 by Mayor Wood. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Treasurer Jones.

4:00 PM - ROLL CALL

Present were Mayor Wood, Deputy Mayor Mackin and Councilmembers Feller and Chavez. Councilmember Sanchez was absent [arrived at 4:47 PM]. Also present were City Clerk Wayne, City Treasurer Jones, City Manager Jepsen and City Attorney Mullen.

WORKSHOP ITEM:

1. **Presentation and discussion of the proposed FY 2006-08 Biennial Operating and Capital Improvements Budgets and filling of vacant City staff positions**

MAYOR WOOD announced that this is the 3rd workshop on the budget. **NITA MCKAY**, Financial Services Director, said this meeting is to further discuss the 2006-2008 Proposed Operating and Capital Improvement Program Budget. She first addressed the items that Council brought forward during the previous 2 meetings for further discussion:

- A Grant Writer position - She displayed a chart, which listed the position in 2 categories: the cost if the City were to hire a permanent, full-time employee with fringe benefits [\$106,467]; and the cost for a contractual Grant Writer at \$75,000, probably working approximately 30 hours per week rather than full-time.
- Public Information Officer – This item was brought forward by Council as one that they could consider taking out of the budget. The current preliminary budget document does include the Public Information Officer position in the City Manager’s Office [\$90,000].

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MEETING BY CITY COUNCIL**

- Dispatch Supervisor - This is one of the Decision Packages not being recommended by the City Manager. The Police Department had put this item lower on their priority list.
- Uniformed Gang Police Officer – This position is not in the budget and is not recommended because it was lower on the priority list by the Police Department.
- City Council salary increase - The amount shown for the 1st year is lower because the increase would not be effective until December 2006 if approved.
- Staff had placed the final item in non-departmental as \$50,000 [General Fund] for the MainStreet program, which is actually funded from Redevelopment. This \$50,000 would therefore be available for something else.

DEPUTY MAYOR MACKIN asked if MainStreet is presently funded through Redevelopment.

MS. McKAY said it is currently in the General Fund Budget, which is why it is listed here. Council could allocate that \$50,000 to something else because the Redevelopment Budget should fund MainStreet. Staff will move MainStreet from the General Fund to the Redevelopment budget. This frees up \$50,000 in the General Fund if Council chooses to use the money for something else.

DEPUTY MAYOR MACKIN asked if this is the increase requested by MainStreet or what they have had in the past.

MS. McKAY believes this is what they have had in the past.

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN said that MainStreet is proposing a new contract with the City. The City had a 5-year agreement with MainStreet that was to reduce over time. They will come forward with a new scope of services and ask Council to fund them at a consistent level for the continuation of the MainStreet Program.

MS. McKAY next addressed items that were brought forward by Council for consideration that are 1-time expenditures, noting that the previously discussed items are ongoing expenditures. The cost of The Airport Economic Study is listed at \$50,000. The Police Firing Range cost is estimated at \$100,000 each year. These items are not in the current operating budget. There was an item to discuss further traffic signal priorities in relationship to Peacock Hills.

Regarding Balderrama Park, the Parks Master Plan is budgeted at \$100,000 in the Parks and Recreation fund. So, the Balderrama Park issues could be included with that. The Citywide Master Plan of \$2,000,000 was shown by Public Works Director Weiss on his unfunded Capital Improvement Program. The police facility study, El Corazon funding and the Veteran's Hall were also listed.

Staff has grouped all of the City Manager-recommended Decision Packages, and they are included in the bottom line of the General Fund Budget. This included additional positions: 1 position in the City Clerk's Office; 2 new Building Inspectors; 1 Library position and a Library Self-Check Out. Also, Library Marketplace Upgrades show in the 2nd fiscal year; as do a new Fire Inspector and the decision to move dispatch to the Rancho Joint Powers Authority. New positions in the Police Department for both the 1st and the 2nd fiscal years include: 1 Lieutenant, 2 Sergeants, and 2 Police Officer positions in the 1st year. In the 2nd year, it would add 3 Detectives, 1 Sergeant and 2 Police Officer positions. There is a part-time Senior Civil Engineer in Public Works and a Maintenance Worker II. These positions are in the General Fund bottom line to bring it to a balanced budget. If Council includes these positions, the positions will continue to be funded from the General Fund. The positions of Water Department Environmental Specialist, Wastewater Maintenance Worker I and Redevelopment Associate Planner are all in other funds (Redevelopment, Water, and Sewer).

The Decision Package being recommended by the City Manager is to replace the Financial/Human Resources Software. As discussed at the Capital Improvement Program presentation, this is included in the Capital Projects Reserve with a \$1,400,000 initial purchase (hardware, software training, etc.). The approximate cost for maintenance is shown at \$86,000 for Fiscal Year 2007-08.

Ms. McKay then reviewed the Decision Packages and requested new positions from the various departments that are not being recommended. If Council chooses to add any of these, something would have to be taken out of the budget. These include positions in the City Clerk's office, some other positions within the Police Department and various other positions, plus the economic study of the airport. These are not included in the budget.

The Community Facilities Fund is actually completely funded by a General Fund Transfer. The Fiscal Year 2006-2007 \$1,600,000 and the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 \$1,900,000 Community Facilities budget amounts are included in the General Fund Budget. She displayed a list of programs that this budget is funding. The City Manager has said these items could be up for discussion, if Council chose to add other items. These are included the budget as of right now and include parks maintenance, deferred building maintenance, pier deferred maintenance, the placeholder for furnishings for the Senior Center, San Luis Rey maintenance and Fire Department apparatus.

MAYOR WOOD asked for clarification that, if the Council approves the City Manager's recommended Decision Packages, the budget will be balanced, unless Council starts moving other items around.

MS. MCKAY said that is correct.

MAYOR WOOD wanted to make sure that everyone understands that. MainStreet at \$50,000 is a difference. Other than that, everything is still maintained out of the budget. Council has received telephone calls, emails and comments on all budget items. Needless to say, everyone would like to get more money, more pay and better benefits. In this budget there are many vacant personnel positions being filled. It is important for the City and the services they provide, but it makes the budget tighter. It is some of the recommendations from the Council in the past.

The Grant Writer position is something they could use; however, he was not sure it should be funded in this particular budget. Maybe they could include it in a future budget. The City currently has 3 staff Grant Writers. While they need to be specialized in their areas, their efforts could be coordinated through the City Manager's Office to assist in other grants for the City for the time being. If this is an important issue to the rest of Council, and he understood that the Grant Writer position is important to Councilmember Sanchez, they could hire a contractual person down the road if there was a need. For right now, his opinion is to stick with what they have within the City and try to use them with some continuity for anything that is important.

He noted that the Public Information Officer position was shown as a -\$90,000 [since it is currently included in the budget but could be removed if Council desires]. He recalled that it was originally in the budget.

MS. MCKAY said that is correct; it is in the budget.

MAYOR WOOD said his opinion is that the Public Information Officer should stay in the budget in the City Manager's Office. It can be used Citywide and positively benefit the City, through both the print media items and items that belong in the print media to make this a better City and deal with all of the communities around us. He would like to see that position remain in the budget.

The Police Dispatch Supervisor is important, but he would tentatively pass on that position being included in this budget. He would like to see at least 1 Gang Police Officer included in the budget, with a funding source to be decided later. This has been an

important issue throughout the community, and other Councilmembers are also interested in this. Other Councilmembers will address the Council salary increase. He noted the City Attorney gave Council information regarding issues within the State that might supercede all decisions regarding the budget. The State might mandate issues regarding the budget that Council might have to address at a later date and time.

The \$50,000, available due to the transfer of MainStreet to the Redevelopment Budget should be used for the Airport Economic Study. While they can do that in-house, this amount could at least be available for the study. The \$100,000 for the Police Firing Range does not need to be in this budget right now. It is a quality of life issue for that neighborhood, and staff is working on that. It could be moved to Camp Pendleton, Carlsbad, or another alternative. The \$50,000 could be used wisely somewhere else, such as to fund a Uniformed Gang Officer or maybe a second officer in the future.

He did not know how to address traffic signal priorities. There is a list of priorities labeled 1-6. Councilmember Sanchez had said that Council had made a promise to people in the Peacock Hills area and Oceanside Boulevard. He thought that issue was for a voice timer, not a traffic signal. The voice timer would let people know that they have 30 seconds to walk across the street. It counts down so that seniors know how to pace themselves.

PETER WEISS, Public Works Director, said staff found a copy of the grant submitted, and the City has received an Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) Grant in the amount of \$60,000 to pay for countdown pedestrian timers. The pedestrian pushes the button and, instead of the hand or a walking person coming up, the timer counts down from 30. The grant also includes some flashing beacons and lighted crosswalks. Lights would be installed in the crosswalk. Staff found the grant application and plans, and this will be a priority through the independent traffic consultant. Staff will be moving forward with the pedestrian countdown timers. After completion of the assessment, the other improvements will begin. The Peacock Hills area does not need to compete for funding, because this grant funding is available.

MAYOR WOOD stated that Michelle Lawrence had looked into the Master Plan for Parks and will include the Balderrama Park item, which is important to Councilmember Sanchez. Regarding the Citywide Master Plan, he was not sure he wanted to take \$1,000,000, or \$2,000,000 over a 2-year period, out of the budget for this. He understood it was a priority. Council may need to look at the funding during the mid-year budget review. This is very important to the City, but so is keeping a balanced budget. Funding for the Police Facilities Study is important, and he would like to come up with the money as soon as possible. This is something that Council has discussed for a long time, and it was originally supposed to be in the El Corazon area. The study should be started with the \$75,000, and it is a priority. It will only cost more in the future.

The El Corazon funding is a very important item. Developers have talked to him, and they would like to look into the Master Plan for it. They would like to address the Oversight Committee regarding use of the property, how to fund it and Councilmember Feller's concept about the frontage off Oceanside Boulevard being an aspect to pay for it. Council is interested in El Corazon but not to fund it right now as much as getting additional factual information on how it will fund itself through grants, etc.

The City should have a Veterans Hall. He has spoken to the City's Property Manager and Jane McVey and has called out to Camp Pendleton looking for facilities. The City is in the early stages of trying to locate an appropriate site for the Veterans Hall. Councilmember Chavez had an ad-hoc committee so they could look into it and move forward in trying to find something for the veterans. He also would like to look at some of the financial aspects.

Public Safety is a priority. The City has been trying to address that priority by maintaining staffing levels and putting more quality police and fire personnel on the streets. The system is running quite well right now. He agrees with Councilmember Sanchez, stating his financial priority right now is not necessarily to fill the Fire Chief or

Battalion Chiefs vacancies at this time. The team is functioning well, and that is a cost savings by not filling these permanent positions. However, this will be a choice of the entire Council. The Fire Department is trying to reorganize themselves, and they are doing a great job.

On the City Manager's recommended Decision Package, it is the City Manager's job, and he made these priority recommendations. Therefore, at this time Mayor Wood would concur and follow the City Manager's recommendations. The only change he would make is adding 1 Uniformed Gang Officer. It will be up to the Chief of Police if he wants to go for a Police Lieutenant right now, if his budget can maintain it, or if he can maintain it in-house. There are people planning retirement, so they would be looking at some openings anyway. However, priority wise, maintaining funds for some of these other positions such as Gang Officers or Patrol Gang Officers and maybe dispatch, could be discussed during the mid-year budget.

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN reminded Council that the budget is currently balanced. Whatever items are added in, then commensurate reductions will need to be made elsewhere to keep the budget balanced.

On the Community Facilities Fund, he stated that historically, booking fee reimbursements have not been included in the budget because of their vulnerability as a funding source. The booking fee reimbursements are the amount of money that the State gives back to the City when the Oceanside Police Department books a prisoner into County jail. The County bills the City for each person that is booked into jail, and the State reimburses the City for those costs. Rather than reimburse the City for each prisoner, the State sets the reimbursement at a predetermined amount, so the City does not recover the total cost. Last year the State suspended that payment and did not give the City roughly \$500,000. It is currently being debated in the Legislature, and the Governor's recommendation was to make the reimbursements. However, he cannot assure Council that the City would receive the reimbursement as a funding source. Therefore, it is not currently built into the budget.

One of the things staff could do to create capacity is to take some of the items out of the Community Facilities Fund Budget. As much as Council may like those things, the immediate item is the Median Gateway Landscape Project at \$250,000 a year. There is approximately \$1,000,000 in that Community Facilities account, and the Public Works Director had said that the money was to be used for Oceanside Boulevard. The Parks Maintenance upgrade is in the budget at \$100,000 a year. This has been funded for the last 5 or 6 years, and many improvements have been made to the parks. The Senior Center has changed a little bit. He thought there was \$350,000 in the current year budget for the Senior Center.

MS. MCKAY responded that the Senior Center is in the Non-Departmental Fund, not in the Community Facilities Fund. There is General Fund money, but it is in a different place currently.

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN said that, if Council wanted to create this \$350,000 in capacity for 2007-2008 on an on-going basis, the budgeted funds retained for Senior Center Furnishings could be carried over.

MS. MCKAY said that could be done in the current year. Council could designate it for that and keep the funding.

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN believed there is a line item in the Community Facilities Fund Budget that does not show up. Funding has been included in the budget for deferred maintenance for fire stations.

MS. MCKAY said \$80,000 for deferred maintenance of fire stations has been included in the Fire Department Apparatus and Equipment.

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN said the City had \$80,000 for the 1st year and \$120,000 for the 2nd year [as included in the total \$605,000 listed for Fire Department Apparatus and Equipment].

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN said the 2nd year total should be \$645 instead of \$605.

MS. MCKAY said that is correct.

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN said there are a number of things that need to be done to the existing fire stations. Staff has been trying to pick those up with some of the building maintenance funds. However, some things need to be taken care of. They also need to do deferred maintenance on the pier. Therefore, he is looking at the Parks Maintenance, Gateway Landscaping, and Senior Center furniture as areas where Council could create some capacity, but not a lot.

MAYOR WOOD had reviewed the list and understood the tightness of the budget. Funding for the Grant Writer position is out, contractual or otherwise. It might come up later. The Public Information Officer position was already in the budget and would remain. The Dispatcher position is out. He would like to have at least 1 Gang Officer added for the next 2 years. The Council salary issue might be addressed later. The Firing Range is not in the budget, so he removed it now, per his previous comments. Regarding the money differential, he said that the \$50,000 going from MainStreet to the Airport Study covers that item. He noted that there is \$75,000 for the Police Facilities Study. Therefore, he has 1 officer for the Uniformed Gang and \$75,000 for the Police Facilities Study that he has to make up. He thought that maintaining an Interim Fire Chief and the current Battalion Chiefs for the time being, until further notice, would make up the cost differentials. He is trying to give differentials for what Council is changing: 1 Officer for the Gang Uniform Detail and the Police Facility Study. He thought the differential would be made up there.

COUNCILMEMBER CHAVEZ asked for a point of clarification. Yesterday, Council said that decisions would not be made without a full Council. Since Councilmember Sanchez is not here, he asked if Council wants to make decisions without her being present.

MAYOR WOOD said Councilmember Sanchez had indicated she would be here as soon as possible from court, and she could be updated as they go forward.

DEPUTY MAYOR MACKIN would like to have the entire Council present prior to making decisions, although Councilmember Sanchez would miss their discussions.

MAYOR WOOD said Councilmember Sanchez has read this information. She can make her recommendations and see where it adds up with the rest of Council. He does not want to use up staff time and wants to move forward with Council's recommendations. It would not take too long to update her.

COUNCILMEMBER CHAVEZ asked if Council was going to be making decisions and voting at this meeting.

CITY ATTORNEY MULLEN said no. The budget has not been agendized to take action. However, Council can discuss it as much as they want.

COUNCILMEMBER CHAVEZ asked if Council had ever voted to join the JPA for fire protection and if that decision had been made.

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN replied negatively. The City has a tentative agreement with the JPA that will be presented to Council in conjunction with this budget. If Council approves the recommendation in the budget to move forward with funding the JPA, then the agreement would come forward on June 21st.

ROB DUNHAM, Interim Fire Chief, said the City has a contract that has been

approved by the JPA and is waiting ratification by Council in order to move forward, effective July 1st. Council will be discussing the financial issues first, and then staff would bring the contract forward on June 21st.

COUNCILMEMBER CHAVEZ is trying to understand the process. He asked if the City has studies commissioned to look at the capability of the Fire Department right now.

INTERIM CHIEF DUNHAM replied affirmatively. However, the decision to go with the JPA Dispatch was based on the study that was done on the regionalization of fire services in North County. The study was funded by the North County Fire Chiefs Association. Those findings were presented to Council 6 weeks ago by the company that did the study. One of the recommendations from that study, and listed as an opportunity, was the inclusion of Oceanside into the JPA for fire dispatching services. It would provide both regional and local advantages in regards to boundary dropping and other related dispatch issues.

COUNCILMEMBER CHAVEZ remembered that discussion, but they also tied that in to a previous study that they did and that Council had questioned, particularly regarding response times. He expressed concern that Council is being asked to approve a \$1,000,000 budget for the JPA, with an additional \$500,000 in the next fiscal year, which will increase every year. However, Council has not had the opportunity to review and analyze the studies or discuss services and enhancements. He said if that 1 item was taken out and a thoughtful process was used, Council could accomplish many things with \$1,000,000. He did not want to spend \$1,000,000 without at least a brief on it and discussion on what service they are providing. He has a problem with that.

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN could only refer to the same study that the Interim Fire Chief referred to with regard to the need for regionalization. The Interim Fire Chief might want to explain some of the benefits of having consolidated fire dispatch. Oceanside would represent a large portion of the new reconfiguration. If Oceanside joined the JPA, everyone in North County would be included in the JPA, except Escondido. He asked the Interim Fire Chief to explain how joining the JPA would assist Oceanside's emergency response.

INTERIM CHIEF DUNHAM said, primarily, it is a matter of having central coordination of all of the North County forces to address issues of medical aid and fire services. Oceanside is not acting as a single agency with walls, so to speak, from a dispatching standpoint. At any one point in time, the single dispatch center would know the status and location of all forces in Oceanside, along with Carlsbad and Vista, so that they can dispatch the closest unit without having to do call downs or other coordination with other dispatch centers before those units were dispatched. That is going to show a net savings in call processing time.

At the same time, staff will be doing a boundary drop with the other surrounding agencies. For example, currently when there is a structure fire in Oceanside, the City's Duty Battalion Chief will be commanding that structure fire. Any subsequent responses that require 3 units or more also requires a Battalion Chief (BC) to respond. When Oceanside has a structure fire with 1 BC, staff starts scrambling, calling at home BC's or off-duty BC's or Administrative BC's to fill in for that second BC requirement. With boundary drops, the BC in the neighboring agency would automatically become the commander of forces in Oceanside when the City's BC is tied-up. This will allow a smooth transition of authority and command for subsequent incidences. There are also similar advantages that come into play regarding truck companies, heavy rescue companies, or related equipment that the City does not currently own or would want to be brought onto the scene of a large scale incident. It is a matter of having a single coordination point for all of the resources in North County, rather than having it spread out among different dispatch centers.

MAYOR WOOD said he has a little more history and background in his career that might help. He generally understands this issue and appreciates that there is a cost factor

to everything. Each Councilmember has their opinions and wants more information. This is a benefit to our citizens, and that is what comes first. Some of Council's previous conversations were regarding crossing boundaries. People were calling the City asking why Oceanside Fire Paramedics are always in Carlsbad. That is because now they cross boundaries. Council was talking about putting a fire station at the end of Lake Boulevard for Ocean Hills. However, the City found out that Vista and Carlsbad were both contemplating the same thing. The regional dispatch is providing continuity. As the City gets more involved in the North County regional aspect, there is a cost and a savings to the City. In other words, if another agency like Carlsbad or Vista builds a fire station near Lake Boulevard, there is not a line boundary anymore between the cities. Oceanside might save a lot of money by having Carlsbad or Vista build a fire station out there that will benefit Oceanside. Now, a centralized fire dispatch will call the closet unit. Oceanside might get a extra fire station outside of the City's boundaries that will be the first response and visa versa. Right now, because of that, they are finding that Vista and Oceanside are the ones providing paramedic and fire services to surrounding neighborhoods. They are benefiting from Oceanside. It is the closest medical services, no matter who it is. In the long run, the City and citizens will benefit from a JPA or centralized command center by taking away boundaries. It is important, and Mayor Wood thought Council had a good understanding. There is a cost factor. Council has the right to get the additional information they think necessary. Joining the JPA will be beneficial in the long run, and that is why he is supporting it. It is a big cost, but looking at the big picture, it will be a minimal cost for the derived savings.

[Councilmember Sanchez arrived at 4:47 PM.]

COUNCILMEMBER CHAVEZ commented on Mayor Wood's comments. First of all, he is a big proponent of regionalization and said 4 years ago that regionalization is the way to save. He regionalized the entire logistics in the Marine Corps in the Western United States. He understands regionalization and knows how it works. There is a cost, and there is a savings. He asked how much money would be saved during the first year of regionalization.

INTERIM CHIEF DUNHAM said that would be a number that would have to be put on the cost of a person's life, and he cannot do that.

COUNCILMEMBER CHAVEZ said he is talking about dollars and not emotion.

INTERIM CHIEF DUNHAM said that there is no way to put a single dollar amount on a person's life. There are no initial savings involved in doing this. The savings comes in resources being able to get on scene and provide services in a quicker manner. It would be an emotional decision. Residents of Morro Hills, etc. are depending on paramedic services to the far reaches of the City. By having central dispatching and other resources, Fallbrook or North County Fire, etc. may very well be the closest unit to provide Advanced Life Support Services to those homes. That would only be revealed through that central dispatch system and the units available at the time. It is a manner of managing resources in a regional sense and providing the best service available to this community by taking advantage of that coordination. As far as a dollar cost, what the City is doing with the \$1,000,000 is putting the cost on the regionalization and the coordination. There are no savings involved. The savings are realized by providing better services to the community.

COUNCILMEMBER CHAVEZ asked for statistics to show him how much faster Fallbrook, Vista and Carlsbad will reach those areas.

INTERIM CHIEF DUNHAM said that specific response times are not available because the systems are fluid. Response times depend on who is in quarters at a particular time. When the Regionalization Study Group looked at the issue of response time, it was very clear that incorporation to a single dispatch center would provide a higher level of service and a higher level of care because of the single point of coordination.

With Councilmember Sanchez's arrival, **MAYOR WOOD** gave his input on pros and cons and explained that all Council is doing right now is giving input on any of these items. Council received a new item from the Financial Services Director regarding some of the items, and Council will try to address those.

DEPUTY MAYOR MACKIN strongly supports the Grant Writer position as either a permanent or a contractual position. She understands that the City has very talented employees who are presently writing grants. Grant writing can be labor intensive and time sensitive, and another grant writer would benefit the City. She agrees with Mayor Wood regarding adding a Uniformed Gang Officer. She has been to a couple of neighborhood meetings and has heard that the community feels that more Uniformed Gang Officers are needed since there is only a small group of officers working in the Uniformed Gang Task Force.

She feels compelled to put funding aside for the Police Firing Range. She expressed concern that an opportunity might arise to relocate the Firing Range, and funding will be needed.

MAYOR WOOD said the City Manager might have reserve funds, but it is a 1-time cost and is not an on-going expense.

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN said if the City had to do something with the Police Training Range, they would have to take it out of General Fund Reserves. Public Works Director Weiss's previous presentation indicated they had approximately \$18,000,000 allocated to various projects. Depending on how much was spent, it could mean possibly delaying something else on that list.

DEPUTY MAYOR MACKIN said the folks were promised that Council would revisit the range issue if it became a nuisance, and it has obviously been a nuisance for them. She does not want to bypass people who have been hearing for 2 years that the issue will be looked at. Council owes that to them. If the funds are earmarked, that means the funds are ready to go should the opportunity be there.

As far as El Corazon Funding and the discussion about Oceanside Boulevard being developed, she had sat on that committee. When the dogleg that runs along Oceanside Boulevard was discussed, discussion was mainly regarding the slopes. Gerald Gilbert, Jerry Hittleman and Mike Blessing all said that it was to the City's benefit and would save the City \$100,000 or more to put that piece in our habitat plan. She supports leaving it there.

She agrees with Mayor Wood as far as the funding for a Fire Chief. She asked how much of that is in the budget because she did not see it there.

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN said the position is currently filled on an interim basis. If the existing Fire Chief position were not replaced, there would not be any savings.

COUNCILMEMBER SANCHEZ said there would be savings, if he went back to his previous position.

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN said the previous position is backfilled with an acting position as well, as are the other Battalion Chiefs in the Fire Department.

COUNCILMEMBER SANCHEZ said he is not going anywhere so whatever he would be getting they would be saving because he would not be getting an additional person.

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN said the only way to save money is if Council took one of the Battalion Chiefs and decided not to fill the position.

DEPUTY MAYOR MACKIN asked if the Rancho JPA System has been presented to the Police and Fire Commission.

INTERIM CHIEF DUNHAM said it has been discussed, but a formal presentation has not been made. However, the Police and Fire Commission have received a presentation on the results of the North County Chiefs Regionalization Study, which shows the recommendation that the City join the JPA.

DEPUTY MAYOR MACKIN reported it was discussed at SANDAG, and she thinks it is of huge value to the City. She noted that Oceanside children attend Vista schools because they are there, and the same thing applies with this type of regionalization. It is unbelievable how they can cut down on response times. The City is self-insured, and the costs of wrongful death suits are high. She supports the JPA, being familiar with the system and what it proposes. Regionalization will be a wonderful asset to the City and save lives.

She does not like the cut page and referred to "The Median Gateway Landscape Project". She asked for confirmation that the City funded the project on Highway 76 and Coast Highway with Redevelopment Funds, which is not reflected in here.

CITY MANGER JEPSEN agreed.

DEPUTY MAYOR MACKIN said Oceanside Boulevard is the ugliest street in Oceanside. If Council is inviting businesses to the Business District in Rancho del Oro, Oceanside Boulevard really needs improvements. She has heard quite a few comments from people regarding what an ugly street Oceanside Boulevard is. At "Operation Appreciation," she heard comments on how wonderful Oceanside is looking now that some gateway landscaping projects have been funded. It really makes a big difference in what people think when they drive through the City. It might also make the difference in people wanting to stay versus wanting to drive through.

COUNCILMEMBER SANCHEZ would listen to the tape of the part of the meeting she missed. She was kept in court and apologized for being late. She spoke in support of a contractual Grant Writer, feeling it was important. She would go along with a contractual position and said it could change into a full-time permanent position in the future. She anticipates that receipt of future grants will require monitoring requirements and fulfilling reporting requirements.

She would also like to see at least 1 Uniformed Gang Police Officer position funded, especially based on the recent issues this past year. Council did request an Airport Economic Study, and she would like to see the study completed. She would like to move forward regarding the Police Firing Range. Yesterday, Council received a report from the Mayor regarding different alternatives being pursued with other agencies, not just with Camp Pendleton.

The Citywide Master Plan needs to go forward, although she did not know if they had to reserve that much funding [\$1,000,000]. There were different ways to proceed, and she suggested that Council look at this to see how the Citywide Master Plan can be structured. She hoped that with an additional Grant Writer, the City could obtain funding for El Corazon. This is a separate issue from on-going maintenance. Council hopes that development of El Corazon would include economic development projects that would assist in funding.

COUNCILMEMBER FELLER does not support the Grant Writer position, either permanent or contractual. The Public Information Officer is currently in the budget, but the position is totally unnecessary at this time. He supports adding 1 Uniformed Gang Officer, which is much more important than the Public Information Officer position. No one is talking about Council's salaries again, for the 4th year. There has to be a value to Council's work. Sometimes it seems like Council works 24 hours a day and drives from 1 end of the City to the other 2 or 3 times a day. Whether it involves an increase in the car allowance, he hoped Council would consider that some day, if not now. The \$50,000 realized [in the General Fund] from the funding of the MainStreet [in Redevelopment] could

easily be allocated to 1 Uniformed Gang Officer. He asked for confirmation that the Airport Economic Study could be done in-house.

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN said the portion of the study that can be done in-house is regarding land use alternatives, and the legal aspect can be addressed by the City Attorney. This was just for an economic assessment of the alternative uses for the airport land. The total package looking at the airport and surrounding regions, the proposals returned were in excess of \$400,000.

CITY ATTORNEY MULLEN mentioned yesterday that, if it were the Council's pleasure, staff could do a legal opinion on issues related to the airport in-house. He just learned that before his employment with the City, a firm had been retained, has been doing work and is in the process of preparing an initial opinion letter outlining a variety of legal issues that the City will face if the airport were closed. The City has been billed approximately \$18,000 for this work. He suggested that the City conclude that work and that opinion, and future work could be done by the City Attorney's Office.

COUNCILMEMBER FELLER said that is something that should be eliminated then. Regarding the police firing range, Council owes it to the people since Council said they would do something for them. He believes Council should do something if the noise is at that point. The Citywide Master Plan is important; at \$1,000,000 it is a lot of money. Council could probably be thinking about the Police Facility Study long before the Citywide Master Plan is done. He pointed out that most of the slopes on Oceanside Boulevard are man-made slopes, and it would not take much to remove them and install other types of slopes.

The cost of \$1,000,000 to join the Rancho JPA is a lot of money. If the City were truly being a regional player, the City would have continued with the study to become a regional fire department. The City originally started out looking at how North County becomes a regional fire department, and everyone was reluctant to participate. That is \$1,000,000 more, and we are already handling fire dispatch within the City.

He asked for an explanation on the Library Self Check Out.

DEBORAH POLICH, Library Director, said self check out is a concept that is very popular in many libraries whereby people have the option of going up to a self-check machine to check out their own materials. Staff is proposing to purchase 4 of these units: 2 for the Mission Branch and 2 for the Civic Center Library. This will provide faster service to the community. The equipment will be purchased in the 1st year with a 1-year warranty. Ongoing maintenance costs will begin the 2nd year.

COUNCILMEMBER FELLER agrees with the City Manager in that the City has an Interim Fire Chief place, and the only replacement that they would currently be filling is the Battalion Chief. He asked if the City is still out recruiting for a Fire Chief.

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN responded affirmatively. The time frame to submit applications has closed. The City has a list of candidates that is being reviewed, and a short list is being developed.

COUNCILMEMBER FELLER said Council has already committed to going out for a Fire Chief, and if the existing Fire Chief is the top candidate, then the Battalion Chief position needs to be filled. The City is currently working with backfill, so he does not see that as a problem. It would be easy to cut back on a few items, but not the "Recommended Decision Packages." Council heard from City Clerk Wayne today regarding that new technology has created more needs in her department. He said that the City would probably never be fully caught up. The Dispatcher and Records Technician are important positions for backup in the Police Department. The Rancho del Oro Interchange can always be an alternative to driving up Oceanside Boulevard and seeing that ugly road. That is still a good possibility. Perhaps some of the Community Facilities Fund budget could be pulled out. It sounded liked there is \$350,000 for the Senior Center, because there is

an existing balance.

MS. MCKAY said that is correct. There is \$350,000 budgeted in the current year in the General Fund, non-departmental. Staff could reserve that instead of re-budgeting it in 2007-2008.

COUNCILMEMBER FELLER said it is a possibility. That is enough money to address many issues, including some of those positions that need to be filled.

COUNCILMEMBER CHAVEZ said that if the JPA were not funded, they could have funded all of the Uniformed Gang Officers, Grant Writers and move the surplus from \$140,000 in 2006 to \$500,000, which would have been good. He noted they would be going forward without any studies.

For Council discussion, he was looking at the way the brief was presented and had met earlier with the City Manager. He questioned the normal attrition rate in a city of approximately 1,000 employees.

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN said the City's normal attrition rate for the non-public safety is 5%. The City's non-public safety employment base is 650 people. The City is realizing a turnover of 30-40 positions each year.

COUNCILMEMBER CHAVEZ said attrition was important to discuss because today in the newspaper there was an article regarding personnel issues. Normally, a city this large always has a lapse of hiring because employees retire or move on, so 5% is probably healthy. Keep that in mind for 1,000 employees. In the Decision Points there are 33 positions requested by staff. Then there are 21 positions recommended and the 12 positions that were not recommended by the City Manager. Council has been discussing the 33 positions as decision points. Along with this is another category of 107 currently vacant positions. Therefore, there are 140 positions or 14%. In the past, Council has throttled positions to meet the bottom line. Now, Council is trying to throttle back up. Of the 107 vacant positions, 60 are for recruiting, 19 of them are vacant and not being recruited for a number of different reasons, and 28 positions are non-funded. Both Uniformed Gang Police Officers should be funded because 16 months ago everyone agreed that gangs were a major issue. With that sort of variance of 140 positions, if they asked the City Manager to look at the currently vacant 107 positions, maybe 19 of those are vacant and not recruiting. Council could then get those police officers. He said his Plan B is that he wants to get the extra Gang Police Officers. Since he lost the JPA agreement, he does not support funding the Grant Writer position since much of the grant writing would require matching funds. El Corazon is out there for a while. He also does not support funding the Public Information Officer. Joining the JPA will reduce the level of work in the Dispatch Center, so he does not support funding another dispatch person. He supports funding for 2 Uniformed Gang Police Officers.

He does not support funding the Airport Economic Study. Legal opinions will come forward regarding the airport, and money should not be invested in the study at this time. Council needs to keep their promise regarding the Police Firing Range, and the \$100,000 placeholder at least shows intent. The cost may be more or less, but the promise needs to be kept. Regarding the \$1,000,000 for the Citywide Master Plan, Council should follow the guidance of the consultants, who recommended focusing on a particular area to see how it works. There are a lot of things to look at, such as form and base. Council should pick a point, redevelop that area this year, and see how it looks. Even though he agrees that they will eventually have to do the Citywide Master Plan, there are many issues that will be cited soon regarding the Circulation Element. The Police Facility Study needs to go forward, and he would support that. He requested that the City Manager review the other 107 vacant positions and find a place for those Gang Officers. Only 6 months ago, gangs were the number 1 issue. In the summertime kids are out on the street, it is getting hotter, things are going to happen, and that is not the time to wish they had Gang Enforcement Officers to deal with it.

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN asked for clarification from Councilmember Chavez regarding the vacant positions. There are currently approximately 20 unfunded positions, so there will not be any savings there. The titles for those positions were left in the budget, but the funding was removed 3 years ago. Of the remaining positions that are shown as either being recruited or on hold, Councilmember Chavez is suggesting that the City Manager go back and look at those positions and see if there are some other positions that could be eliminated in order to fund 2 Uniformed Gang Officers.

[Deputy Mayor Mackin left the dais at 5:23 PM.]

COUNCILMEMBER CHAVEZ answered in the affirmative. Right now, 107 positions are currently vacant; 60 positions are being recruited; 19 vacant positions that were not being recruited but are still funded; and 28 of those are unfunded and have been for several years. The City Manager should look at the 19 vacant positions that are funded but not recruiting, or maybe the recruiting ones, depending on the applicants, and fund the 2 Uniformed Gang Officers.

COUNCILMEMBER SANCHEZ supports the Rancho JPA. Addressing Balderrama, this Council and City Officials made promises to the teens at Balderrama Park regarding a Teen Center, and she wants to see that go forward. It has been 5 years since promises were made by Ana Alvarez and Jose Aponte. Council needs to do something. They were promised a Teen Center, an addition to the Balderrama Park Recreation Center. She would like to make sure that Council follows through.

[Deputy Mayor Mackin returned to the dais at 5:25 PM.]

Regarding the Fire Chief, the City has made giant leaps just within the last few months. The Interim Chief is doing a great job. This is a cost-cutting initiative. The Chief is not leaving the City. He would still be here, so his position would still be funded. If it means cutting back on a position, then that is what she means. This is a budget issue. This is her direction, and she believes there is a Council majority on that. She will be foregoing Council salary increases. She supports deleting funding for the Public Information Officer. A majority of the Council supports the Airport Economic Study.

COUNCILMEMBER FELLER just heard that Councilmember Sanchez wants to cut a position in the Fire Department, and this is interesting. He asked if there are any other teen centers in the City.

MAGERY PIERCE, Neighborhood Services Director, said the City has the following teen centers: the room at Joe Balderrama Recreation Center and Park; a teen center at John Landes Recreation Center and Park; and once Casa de Amparo moves out of Melba Bishop Recreation Center and Park, staff anticipates that a teen room will be converted at that site. The Boys & Girls Club also has a teen center.

COUNCILMEMBER FELLER said that of the teen centers currently existing in the City, the teen center at Balderrama Park is one of the nicest. The upgrades are beautiful, and it has many amenities for the kids. It is important, but it does not fit in the process right now.

MS. PIERCE said the Master Plan for the Parks and Recreation Department needs to be updated, and Balderrama Park could be included in the update. There would not be an additional cost to do some planning for expanded services.

DEPUTY MAYOR MACKIN could support a gas allotment increase for Council. She serves as a Councilmember as a public service and not to make money. She has taken leave from her employment so that she can attend meetings in the afternoon, be available for people in the morning, etc. It is tough. Councilmember Feller drives all over Oceanside, and it can get a bit taxing. She would be glad to go back to work.; however, that would cut into what she can commit to the people of this City. She is a 24-hour Councilmember, as are the other Councilmembers. An increase in Council's gas allotment is needed because of

the cost of gas.

COUNCILMEMBER SANCHEZ said staff at Balderrama Park agreed that there is a problem with the kids. The younger and older kids cannot be together, and there is a need to separate them. There have been promises made and she would like to see those promises made good. It should have been done years ago. She does not know what the delay has been, other than it just has not been included in the budget. She wants to see this done. This is a big problem. She knows what she is hearing of the things going on in the East Side. The teens have been locked out of that little room, and it is not the nicest room. It is just not working. It is one of the worst things done in the last 6 years that she has been here. It is the poorest excuse she can think of to quiet an entire community. The City has let down these kids. A lot of things have happened, and it was around the shooting that happened just a block away from her home. These kids got into graffiti and into all of these things. One of the things they said was that Council does not really believe in them and are a bunch of liars. She does not want to hear that in her community or any community. That is why this is important. Different people have come and gone. However, other people were there, and they heard the promises. The City Manager heard it too. She really wants to see this done.

COUNCILMEMBER FELLER is glad to see that it has been included in the plans. This is included in the Parks Master Plan, and staff can go forward easily. This is a lot of drama regarding an item that can be included in the Master Plan, and it is not interested in it at this point, since it is already being done.

MAYOR WOOD stated staff has heard from Council, via comments, or the community and staff on pros and cons on some of these budget items. He asked for input on how to address this. Council is not making a final vote on this budget tonight, but individual issues are being addressed. Council can probably reach a consensus on some of these items if staff wants to go forward tonight. The easiest way to handle this is vote on each individual item. He asked staff if they have any input on the best way to handle this last bit of information. If staff would like to go down the list item by item and take a Council vote, it might help staff make a decision on where to go.

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN reminded Council, that they did not agendize this item for Council action so they could not make those motions at this meeting to include or not include [items in the budget]. Based on the discussion, he could summarize, realizing that they do not have total agreement on these points. Some items might need to return to Council as individual decision points for Council's vote, in addition to the background budget.

MAYOR WOOD said the next budget workshop is tomorrow, and that is why he wanted to find out if another workshop is needed or whether Council would come back at a time to vote on the budget and individual items within it. He is asking staff to highlight Council's discussion and what to do about tomorrow's budget workshop and whether to go forward or not.

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN indicated that tomorrow's meeting would not be necessary since tomorrow's agenda was posted the same as this one and they would not be able to vote on the items tomorrow. He recapped Council's discussion, and staff will return with recommendations. He went through the list:

- Grant Writer Position – Staff will return to Council with a recommendation for a contractual recommendation.
- Public Information Officer Position – Staff is moving forward with the interviews next Tuesday. From what he has heard, this position will remain in the budget.
- Dispatch Supervisor Position – No.

COUNCILMEMBER SANCHEZ said a majority of Council has indicated that, if funding the Public Information Officer means other things are not happening, then the Public Information Office position should not be funded.

COUNCILMEMBER CHAVEZ heard that 3 Councilmembers did not support the Grant Writer position.

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN said these could come back as Decision Points for Council.

COUNCILMEMBER SANCHEZ said the Public Information Officer is important because that is actually something happening now. This needs to be addressed tonight.

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN said that the Public Information Officer is included in the budget. If Council does not go forward with the position, it would be a savings because it is already included in the budget. His understanding is that Council's interest is in leaving this position in the budget. This will come back as a Decision Point for Council. He then continued going down the remainder of the list:

- Dispatch Supervisor Position – No recommendation
- Uniformed Gang Police Officer – Staff recommends adding 1 officer.
- Council Salary Increase would be pending AB11. There did not seem to be interest in further discussion.
- MainStreet Program is simply a correction that staff has noted, so that would come forward.
- Airport Economic Study - Council seems to be split on this, so the item will be brought back as a Decision Point.
- Police Firing Range – Staff will have to bring this back as a recommendation for Capital Funding, which will cut into some of the other priorities in the Community Facilities Fund.
- Traffic Signal priorities - Councilmember Sanchez came in late, and he knows she has interest in this issue. There was discussion that the City received a Traffic Safety Grant for \$60,000 that would address some of her concerns, especially regarding Peacock Hills.
- Balderrama Park - This issue would be brought back to Council as a Decision Point with funding from the Capital Facility Fund for Teen Center conversion. However, the plans for Balderrama Park could be included in the Park Master Plan.
- Citywide Master Plan – He has no recommendations for Council at this point. If Council chooses an area to do a specific study, hopefully it would be in the Redevelopment area. If Council decides to do something in the Master Plan, it would have to be budgeted in the Capital Reserve Funds.
- Police Facility Study - Staff will return to Council with a recommendation for funding.
- El Corazon – He does not have a recommendation.
- Veterans' Hall – He does not have a recommendation.
- Fire Chief Position - Council had a discussion regarding not replacing the Fire Chief, which would require leaving a Battalion Chief position vacant. His recommendation is to move forward with the requirement for the Fire Chief and the Battalion Chiefs.

COUNCILMEMBER SANCHEZ said Council needs to vote on this issue the following week or soon. Council needs to give direction to staff. It is the same issue as the Public Information Officer.

COUNCILMEMBER CHAVEZ asked for a point of clarification. Council hires the City Manager and City Attorney, but Council does not hire any other positions. The Public Information Officer is an activity.

COUNCILMEMBER SANCHEZ said it is a position, and it is a budget issue.

COUNCILMEMBER FELLER said it is not Council's job to hire the Fire Chief or any other Department Head in the City. That is the City Manager's job. The Public Information Officer is something that a Councilmember requested to be put in the budget. It is a new position; it has not been budgeted for several years. He believed the City Manager is asking Council in his recommendations whether Council wants that position. Hiring a Fire Chief is the City Manager's job.

COUNCILMEMBER CHAVEZ supports that, because clearly it is within the selection of personnel, which is what Council does not do. Council should remain within the boundaries of the Council and not the hiring and firing of individual employees.

COUNCILMEMBER SANCHEZ is approaching this from purely a budget point of view. She does not want to add more to the Fire Department Budget, as Council wants to provide other items such as 1 Uniformed Gang Officer. There was formerly a Public Information Officer. The person had to leave for various reasons, and the City has been without this position, just like they have been without some of these other positions. Some of the positions have been opened and some of them have been unfunded, deleted and then refunded. At this point, this is a budget issue, and she wants to make sure that direction is given to the City Manager at this time, so he does not move forward on this issue.

MAYOR WOOD said the City Manager received the message, and it can be placed on the agenda if needed.

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN continued, noting that he did not hear any discussion regarding the City Manager Recommended Decision Packages regarding the positions.

- Rancho Santa Fe JPA – The recommendation is to move forward with this.
- Library Marketplace Upgrade – This item may be in jeopardy with regard to other requests made by Council. He will be looking at this.
- Police Positions – He did not hear any Council discussion on this issue, except possibly not needing another lieutenant, which is the highest priority for the Police Chief. Adding a lieutenant will allow the Chief to restore the Watch Commander position. Those would stand as recommended.

He noted the remaining 2 positions shown for the Neighborhood Police Team Officers; the Public Works Senior Civil Engineer; Maintenance Worker II; the 2 positions in Water and Wastewater; and funding the 1 position when the Associate Planner position was moved from the Planning Department to Redevelopment.

- Financial Software – Funding for the first year is not in the budget and will be taken out of the Capital Reserves. He recommends that Council move forward on this item.
- Non-recommended positions - Based on Council's discussion, the only changes to the non-recommended positions are that staff would return to Council with a recommendation for 1 Uniformed Gang Officer and a Decision Point on the Economic Study of the Airport.
- Community Facilities Fund Budget – The obvious way to create capacity in the last year is

to go ahead with the funding in place for the Senior Center furniture this year and hang onto that money, creating capacity in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 budget. He will have to reduce the Parks Maintenance Upgrade Budget and the Median Gateway Landscape Budget.

He did not know at this time by how much and would return to Council. He said the \$1,000,000 funded in 2005-2006 for Median Gateway Landscaping is still available, and the City has funds necessary to move forward with a large part of landscaping Oceanside Boulevard from I-5 to Crouch Street.

MS. MCKAY said her notes indicate that a majority of the Council was in favor of eliminating the Public Information Officer position to fund other positions and items.

MAYOR WOOD said this is a work in progress. The Council majority wants to proceed with the Grant Writer, try something and see how it goes. Maybe that same Grant Writer can assist the others writing grants. He supports a Public Information Officer because Council asked the City Manager to fill the position to help the City's image. The City Manager has gone to all the trouble to test for the position. It would benefit the City. The rest of the items, he generally agrees with.

Regarding Council salaries, the City needs to pay attention to AB 11. The City Attorney is keeping Council updated, and this could have a big difference on Council's decision on this issue. Everyone is working harder, and it costs more money to drive around the community. In a tight budget, salary increases should be given to other people rather than themselves. Council has done this for many years. He understands the concerns of individual Councilmembers, and maybe this can be rectified later when the State makes a decision. That could come back to Council.

For the Airport Economic Study, this is something that the City can do. The Council majority voted to proceed. If the City can do it by costs savings, it needs to be done.

The Police Firing Range could return to Council for a vote as to whether or not to put it in the budget.

Addressing Balderrama Park, he has heard that this has been a priority for a long time and should be addressed in the budget.

The Citywide Master Plan is a big thing for the City, and he does not know if the City has this kind of money to spend. Maybe Council should focus on a general area, such as Redevelopment.

For the Police Facilities Study, Council had concurred to proceed.

Regarding El Corazon Funding, he thinks this will go forward, and there will be people who would like to see a Master Plan, going through the Oversight Committee and trying to get funding.

He agreed that the Rancho JPA is expensive, but it will benefit the City in the long run. Council sees Countywide Regional Fire as a big, hot issue, especially when it is a hot summer and the East County is burning down. It seems to occur every other summer. At least Oceanside can be prepared and be part of the North County Regional Fire JPA. If the rest of the County does not join the JPA, at least North County can be part of a regional fire effort and try to do something to help its neighbors and vice versa. Fire apparatus needs to cross boundaries without difficulty. It would make a difference in the dispatch at the Police Department and the Fire Department. Some of the load would be picked up. But, the Police load on dispatch is 95% and is always going to be busy.

Regarding adding 1 Uniformed Gang Officer, this is something Council always brings up in the summertime. On the 4th of July everyone will be asking how they can tie up all of our police officers at the beach when there are problems at the same time out in the east.

Finding the appropriate money for 1 Uniformed Gang Officer would benefit the City.

The Financial Software has to be done so that everything can function in the City and, hopefully, it will benefit in employee hours. In other words, if it is a timesaver for all, it pays off in the long run.

He appreciates the City Manager's input regarding the Senior Citizens' Center furniture, for example, and why it is needed in the budget now instead of 2008. Council can potentially use that with other things. Council is looking where to find money and how to spend it. The Public Information Officer is an item Council might try to save just for the benefit and image of the City. The City's image has suffered for years, especially through the local print media. Maybe that can be addressed.

A location for the Veterans' Hall would be pursued by Mayor Wood and Councilmember Chavez. The veterans deserve it.

This is a tight budget. The City is filling positions. It is a way for the City to make money and save money by not filling or backfilling positions. It is money that the City Manager can use for positions. Council has directed staff to start filling those positions. The City will function well and go forward.

MS. MCKAY said the public hearing is scheduled for June 21st for Council to adopt the final budget.

CITY MANAGER JEPSEN said since staff will be posting a public hearing, the meeting would have to be on the 21st, which gives staff time to work out the details. He said that Council could meet tomorrow, per the posted agenda; however, he was not sure that meeting would advance anything beyond what has been heard. The meeting tomorrow would be at the Council's discretion.

MAYOR WOOD DID not believe that tomorrow's meeting is necessary.

DEPUTY MAYOR MACKIN has seen enough. She expressed appreciation to staff for their hard work. These are not easy decisions.

MS. MCKAY expressed appreciation to her Budget Staff, Department Heads and budget coordinators. It is a joint project to get the budget together, and everyone has done a great job.

2. **Public Communication on City Council Matters (Off-Agenda Items)** - None

ADJOURNMENT

MAYOR WOOD adjourned this adjourned meeting of the Oceanside City Council at 6:03 PM, May 24, 2006. [The next regular meeting is June 7, 2006.]

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL:

Barbara Riegel Wayne, CMC
City Clerk, City of Oceanside