Des Moines CITY CURRENTS



Volume 4, No. 1

January 1993

Tight '93 budget maintains services

The Des Moines City Council has approved a budget for 1993 that maintains service levels of the previous year despite the weak regional economy and poor revenue forecasts.

In order to maintain city services at past levels without increased taxes or a new revenue source, \$223,000 in expenditures was cut from various departments.

The budget also allows continuation of the Council's policy to fund reserve and capital acquisition funds. Money set aside in these funds in previous years is now helping the City hrough these recessionary times.

Expenditures in the General, Street and Park funds for fiscal year 1993, the three largest funds in the budget, represent less than 1 percent increase over last year, after deducting new expenses for the North Hill annexation.

City Manager Greg Prothman said the budget represents the City staff's efforts to further stretch the dollar, or "working smarter and doing more with less."

In his budget address to the Council, Prothman said, "Most importantly, this budget will allow us to continue to provide for the delivery of quality services, the construction of capital improvements, and the provision of public health and welfare for the citizens of Des Moines."

The annual budget represents the single most important series of decisions made by the City Council in any year. The conclusions reached during the budget process will determine the quality of public service to be provided and contributes to the quality of life for Des Moines residents.



Des Moines Fieldhouse Park is scheduled to be closed to the public by King County.

Council wants input on parks/recreation programs

Should the City of Des Moines offer expanded parks and recreation activities to residents?

And if so, would City residents be willing to pay for an expanded program through higher taxes?

The City Council is seeking the answer to these questions and others in a survey being sent randomly this month to 2,000 households.

Council consideration of a Parks and Recreation Department, similar to those in neighboring cities, was prompted by King County's decision not to operate three county park facilities in Des Moines: the Fieldhouse Park at South 220th and 11th Avenue South; Zenith Park at South 240th and 16th Avenue South; and Parkside Park, at South 244th and 25th South.

The City has the option of taking over maintenance and operation of these parks from the county.

The survey is to determine to what degree the City should operate

these parks. Options include providing:

- No funding and closing the parks for public use;
- Minimum funding of \$98,000 per year to maintain the facilities with limited scheduled events, but closing the fieldhouse;
- Funding of \$108,000 per year to maintain facilities and open field-house for limited activities;
- Funding of \$169,000 per year to maintain facilities, provide additional playground equipment and picnic tables, and a limited number of sports leagues;
- Funding of \$270,000 per year for a full-fledged recreation program which would make full use of the parks facilities including the fieldhouse with many scheduled activities. This would be similar to other area

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CITY CURRENTS

DES MOINES DIRECTORY

City Hail, 21630 11th Ave. So., 878-4595 Business Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

City Council - 878-4595

Richard Kennedy, Mayor Lew Anderson, Mayor Pro Tem Audrey Bowers Frank Jovanovich Scott Thomasson Don Wasson Bob Wray

Administration - 878-4595

Greg Prothman, City Manager
Bob Olander, Assistant City Manager
James Gorham, City Attorney
Betty Hayes, Finance Director
Denis Staab, City Clerk

Planning/Engineering/Parks/Public Works - 878-8626

Judith Kilgore, Planning Director Dale Schroeder, City Engineer Jim Sempek, Building Official Frank Olson, Supt. of Public Works Jon Jainga, Parks Supervisor

Police Department 878-3301 Business - 911 Emergency

Martin Pratt, Chief

Fire District No. 26 878-2210 Business - 911 Emergency Bob Arnold, Chief

Des Moines Senior Center - 878-1642

Karen Marshall, Supervisor

Des Moines Marina - 824-5700

Jesse Cadena, Harbormaster

Des Moines Library - 824-6066

Mike McNamara, Librarian

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North Hill neighborhood officially joins City

The City of Des Moines grew by 1,157 residents on Jan. 1, 1993, when a large portion of North Hill officially joined the City. Residents of this area voted last March by a 58 percent margin to annex to the City.

Boundaries of the newly annexed area are South 208th on the north; South 216th on the south; Des Moines Memorial Drive on the east; and 1st Avenue South on the west

The addition of this neighborhood, consisting mostly of single family residences, brings the total population of the City to approximately 19,500.

Residents of the newly annexed area should call City Hall at 878-4595 if they have any questions about City services and facilities.

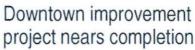
Residents of another North Hill neighborhood will vote on Feb. 2 whether to annex to Des Moines. This area is adjacent on the north to the area that just joined the city. It has about the same population and is bounded by South 208th on the south; South 200th on the north; Des Moines Memorial Drive on the east; and 1st Avenue South on the west.

New Finance Director

Gene Logas joined the staff at City Hall last September as Finance Director, replacing Betty Hayes who retired.

Logas came to
Des Moines from
Granite City, Illi- Gene Logas
nois where he was Assistant Finance
Director. He has degrees in accounting and public administration.

Logas oversees a department of four employees.



The Des Moines Improvement Project is nearing completion slightly behind schedule because of weather delays. The project had targeted a Nov. 20 completion date.

The first layer of paving of Marine View Drive was waiting on two or three consecutive days of dry weather last month. Final asphalting will be done in the spring. Woodworth Company of Tacoma is the contractor for the \$5 million project.

Next summer the state Dept. of Transportation will begin work on filling and widening the crossing of Des Moines Creek. Des Moines Memorial Drive will be widened to four lanes at the creek crossing. That project will continue through the summer of 1994.

Luncheon recognizes Senior Center volunteers

A special luncheon honoring the volunteers at the Des Moines Senior Center was held at the Center last month.

The Senior Volunteer Lunch was for the many people, mostly seniors themselves, who volunteer their time to help area senior citizens, either at the Senior Center or through services sponsored by the center. About 120 people were senior volunteers in 1992.

The Bell Choir from United Methodist Church performed at the lunch, and employees from city departments, including City Manager Greg Prothman, helped out by serving the food.

The luncheon was sponsored by various businesses including 1st Interstate Bank, Des Moines Vista Retirement Home, Ono's Nursery, 5-Corners Nursery, and Seattle-King County Nutrition Project.

LICENSES DUE

- Business licenses were due Jan. 1. Renew by Feb. 15 to avoid late penalty.
- Dog licenses were due Jan.1. Renew by Feb. 28 to avoid late penalty. Contact City Clerk for fee amounts, 878-4595.

Fight against third runway continues

The City of Des Moines and the Regional Commission on Airport Affairs (RCAA) are continuing their efforts to fight a third runway at Seattle Tacoma International Airport.

Currently, RCAA is preparing for hearings in February before the Puget Sound Regional Council which will vote in March on the proposal to expand Sea-Tac and build auxiliary airports in Snohomish and Thurston counties. The Port of Seattle this fall voted in favor of the expansion.

Greg Prothman, Des Moines City Manager, said that various reports and the research and work of experts is complete, and arguments are being formulated to convince the PSRC of the fallacy of building the third runway.

Prothman added that even if the PSRC approves the expansion, it is not a "done deal."

"We intend to fight it all the way. There are a lot more battles ahead."

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Lynn Young, an employee with the City's Public Works Department, has been chosen by his peers as the Employee of the Quarter.

Lynn was chosen for the honor for best demonstrating the city's "Sails With Pride" employee val-



Lynn Young

ues of "Positive, Resourceful, Integrity, Dedication and Excellence."

Lynn is responsible for street and drainage maintenance and repairs. He has been with the City since May 1990 and previously was with the City of Issaquah's public works department. He owned his own construction company for 20 years.

Lynn takes pride in the work he does in Des Moines, since it has been his home for 27 years. He and his wife Beverly have six children.

DEPARTMENT PROFILE

CITY LEGAL DEPT.

From left, Colleen Hartl, Assistant City Attorney; James Gorham, City Attorney and Vicki Sheckler, Legal Secretary.



An integral part of city government

The City of Des Moines' Legal Department consists of the City Attorney James Gorham; Assistant City Attorney Colleen Hartl; and Legal Secretary Vicki Sheckler.

The Department's responsibilities include:

- Advise all departments and City Council on municipal law.
 - Write formal legal opinions.
- Draft and review City contracts.
- Draft ordinances/resolutions and provide City Council with related background information.
- Attend meetings of City Council, Planning Agency and Civil Service Commission; advise members.

- Represent City in civil litigation.
- Prosecute cases in Des Moines Municipal Court.

Gorham, who has been City Attorney for 15 years, said that under state statute, the City Attorney advises the City Manager and City Council. He also ensures that the business of the City is done in the appropriate legal process.

The City Attorney also advises citizens in regards to legal processes of municipal government, including the process of initiative and referendum by which citizens can initiate laws or bring existing laws up for a public

Parks and recreation survey being conducted

(From page 1)

cities' recreation programs which have sports leagues for all ages and classes and activities ranging from aerobics to ballroom dancing.

The cost of the programs would besupported through users fees, but would also be subsidized by the City.

The City Council is considering implementation of a utility tax on cable TV, telephone, electricity, garbage and natural gas to fund a parks and recreation program. It is estimated that a full-fledged program would

require a 1 to 2 percent utility tax, which would cost the typical household \$15 to \$30 per year.

The survey will provide direction to the City Council on whether residents support a recreation program, and if they're willing to pay for one through higher taxes.

Residents who receive a survey are urged to fill it out and return it. Those who do not receive a survey but wish to participate can pick one up at City Hall. They are available now.

CITY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



Richard Kennedy Mayor



Lew Anderson Mayor Pro Tem



Audrey Bowers Council member



Frank Jovanovich Council member



Scott Thomasson Council member



Don Wasson Council member



Bob Wray Council member

SEPTEMBER 1992

- Authorize interlocal agreement to contract with Metro for Commute Trip Reduction services.
- Authorized contract with M.T. Electric, Inc. for construction of the Marine View Drive/ South 227th signalization in the amount of \$74,844.
- Passed Resolution No. 702 adopting the City of Des Moines Capital Improvement Plan for 1993-1998.
- Passed Resolution
 No. 703 declaring
 Council's intent to join
 with King County and
 other cities to form the
 South County Area
 Transportation Board to
 manage multijurisdictional transportation issues in the
 south county region.

- Passed Resolution
 No. 704 calling for the timely completion of noise mitigation obligations promised by the Port of Seattle in conjunction with the second runway at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport.
- Held a public hearing to determine project selections for 1993 Community Development Block Grant funds.
- Passed Resolution No. 705 authorizing the 1993 Waterland Festival.
- Passed Ordinance No. 978 amending the Mobile Home Park Code.

OCTOBER 1992

■ Began review of street system improvements involving an interrelating package of three draft ordinances.

- Passed Ordinance No. 990 adopting the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element of the Comprehensive Plan.
- Passed Ordinance No. 981 related to speed limits on City streets.
- Passed Ordinance No. 982 establishing employee statutory offices and delegating authority of the City Manager to organize departments and divisions of the City.
- Passed Ordinance No. 983 creating uniform rules and regulations for appointive agencies, boards, commissions and committees.
- Passed Ordinance No. 985 creating a senior services advisory board.

- Passed Ordinance No. 987 vacating an alley between 12th/13th Avenues South and South 223rd/224th Streets.
- Authorized negotiation of an agreement with Richard Beyer and the Chamber of Commerce for preparation for a sculpture for the City.
- Began review of the preliminary 1993 budget.
- Held a public hearing on a draft ordinance revising front-yard setbacks in the CG zones.
- Continued review of the Comprehensive Transportation Plan: Capital Improvements and Financial Elements.
- Directed the City
 Manager to convey to
 King County that the
 City desires to negotiate
 a phased park transition
 plan through Suburban
 Cities Association mem-

ber cities directly affected and King County.

NOVEMBER 1992

- Awarded contract for contaminated soil remediation services to CET Environmental Services, Inc. in the approximate amount of \$104,200.
- Passed Ordinance No. 988 adopting the official Code of the City of Des Moines.
- Began review of draft resolution establishing 1993/94 marina moorage rates.
- Began review of municipal building space needs study.
- Passed Ordinance No. 990 providing for a 3.5 percent cost of living adjustment to charges for surface water drainage services.

City of Des Moines

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