

**CITY OF DUBUQUE, IOWA
CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
SPECIAL SESSION**

Council met in special session at 6:30 p.m. on February 17, 2016 in the Historic Federal Building.

Present: Mayor Buol, Council Members Connors, Del Toro, Jones, Lynch, Resnick, Rios; City Manager Michael Van Milligen

Mayor Buol read the call and stated this is a special session of the City Council called for the purpose of discussing various City departmental Fiscal Year 2017 budgets.

PUBLIC HEARING

Upon motion the rules were suspended allowing anyone present to address the City Council on the following item.

1. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) FY 2017 (Program Year 2016) Annual Action Plan: Motion by Connors to receive and file the documents and conduct the public hearing. Seconded by Lynch. Motion carried 7-0. Housing Assistance Specialist Erica Haugen provided a slide presentation on the activities and budget of the Community Block Grant Annual Action Plan. Ms. Haugen responded to questions from the City Council related to marketing public awareness of the program, and comparisons to other cities. Following the presentation, Joe Noll, President of the Downtown Neighborhood Association and former member of the Safe Community Task Force, expressed his thoughts on the perception of crime downtown, improvements the city has made, landlord responsibilities and property maintenance and the City's rental inspection process.

Upon motion the rules were reinstated limiting discussion to the City Council.

FISCAL YEAR 2017 DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET REVIEW

Fiscal Year 2017 City departmental budgets were presented by staff from the following departments:

Housing & Community Development Department: Alvin Nash, Housing and Community Development Director; Erica Haugen, Housing Assistance Specialist; Kim Glaser, Lead Paint Assistant; and Ermina Soler, Circles Coach.

Parking Division: Tim Horsfield, Parking System Supervisor.

Transit Division: Candace Eudaley-Loebach, Transit Manager

Economic Development Department: Maurice Jones, Economic Development Director.

The City Council had discussion with the representative of each department following their respective presentations.

Following the Housing and Community Development budget presentation, first-time homebuyer Diana Robison, Circles Volunteer Joe Gonzales, and Circles Graduate Nia Gleason provided testimonials; Washington Neighborhood leader Janice Cradieth thanked the Housing staff.

Following the Transit Division budget presentation, Loras College Student Body Representative Nick Utter spoke in support of the Night Rider Bus Route and what the colleges/universities are doing to help fund it. Vice Chair of the Transit Advisory Board R.R.S. Stewart spoke in support of the Night Rider Route and the requested budget improvement packages. DuRide Director Greg Orwoll provide history and successes of the DuRide program and thanked Council.

Following the Economic Development Department budget presentation, Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission Member Kay Kluseman spoke in support of the City's arts programs. Dean Boles, expressed his concerns about poverty in Dubuque. Rick Dickinson, Executive Director of the Greater Dubuque Development Corporation, addressed Mr. Boles' concerns and spoke of the relationship GDDC has with each department that presented. David Schmitz, Dubuque Museum of Art Director, spoke in support of the Economic Development Department and the impact of the arts on social capital.

There being no further business, upon motion the City Council adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

/s/Kevin S. Firnstahl, CMC
City Clerk

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