

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

The Dubuque City Council met in special session at 6:00 p.m. February 15, 2018 in the Historic Federal Building, 350 W. 6th Street.

Present: Mayor Buol, Council Members Del Toro, Jones, Larson, Resnick, Rios; Shaw; 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 2019 budgets.

FISCAL YEAR 2019 DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET REVIEW

Fiscal Year 2019 City departmental budgets were presented by staff from the following departments/Divisions:

Purchase of Services: Erica Haugen, CDBG/HCV Supervisor for the Housing and Community Development Department. During public input, Paul Schultz, 1008 Victoria Street, and President of Green Dubuque, asked the City Council funding and support of the formation of the Dubuque County Food Policy. Paula Connors 818 S. Grandview Avenue, expressed support of the policy on behalf of the Dubuque Winter Farmer's Market. Following Q& A, the City Council agreed with the City Manager and Ms. Haugen, that the request is best submitted through the FY2020 Purchase of Services grant competition once the organization formulates an eligible grant submission.

Five Flags Center: Marie Ware, Leisure Services Manager. During public input, Five Flags Center Commission Chairperson McKenzie Hill expressed her support of the requested security and LED lighting upgrades. FFC Commissioner Tyler Dougherty spoke in support of the Mobile Units requested in the Capital Budget stating that they can be used around the City. Mark Wahlert, 1525 Douglas Street, and Executive Director of the Dubuque Symphony, addressed the Council about the impact Five Flags Center has on downtown. Staff responded to questions from the City Council.

Grand River Center (Conference Center): Marie Ware, Leisure Services Manager. During public input, John Stewart, Board Member for the Multicultural Family Center, asked if the proposed improvements to the audio/visual system would resolve issues experienced at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day breakfast event. City Manager Van Milligen explained that the referenced issue was more staffing issue than a problem with the actual system. Staff responded to questions from the City Council.

Park Division: Stephen Fehsal, Park Division Manager. During public input, Jennifer Tigges, 4927 Wildflower Drive, stated that the skatepark will serve other "wheeled" devices such as bikes and possibly customized wheelchairs and added that she is confident the funding match will be achieved. City Manager Van Milligen noted that Creek Wood Park is being developed through the use of Housing TIF funding that is not available in other areas of town for park development. Staff stated that a report regarding Integrated Pest Management is forthcoming from staff, and that plans for a park at English Ridge is dependent upon construction of an access road in conjunction with the SW Arterial project.

Recreation Division (Multicultural Family Center, AmeriCorps and Recreation): Dr. Farris Muhammad, MFC Director; Dan Kroger, Recreation Division Manager. Staff responded to questions from the City Council about how the Port of Dubuque Marina slip rentals won't compete with regional marinas and what work is being done to assist with the possible displacement of the Winter Farmer's Market with the MFC moving into the former Colts Building. During public input, Marlene Waller, President of the MFC Board, provided examples of MFC program successes, spoke in support of the recommended development of the former Colts Building space, and supporting moving the MFC assistant director position to full-time.

There being no further business, upon motion the City Council adjourned at 9:43. p.m.

/s/Kevin S. Firnstahl, CMC
City Clerk

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