The Dubuque City Council met in special session at 6:00 p.m. February 21, 2019 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 2020 budgets.

**FISCAL YEAR 2020 DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET REVIEW**

Fiscal Year 2020 City departmental budgets were presented by staff from the following departments:

1. Purchase of Services: Mayor Buol called for public input on the Purchase of Services budget recommendation. Seeing none, he moved on to the next item.
2. Five Flags Center: Marie Ware, Leisure Services Manager
3. Grand River Center (Conference Center): Marie Ware, Leisure Services Manager
4. Parks Division: Steve Fehsal, Parks Division Manager; and Marie Ware, Leisure Services Manager
5. Recreation Division: Dan Kroger, Recreation Manager
   - AmeriCorps: Heather Slattery, AmeriCorps Program Director
   - Multicultural Family Center: Jackie Hunter, MFC Director

The City Council had discussion with the presenters following their respective presentations. Following the Five Flags Civic Center presentation, Council Member Larson requested a poll of the Council in support of removing the Locust Street Connector landscaping budget request and favoring funding of the metal detectors/gates and wands at Five Flags Center. Rios, Larson and Shaw supported. Following public input in support of additional security at the Center, Ms. Larson requested a new poll with Rios, Larson and Shaw again in support.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

Nino Erba, 1505 Fairview Pl., asked if there was budget information specific to each area of the Five Flags redevelopment and what changes in HVAC would be considered related to the City’s carbon emissions reduction goal. Ms. Ware stated that a new facility would include the most efficient HVAC equipment that the budget could support. Mr. Erba also asked about bigger park improvements and the possibility of reducing pesticide usage to zero.

McKenzie Blau, 1548 Pego Ct., Five Flags Civic Center Advisory Commission member, spoke in favor of walk-through metal detectors/gates at Five Flags Center.

John Pregler, 1525 Pego Ct., and Long-Range Planning Commission member, stated that he felt the timeframe for a referendum for Five Flags Center was too short, more information was needed from the consultant and that alternate funding sources should be explored further.

Jennifer Tigges, 4927 Wildflower, Cable TV Commission and Parks Commission member, and Friends of the Mines of Spain representative, spoke in support of the EB Lyons Interpretive Center improvement package.

Robin Kennicker, 2929 Elm St., Park and Recreation Commission / Resilient Community
Advisory Commission member, asked about an additional restroom facility for Schmitt Island with the imminent Veteran’s Plaza development and the current facility needing maintenance.

Marlene Waller, MFC Board President, thanked the Council and MFC staff for their support and shared stories of the MFC.

Doug Stillings, 1255 Locust St., and MFC Board Member, spoke in support of the MFC recommended budget citing the Center’s contributions to community workforce development, recruitment and retention.

There being no further business, upon motion the City Council adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

/s/ Kevin S. Firnstahl, CMC
City Clerk

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