

The July 31, 1969 meeting of the San Anselmo City Council was called to order by Mayor Woodrow V. Capurro at 8:00 p.m. in the City Hall. Purpose of Meeting: Budget Hearing

1. ROLL CALL

Councilmen Present: Reed, Ragan, Anderson, Scott, Capurro  
Councilmen Absent: None

2. OLD BUSINESS

City Administrator Kaepfel stated that the Police Department found when ordering the new motorcycle approved in their budget, that the new model is going to cost \$150 more than they estimated when making out the budget. This will necessitate increasing their budget allotment by \$60 in order to purchase the new motorcycle.

Councilman Reed moved to increase Account 430-42 by \$60 to cover increased costs in purchasing a new motorcycle for the Police Department. Councilman Ragan seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

3. NEW BUSINESS

Adopting Budget for Accounts 441 - 450 (Public Works Accounts) and 491 (Capital Improvements).

Councilman Reed asked that each item not be discussed again, only those points where there are questions.

Acct. 441 - Engineering and Administrative

Mayor Capurro feels that on Code #44, Addition to the Public Works office, perhaps the \$3,000 should be spent on acquiring another building instead of adding more money to the old Public Works space. He does not feel that appropriating money to give additional space will solve the Public Works space problem. He suggested investigating the possible use of the Sanitary District building across the street, when it is vacated.

City Administrator Kaepfel advised that the opening price on this property is \$25,000 and the district would be willing to make any of a variety of arrangements for purchase, including lease-purchase.

Public Works Director Keitzell said it would be a few years before the Public Works Department would be able to move into the Sanitary District building, and it would need extensive remodeling, new partitions, etc. Before it could be used by the Public Works Department. The Library will soon need more space, so if the existing Public Works area were enlarged and improved, it could well be used by the Library or by other departments for storage space, if the Public Works Department ultimately moves to other quarters.

Mr. Leitzell stated further that the proposed improvements to the Public Works space should make it satisfactory for their use for at least another five years.

Councilmen Reed and Ragan both stated they feel that the existing Public Works space should be improved until another building is more readily available.

Councilman Reed moved that Account 441 be adopted as proposed in the amount of \$38,406. Motion seconded by Councilman Ragan and passed with the following vote:

AYES: Reed, Ragan, Anderson  
NOES: Scott and Capurro

Mayor Capurro stated that he feels the \$3,000 should be set aside for future acquisition of more property and not spent on the existing Public Works area.

ACCOUNT 442 - Street Maintenance

Mr. Kaepfel stated that he would like to have the Council add money for a debris box program under Code #20, in light of the tremendous success of the Spring Clean-up Campaign, and the impending ban on backyard burning.

Mr. Leitzell suggested having debris boxes every weekend, instead of one time a year, but also said that there would be a problem with trash from neighboring cities and unincorporated areas, unless these areas also instituted a debris box service. He stated that approximately \$1,700 was spent for the Spring Clean-up Campaign.

Councilman Reed asked what it would cost to have a debris box available every weekend and was informed it would be about \$1,820. He also inquired if the City could transport the debris boxes on the City-owned dump trucks.

Councilman Ragan suggested that the Council should consult with Mr. Vallarga of the San Anselmo Garbage Disposal Service regarding his service covering the collecting of this type of trash.

Mr. Kaepfel informed the Council that a study is being undertaken by the various scavenger services in the county for proposed pickup of all types of trash, not just household garbage. Councilman Ragan felt his study should proceed with all possible speed.

Mr. Kaepfel pointed out that should such collection service be instituted, the citizen would be forced to pay for it in the form of either (1) increased rate to individual customers, or (2) a city subsidy to cover the extra costs.

Mayor Capurro asked that further discussion of trash removal be put on the agenda for the regular Council meeting of August 12.

Mr. Best, from the floor, commented that during Spring Clean-up, Sleepy Hollow residents were using the Brookside debris box 10 for 1 over San Anselmo residents.

From the floor it was suggested that if debris boxes are available oftener, perhaps the problem of non-residents using the boxes won't be such a problem - perhaps negotiations could be undertaken with the Sleepy Hollow Fire District to have them contribute funding so the Sleepy Hollow residents could use the boxes.

It was suggested from the floor that the City might hire someone to police the debris boxes, and said that Fairfax asked to see driver's licenses as proof of residency during their clean-up campaign.

Mrs. Judy Emis, from the floor, said she thought it would be silly to use the boxes if they needed to be policed.

Mrs. Asker, from the floor, asked if the city itself would make a curbside pickup of trash on a twice-a-month basis. Councilman Reed said the steep hills and narrow streets of San Anselmo make this impractical, and he feels the only solution is debris boxes.

Mayor Capurro said he did not like to see the litter that accumulates all around the boxes.

Mr. Best asked about the possibility of limiting the use of the boxes to garden trash only. Councilman Scott agreed that he felt the boxes should be used for garden trash only, with metal, paper, etc., excluded.

Councilman Anderson pointed out that this would present a policing problem, which they were trying to eliminate. He said he feels some money should be appropriated for debris boxes now; and when the scavenger services present their proposal, negotiate with them for future debris collection.

Paul Brand, from the floor, suggested using a unlimited number of boxes, and charging a small fee for their use. This would, however, necessitate hiring a fee collector-guard.

Mr. Leitzell stated that he feels a long range solution will have to be on a county-wide basis.

Councilman Reed moved to add \$1,800 to account 442-20 for debris box service. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Mayor Capurro stated that regarding Account 442-43, he would like to see the Council budget one-half the amount for the new backhoe this year and put this in a reserve account, and then add the remaining one-half next year and purchase the equipment then.

The Maintenance Foreman stated that the present backhoe is 11 years old, and he feels it will only be usable for another 3 or 4 months. Both he and the Street Foreman stated that the machine is used everyday, and is necessary for the City's operation.

Mr. Kaepfel asked if it was possible to rent a backhoe, and the Maintenance Foreman replied "yes". The rental would be \$16.50 per hour, but this includes an operator which is the only way they are rented.

Councilman Scott inquired if money could be borrowed from another reserve account, and Mr. Kaepfel replied that they could gamble on the Northwestern Pacific Railroad suit being settled favorably, and use funds set aside for that.

Councilman Reed moved that \$11,000 be left in Account 442-43, with the understanding that \$7,000 of this amount is to be provided from the current year's taxes and the other \$7,000 borrowed from capital improvements reserve and included in next year's tax rate. Councilman Ragan seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Councilman Ragan moved to adopt Account 442 in the amount of \$128,445. Councilman Reed seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

#### Account 443 - Street Improvements

The Council noted that it would be advisable to first complete the HUB improvements before undertaking to spend any funds on signals between the Hub and Butterfield Road, as the \$20,520 budgeted for those signals may be needed to finish the Hub.

Councilman Reed moved to adopt the budget for street improvements, Account 443, as proposed in the amount of \$198,419. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which was approved with the following vote:

AYES: Reed, Ragan, Anderson  
Abstentions: Scott, and Capurro

#### Account 444 - Storm Drains

Councilman Reed said that he felt the amount budgeted for notifying creekside property owners of their obligation to keep their portion of the creek cleaned (which is done via a front-page box in the Independent Journal) was too high. He suggested advertising in the Retail Digest section of the San Anselmo Reporter instead. Mr. Kaepfel advised him that if this were done, the cost would be so small it could be absorbed in another account, and Code #10 could be eliminated entirely from Account 444.

Councilman Reed moved to adopt Account 444 in the amount of \$24,990. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

#### Account 445 - Street Lighting

Mr. Leitzell stated that the increased monies budgeted were mostly for upgrading those areas where citizens complained of insufficient street lighting, or areas where the Police Department felt the crime rate indicated improved street lighting was needed.

He also stated that P. G. & E. has suggested that communities start a conversion program to mercury-vapor lights, and he has budgeted a small amount toward this.

Comments from the floor and the Council indicated that mercury-vapor as presently developed is not an ideal street lighting system; and the Council feels that San Anselmo should not proceed to change over completely to mercury-vapor at this time.

Councilman Anderson moved to accept the proposed budget of \$24,000 for Account 445. Councilman Reed seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

#### Account 446 - Traffic Signals

Mr. Kaepfel stated that he had not provided for Signal Maintenance Service, since San Anselmo's signalling system is only partially completed. He said he did feel that once Sir Francis Drake Boulevard is completely signalled, such service will be required. He stated he feels that a county-wide maintenance service is ideal solution, but that there has been little progress made toward this end thus far.

Councilman Reed said he agreed with Mr. Kaepfel's statements.

Councilman Reed moved to accept the proposed budget for Account 446, in the amount of \$3,400. Councilman Ragan seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

#### Account 447 - Building Department

Mr. Kaepfel pointed out that money had been budgeted under Code #43 to provide a mobile radio unit for the Building Inspector's car. This would be added to the present setup with the master unit in the Public Works Department and a remote station in the Fire Department.

Mr. Leitzell stated that the original idea had been to have the remote station located in the Police Department so they could relay emergency calls during the storm season, but the Police Department had preferred not to have it in their department so it had been placed in the Fire Department.

Councilman Reed said he felt the unit for the Building Inspector's car should be added, especially in light of the impending crack-down on non-conforming uses and illegal uses in San Anselmo. He also said he would like to see the remote unit moved to the Police Department. Mayor Capurro requested Mr. Kaepfel discuss this with the Police Department.

Mayor Capurro requested Mr. Kaepfel to set up a meeting between the Police Department and the City Council regarding this proposal.

Mrs. Emis, from the floor, stated she thinks the radio for the building inspector is a waste of money since building is down now.

Councilman Anderson moved to accept the proposed budget for Account 447 of \$17,949. Councilman Reed seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

#### Account 448 - Street Sweeping

Councilman Scott moved to accept the budget for Account 448 as proposed, in the amount of \$16,557. Councilman Ragan seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

#### Account 450 - Municipal Shop

Mayor Capurro asked why Account 450-08 was being increased, and Mr. Shepley, the Maintenance Foreman replied he needed his part-time assistant three days a week, rather than the present two. He explained that the part-time man was originally hired to service the Police and Fire vehicles, and the present two days a week was not sufficient to do this.

Councilman Ragan moved to accept the proposed budget of \$16,357 for Account 450. Councilman Reed seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

#### Account 491 - Capital Improvements

Councilman Reed moved to approve the proposed budget in the amount of \$17,225 for capital outlays, and the budgeted amounts totaling \$20,000 to be retained in the reserve account for the purpose as follows:

\$10,000 to be provided for in Revenues and returned to Reserve. (payment No. 3 of six) Pine Street Parking Lot,

\$10,000 to be provided in Revenues and added to Reserve for New Fire House or Public Safety Building

Councilman Ragan seconded the motion which was approved with the following vote:

AYES: Reed, Ragan, Anderson, Capurro  
Abstentions: Scott

Councilman Scott said that he abstained because he has been opposed to the Pine Street Parking Lot all along.

Mayor Capurro next requested that the Council reconsider the Library Budget, Account 471, which had previously been approved.

He said he has been reconsidering the additional \$1,625 in Code #08, to increase the hours worked by a part-time employee 10 hours a week; or from 20 to 30 hours per week. He said he does not feel that this is justified, and would like the Council to reconsider the matter.

Mr. Kaepfel was asked if this additional time is needed to service the book drop and he replied that he was not sure, but thought it was to train other library personnel to do other facets of library work - and not to service the book drop.

Mayor Capurro then moved to remove from Account 471-08 the amount of \$1,625 for additional personnel time, and add to Account 471-41, the additional \$500 for books as originally requested by the Library.

Councilman Ragan seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Mr. Kaepfel then introduced the subject of the Jones property acquisition, which had been previously eliminated by the Council. He stated that he had been informed by HUD that they had approved funding for acquisition of this property by the City. He said he had approached the County on the possibility of their contributing funds, but had been turned down. He suggested that possibly the Conservation League or some similar organization would be willing to provide funds for its purchase, and asked permission of the Council to look further for funding, since HUD was willing to contribute funds for its purchase.

The Council next inquired what the tax rate would be as budget approvals now stand and Mr. Kaepfel informed them it would be \$2.27 per hundred; they are \$3,759 over last year's budget. Councilman Reed said he feels the Council has done a good job in holding at this amount.

Mrs. Sarah Nome, from the floor, asked if the Council could'nt eliminate \$3,759 from the budget and suggested the \$3,000 appropriated for the expansion of the Public Works Department might be a starting point; since building is down 75% this year.

Councilman Ragan asked Mrs. Nome where her information came from, and she replied the San Anselmo Reporter.

Councilman Ragan then read a Building Department Report that refuted Mrs. Nome's statement.

Mr. Don Connor, from the floor, said he feels the Building Department is going to have to have additional room, and the \$3,000 seems very reasonable.

Mrs. Nome then stated that she still feels the \$3,000 for expanding the Public Works Department should be eliminated.

Councilman Ragan asked that Mr. Kaepfel inform the audience of the amount budgeted for the Planning Department. Mr. Kaepfel replied, \$28,420.

Councilman Reed asked that the Council give final approval of the budget at this time so that the City Administrator could proceed with the administration of the City.

Mayor Capurro said he would like to wait until the next Council meeting to give final approval in the hope that more items could be eliminated and bring the tax rate down to last year's figure.

Councilman Anderson stated that at the present approved rate of \$2.27, this would amount to about \$156 tax bill on a \$30,000 home.

Mr. Kaepfel stated that on a \$30,000 home, a rate increase of 1¢ would amount to a total increase on the tax bill of 69¢.

Mrs. Nome said she felt the Council should find a way to save the taxpayers this

Mr. Best, from the floor, said he feels the Council should approve the budget as presently accepted.

Mr. Jamison, from the floor, said he commends the Council for arriving at this low figure, and feels the meeting should be closed.

Councilman Anderson moved to approve all budget items as previously accepted.

Councilman Reed seconded the motion which was approved with the following vote:

AYES: Reed, Ragan, Anderson

NOES: Scott, Capurro

Councilman Scott stated he is opposed to some items in the budget so couldn't vote yes. Mayor Capurro said he would like to eliminate the \$3,759 necessary to bring the budget down to last year's tax rate.

At 9:40 p.m. the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned until 8:00p.m., August 12, 1969.

Paula Ricketts  
for Anita Gammon, City Clerk