

**ANN ARBOR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
BUDGET WORKING SESSION - MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2001**

The budget working session of the Ann Arbor City Council was called to order at 7:05 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber by Mayor John Hieftje.

ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL

PRESENT : Councilmembers Jean Robinson, Robert M. Johnson, Joseph Upton, Joan Lowenstein, Jean Carlberg, Heidi Cowing Herrell, Stephen C. Hartwell, Marcia Higgins, Christopher Easthope, Wendy A. Woods, Mayor John Hieftje, 11.

ABSENT : 0.

2001-02 BUDGET REVIEW

The following department heads and staff members presented overviews of their proposed budgets for the 2001-02 fiscal year and answered questions from Council. Also available for questions were City Administrator Neal Berlin and Budget Director Alan Burns.

POLICE

Total Recommended Budget: \$20,216,148

Police Chief Walter Lunsford reported that the proposed changes in the Police Department would not be finalized until after the proposed retirement window closes. It is expected that the reduced personnel level will require the lay off of 15 police officers and 4 civilian positions. Parking enforcement personnel will transfer from the Parking Division of the Public Services Department to the Police Department. The Police Department is nearing the completion of all new technology installations. New services or programs include the new Westside Operation Center and a joint Police/Fire Dispatch Center. The existing Northside and Westside offices will be eliminated.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Total Recommended Budget: \$16,285,147

Parks Superintendent Ronald Olson along with other staff members reported that the goal for the Parks and Recreation Department is to reduce the amount of the budget with minimal impact on services. Two vacant positions have been eliminated. Six percent of the maintenance expenses have been transferred to the park maintenance and repair millage. Community Rec and Ed funding has been reduced. A Youth Recreation Mini Grant Program has been created, that will be partnered with non-profit youth service providers. The Arborough Games funding has been eliminated and funding for the Senior Center has been consolidated.

15TH DISTRICT COURT

Total Recommended Budget: \$3,084,039

Court Administrator Robert Randolph reported that the court continues to play an active role in the Washtenaw County Judicial Oversight Demonstration Initiative Program. The District Court is working closely with the Ann Arbor Police Department and its Auto-Citation System. The next phase is to work with the software developer to electronically accept the citations for filing in the court automatically. A new program will be started to allow business transactions with the use of the Internet. New programs to the District Court include a program to have probation officers charge probation oversight fees. This will institute a fee that will charge persons on probation for drinking/driving offenses. The court is continuing to work with Washtenaw County officials for more efficient use of the space in the courthouse. The new program will move the Probation Department and the Lease Records storage facility into the courthouse.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 11:03 p.m.

Anissa R. King
Acting Clerk of the Council
Recording Secretary