

**MINUTES  
SARATOGA CITY COUNCIL  
STUDY SESSION  
MARCH 8, 2005**

The City Council held a Study Session at 5:00 p.m. in the Adult Care Center, 19655 Allendale Avenue. Mayor King called the Study Session to order at 5:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Councilmembers Aileen Kao, Nick Streit, Ann Waltonsmith,  
Vice Mayor Norman Kline, Mayor Kathleen King

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Dave Anderson, City Manager  
Lorie Tinfow, Assistant City Manager  
Cathleen Boyer, City Clerk  
Ann Sullivan, Deputy City Clerk  
Michele Braucht, Administrative Services Director  
John Livingstone, Interim Community Development Director  
John Cherbone, Public Works Director  
Joan Pisani, Recreation Director

**REPORT OF CITY CLERK ON POSTING OF AGENDA FOR MARCH 8, 2005**

Cathleen Boyer, City Clerk, reported that pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2, the agenda for the meeting of March 8, 2005 was properly posted on March 4, 2005.

**1. SUMMARY AND RESULTS FROM MARCH 2, 2005 STUDY SESSION**

Dave Anderson, City Manager, presented staff report.

City Manager Anderson summarized the results of the March 2, 2005 Study Session noting that there would be a \$1.2 million dollar shortfall next fiscal year. City Manager Anderson stated that staff has prepared three options for service reductions for Council consideration this evening and explained each option (Attachment A).

Mayor King thanked City Manager Anderson for his report.

**2. CITIZEN INPUT**

Genie Dee, Executive Director/SASCC noted that the City provides SASCC with \$18,000, which is the smallest cut on the list. Director Dee explained that SASCC needs more space, which would enable them to serve more seniors and generate more revenue. Director Dee stated that SASCC only serves 10% of the senior population.

Chris Wasmund, Executive Director/KSAR noted that if the City cuts their funding they would not be able to stay open. Director Wasmund explained that at a recent Board meeting they came up with a proposal in which the City would phase out the funding over a set period of time until KSAR finds other funding sources.

Nomita Shahani, President/Saratoga Chamber of Commerce, pointed out that the Chamber showcases the City. President Shahani stated that if the City cuts their funding they would not be able to provide maps, tourist information, business promotion, and brochures. President Shahani stated that the City and the Chamber should be partners in promoting the City and economic development.

Sheila Arthur, Interim Executive Director/ Chamber of Commerce, stated that it would be detrimental to the City if the Chamber had to close.

Norman Siegler noted that it was sad to see that were staff reductions in each option.

Jennifer Brown noted that she attended Prospect High School and pointed out that this was her first year on the Youth Commission. Commissioner Brown noted that she has learned so much while being on the Youth Commission. Commissioner Brown stated that without the Youth Commission teen voices would not be heard.

Phillip Baker, Chair/Youth Commission, requested that the City Council continue to fund the Commission.

### **3. PRIORITY SETTING EXERCISE PART II– CITY COUNCIL**

Councilmember Waltosnmthi noted that she would supports Options C with the following comments:

- Pavement Management Program (PMP) at \$650k
- Fund SASCC and the Chamber of Commerce until gain their independence
- One Saratgoan per year
- “New Normal” compensation related costs at 5%

Councilmember Kao noted that she supported the funding for SASCC, KSAR, and the Chamber of Commerce. Councilmember Kao noted that \$650k is to low for the PMP.

Councilmember Streit stated he doesn’t support phasing out funding for outside agencies. In regards to the Sheriff’s Office, Councilmember Streit recalled that last year the City cut one traffic deputy. Councilmember Streit noted that the City needs three traffic deputies due to the school traffic. Councilmember Streit stated that the City should spend more than \$650k on the PMP in order to maintain it at the 70% level. Councilmember Streit noted that he favors Options B over Option C. Councilmember Streit stated he supports the “new normal” compensation related costs at 3% and recommends adding one traffic deputy.

Vice Mayor Kline noted that Council’s top priorities are public safety and maintaining the City’s infrastructure. Referring to the Council Contingency budget at \$100k, Vice Mayor Kline suggested that it be cut back to \$50k and use the other \$50k support outside agencies. Vice Mayor Kline noted he supported Option B with a few minor adjustments.

Referring to the three options, Mayor King stated that 31% of the proposed cuts effect children and five of the items effect the youth of Saratoga. Mayor King stated that the City must find a way to increase the revenue flow into the City. Mayor King stated that she would not accept the cuts to the youth.

#### 4. **CONCLUSIONS & DIRECTION – MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**

City Manager asked for consensus on the following items (Council votes reflected):

Outside Agencies support – 4

Supplemental traffic officer – 1

PMP @\$650k – 4

PMP budgeted at a higher level – 1

Teen Programs – Youth Commission – 4

Teen Programs – After School program – 0

Public Outreach (Saratogan 1 per year) – 3

New Normal Comp. Package @ 3% – 5

Option B to be used as model – 5

Tonight’s exercise resulted in a small funding gap in which City Council authorized staff to cut non-programmatic line items in order to balance.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business Mayor King adjourned the Study Session at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathleen Boyer, CMC  
City Clerk