

Mayor Gutierrez called the Study Session of the Loveland City Council to order at 6:30 p.m. on the above date. Councilors present: Gutierrez, Heckel, Solt, Johnson, Klassen, McEwen, McKean and Shaffer. Councilor Rice was absent. City Manager, Bill Cahill was also present.

1. FINANCE

Financial Sustainability Principles and Priorities

Assistant City Manager and Finance Director, Renee Wheeler, introduced this item as the second in a series of study sessions on the "Financial Sustainability Initiative" for consideration and feedback from Council.

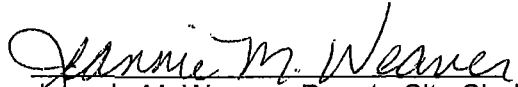
Principles: The presentation focused on the guiding principles for development of options to balance future revenues and expenditures. These principles are intended to be representative of standards for the City of Loveland relative to sustainability over the next ten years. During the January 25, 2011 study session City Council members identified "value" words for the decision making process that would be used to create statements of principles. Those words were captured and placed in three general categories: service delivery, attributes of our community, and sustainability. The packet distributed to Council contained a distillation of the previous discussion and materials which were drafted into six principles to guide the Sustainability Strategy. It is critical that a clear understanding of the challenge be achieved so that all participants are "driving down the same path". The principles set the broad parameters for the path so that the collective energy for developing options is focused on solutions that are feasible for our organization to continue to serve the citizens of Loveland well. Discussion ensued. Council suggested a revision to one of the principles by adding the phrase, "fair and equitable" and the word "safety" to another one of the principles.

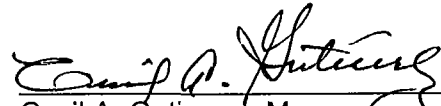
City Council Priorities Questionnaire Results: Ms. Wheeler focused next on the survey comments, which were transcribed as submitted to validate the integrity of the compiled data. The ranking tables for "identification of core services and priorities in the General Fund" are in the order of most important (smallest scores) to least important (largest scores). The individual rankings were summed and divided by the number of responses to get an average that was rounded to the nearest whole number. Council discussion ensued regarding the key "General Fund" departments and major revenue sources. City Manager, Bill Cahill said the survey indicated clear direction for referring a ballot question to registered voters, approval of which would allow the City to keep and spend revenue over the Taxpayers' Bill of Rights (Tabor) limit with current restrictions. Consensus was that while the staff's survey was the "first cut" in the group's process, Council needed more information from a more representative cross section of the community. The next study session relative to this issue is scheduled for March 22, 2011 with a report from the Citizen's Finance Advisory Commission.

Consensus of Council was to direct Councilor Shaffer to encourage the MPO to continue their support for the FLEX transit program already underway and not re-apply the \$800,000 to a proposed fiber optic project. Councilor Shaffer announced MPO Chairman, Julie Cozad resigned and Larimer County Commissioner, Tom Donnelly would likely become the chairman.

The study session was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Jeannie M. Weaver, Deputy City Clerk


Cecil A. Gutierrez, Mayor

