

May 4, 2005

TO: John Szerlag, City Manager

FROM: Brian Murphy, Assistant City Manager/Services

RE: AGENDA ITEM – Responses to Council Questions raised at the May 2, 2005 Study Session

The following are responses to various questions that were raised at last Monday's Special/Study Session.

How are housing/zoning inspections prioritized?

An allegation of a violation of the City ordinance requires an immediate response. Comparatively, apartment/rental inspections are conducted to confirm compliance. As a result resident complaints receive a higher priority than apartment/rental inspections. Any complaints regarding the condition of an apartment would receive a high priority.

With the additional staff-hours afforded by employing two part-time positions, versus one full-time position, City staff anticipates providing continued service to code violation complaints and increasing the number of apartment/rental inspections.

Can we utilize some other space for videotaping meetings, rather than purchasing cameras for the Lower Level Conference Room?

While there are alternate locations with remote video capabilities that could house committee meetings, the work for the Lower Level conference room was to use PEG funds. The PEG funds must be used for government cable related expenditures.

City staff explored alternatives for using the PEG funds. The funds could also be used for the installation of a remote camera system at the Community Center. With the remote cameras at the Community Center, the City could readily tape committee meetings and Community Center programming held in the facility.

If the money is not spent this fiscal year, the monies remain in the Capital fund for future CAVT related expenses.

How do we prioritize road maintenance/repair funds?

Road priorities are currently based on age and condition of the road, through visual inspection. The inspections are conducted on an annual basis. Following the inspections, a list is developed and incorporated into the budget. Once fully operational, the Hansen program will provide additional empirical data to determine priorities and repair alternatives.

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Are there alternatives to delivering Council packets?

City staff is currently reviewing alternatives to eliminate the use of overtime for packet delivery. Some of the options currently being discussed include: Council and committee members pick up their packets from City Hall or the Police front desk, electronic delivery mechanisms and earlier agenda submission deadlines so that packets can be delivered during regular business hours. Staff will report on the alternatives at a future date.

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance with these questions.