

**CITY COUNCIL BUDGET SESSION
CITY OF WATERTOWN**

May 17, 2010

9:02 P.M.

MAYOR JEFFREY E. GRAHAM PRESIDING

PRESENT: COUNCIL MEMBER ROXANNE M. BURNS
COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH M. BUTLER, JR.
COUNCIL MEMBER TERESA R. MACALUSO
COUNCIL MEMBER JEFFREY M. SMITH
MAYOR GRAHAM

ALSO PRESENT: MARY M. CORRIVEAU, CITY MANAGER

City Staff Present: James Mills, Jayme St. Croix, Eugene Hayes and Peter Monaco

Recreation Department

Mr. St. Croix explained that the folks at the Flynn Pool believe that they could also offer an arts & craft program for the children this summer. It would increase the budget by about \$2,500.

Council concurred to accommodate this change.

Council Member Butler asked about providing programs for 2 or 3 days at the other playgrounds.

Mr. St. Croix explained that this would take away from the other sites. He explained that they will have a better program under the new system and would like to give the new program proposal a try this year.

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A lengthy discussion was held concerning the arena's roof, steel beams, bleacher replacement, locker room renovations and fire protection upgrades.

Mr. St. Croix explained that the bleacher replacements came before the locker renovations due to the fact that the bleachers are constantly being moved for every show and they don't meet handicap accessibility. The locker rooms are changing rooms and are not that bad.

Council Member Smith remarked that the press box is in a horrible position and serves no purpose. He also stated that the beams are rusty and questioned the condition of them. He asked about the flooring.

Mr. St. Croix explained that the floor can be repaired if there are places that fail.

Council Member Smith discussed the priorities listed in the Bernier Carr study and why they have changed.

Mr. Hayes outlined the reasons that the Bernier Carr study was originally requested and what Council wanted the study to reveal.

In response to Council Member Smith's concerns about not spending enough to improve the arena, Mrs. Corriveau advised that over five years, \$780,000 is being proposed to be expended on that facility.

Aviary

Council Member Smith asked about the amount of money needed for improvements at the aviary.

Mrs. Corriveau responded that she thought that Council would want to be with the conservancy before deciding on any improvements.

Council Member Burns remarked that this is a good idea. No tangible numbers could be done until the discussion takes place. She also commented that it would be a disappointment if the conservancy didn't use it after the City rehabs it.

Next Budget Session

The suggestion was made that perhaps Council would want to meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, the 24th.

Council agreed to meet in budget session at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 18th. To discuss the multi-year financial plan, the general fund revenues and the capital budget.

The budget session adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Donna M. Dutton
City Clerk