

**Lauderdale City Council  
Meeting Minutes  
December 9, 2003**

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00 P.M.
  
2. ROLL  
  
Council present: Giannetti, Christensen, McCloskey, Gill-Gerbig and Mayor Dains  
  
Staff present: City Administrator Getschow
  
3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA  
  
*A. Approval of Agenda.* Motion by McCloskey, second by Christensen to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
  
4. APPROVAL  
  
*A. Approval of Minutes.* Motion by Giannetti, second by Gill-Gerbig to approve the minutes of the regular City Council meeting of the November 25, 2003. Motion carried unanimously.  
  
*B. Approval of Claims totaling \$20,302.36.* Motion by Gill-Gerbig, second by Giannetti to approve the claims totaling \$20,302.36. Motion carried unanimously.
  
5. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA
  
6. CONSENT
  
7. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS/RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

9. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

*B. 2003 Lauderdale Budget and Property Tax Levy.* The City Administrator gave an overview of the budget process, the 2004 Budget, and the property tax levy and impacts for 2004.

In discussing the tax levy, the City Administrator stressed that the proposal is for the no increase in the levy with the general fund budget being decreased by approximately 1%. A Lauderdale median valued home will see an 11% decrease in city taxes for 2004 as compared to 2003, property values being equal. But, property values do not normally remain equal and any tax increase can be attributed to property value increases. The property value increases and tax impacts are also affected by the limited market value phase-outs. Less property is being shielded from value increases for tax purposes as a result of State legislation that is phasing out the limited market value program.

In discussing the budget, the City Administrator stated that service levels are being maintained in the 2004 Budget. There are not any cuts in services provided, even though the budget itself is slightly being cut. Also, in terms of the capital budgets, the focus of activity is moving from the capital project funds to the debt service funds. Finally, the only utility rate increase in 2004 is for the recycling program- the sanitary and storm sewer rates are being kept the same for 2004.

10. ACTION

*A. Approval of Resolution 120903A: A Resolution Adopting the City of Lauderdale 2004 Budget and 2004 Tax Levy.* At the September 9, 2003 meeting, the Council approved a preliminary levy \$488,000 for 2004, which is a 0% increase from the 2003 levy. This preliminary levy amount is now being considered as a final levy amount for approval.

The Mayor stated that he was very pleased with where this budget ended up considering the state aid cutbacks and other concerns with local budgets and tax levies.

Motion by Gill-Gerbig, second by McCloskey to approve Resolution 120903A: A Resolution adopting the City of Lauderdale Budget for 2004 and certifying the 2004 payable property tax levy to Ramsey County. Roll: Yes: all. Motion carried.

*B. 2003 Budget Transfers.* The City Administrator stated that the 2003 fiscal year is almost complete and now is the time to complete the budgeted transfers for the year based upon earlier budgeting, year-end projections, and capital projects. Also, there has been recent discussion at the last two City Council meetings regarding the excess profits in the Sanitary Sewer Fund (601) due to the MCES treatment cost error. Those transfers are also included and would require a separate motion for approval.

The regular recommended 2003 transfers are:

\$ 25,000	from	101-45400-710	to	302-47200	<i>2001 Street/Utility Debt Fund</i>
\$ 100,000	from	101-45400-710	to	303-47300	<i>2002 Street/Utility Debt Fund</i>
\$ 60,000	from	101-45400-710	to	304-47400	<i>2003 Street/Utility Debt Fund</i>
\$ 6,750	from	401-48401-710	to	412-48410	<i>2002 Street/Utility Project Fund</i>
\$ 3,750	from	403-48403-710	to	412-48410	
\$ 3,750	from	405-48500-710	to	412-48410	
\$ 750	from	407-48407-710	to	412-48410	
\$382,500	from	401-48401-710	to	413-48410	<i>2003 Street/Utility Project Fund</i>
\$212,500	from	403-48403-710	to	413-48410	
\$212,500	from	405-48500-710	to	413-48410	
\$ 42,500	from	407-48407-710	to	413-48410	

The recommended transfers as they relate to excess profits in the Sanitary Sewer Fund (601) are:

\$ 30,000	from	601-49000-710	to	302-47200	<i>2001 Street/Utility Debt Fund</i>
\$ 30,000	from	601-49000-710	to	303-47300	<i>2002 Street/Utility Debt Fund</i>
\$ 30,000	from	601-49000-710	to	304-47400	<i>2003 Street/Utility Debt Fund</i>
\$ 20,000	from	601-49000-710	to	101-39200	<i>General Fund- LCDA Grant</i>
\$ 10,000	from	601-49000-710	to	401-48401	<i>Street Improvement Fund- Trees</i>
\$128,227	from	601-49000-710	to	402-48000	<i>General Capital Improv. Fund</i>

Motion by Christensen, second by McCloskey to approve the regular recommended 2003 transfers as indicated on page 47 of the Council packet. Roll: Yes: all. Motion carried.

Motion by Christensen, second by Giannetti to proclaim excess profits in the Sanitary Sewer Fund (601) and approve the aforementioned transfers. Roll: Yes: all. Motion carried.

*C. City Code Revision to Title 3-Business Regulations, Chapter 2- Liquor Control.* The Administrator stated that the City Council has been discussing amending the liquor control ordinance since September 2003. The main reason for the revisions would be to include a specific and detailed schedule of violation penalties. The goal is to have a penalty schedule that is consistent with the Saint Anthony and Falcon Heights liquor control ordinances and the Lauderdale tobacco ordinance, even if the penalties schedules are different.

Getschow stated that the City Attorney has reviewed the draft revisions and proposes two changes. First, the definitions of “intoxicating and non-intoxicating liquor” have changed in State Statute language, so the City Code definitions should also change to match that language. Second, the penalty schedule should be adopted by resolution on annual basis as opposed to having the penalties be specifically adopted in the Code. Therefore, when changes are made to the penalty amounts in the future a City Code revision will not be necessary. This is similar to how license fees, permit fees, and charges for services are adopted and revised.

The draft ordinance revision also incorporates the penalty schedule that the Council has discussed adopting. This schedule would now be adopted within the 2004 fee schedule resolution planned for Council consideration at the January 13, 2004 meeting.

Motion by Gill-Gerbig, second by Christensen to approve the included revisions to City Code Title 3- Business Regulations, Chapter 2- Liquor Control.  
Roll: Yes: all. Motion carried.

*D. Set a Date and Time for the 2004 Goal Setting Session.* Motion by Gill-Gerbig, second by Giannetti to set Tuesday, January 13, 2004 as the date for the Goal setting session (This is also the evening of the first regular City Council meeting for January) at 5:00 p.m. at Lauderdale City Hall. Roll: Yes: all. Motion carried.

12. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

13. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

*A. Staff Holiday.* Motion by Christensen, second by Gill-Gerbig to grant an additional paid holiday to City Staff, upon the condition that it is used between December 20, 2003 and January 5, 2004 with the approval of the City Administrator. Roll: Yes: all. Motion carried.

14. SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

1. Oaths of Office
2. Goal Setting Session
3. Investment Policy and Institutions
4. 2004 Appointments
5. 2004 Licenses
6. 2004 Fees
7. Union Contract

A break was taken at 8:00 p.m. to transition into a work session discussion.

15. WORK SESSION DISCUSSION

The meeting resumed at 8:05 p.m.

*A. 2003 Goal Review.* The City Council discussed and reviewed the progress made on the 2003 Goals that were adopted in January 2003. This was done in anticipation of the 2004 Goal setting session that is planned for January of 2004.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Gill-Gerbig, second by Christensen to adjourn at 8:25 P.M. Ayes: All.