

### **WORKING SESSION - JANUARY 11, 1993**

The working session of the Ann Arbor City Council was called to order at 7:35 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber by Mayor Elizabeth S. Brater.

#### **ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL**

**PRESENT:** Councilmembers Larry Hunter, Tobi Hanna-Davies, Kirk D. Dodge, Peter Fink, Robert C. Grady, Nelson K. Meade, Peter Nicolas, Thais Anne Peterson, Robert Eckstein, Mayor Elizabeth S. Brater, 10.

**ABSENT :** Councilmember Kurt Zimmer, 1.

#### **PROPOSED PARK MAINTENANCE MILLAGE**

A working session was held with Park Advisory Commission members and Parks and Recreation staff concerning a proposed park maintenance and repair millage.

Bob Elton, Chair of the Park Advisory Commission, reported that the Commission has recommended a ballot proposal for the April City Election which would create a .5 mill tax for five years for park maintenance and repair. Mr. Elton stated that the current five-year Land Acquisition Millage expires June 30, 1993, and that the proposed millage will ensure that the park system is maintained in a quality manner.

Mr. Elton explained that the proposed millage would provide needed funds to address four critical areas related to park maintenance and repair: 1) Natural resource management and care for newly acquired park land; 2) Compliance with American With Disabilities Act and with safety, security and other legal requires; 3) Creation of an effective park maintenance plan addressing newly developed parks and deferred maintenance for parks and recreation facilities; and 4) Park acquisition and targets of opportunities, such as matching state or federal funds.

Mr. Elton stated that a preliminary report of the 1992 Ann Arbor Park, Recreation, and Open Space Survey indicates that City residents would support a millage for park maintenance. ("Report of Early Results, December 12, 1992" on file in the City Clerk's Office)

Following a slide presentation on various park needs given by Park Planning Manager Tom Raynes, Councilmembers addressed questions to the Commissioners and Parks and Recreation Superintendent Ronald Olson.

The following information was requested by Councilmembers: 1) Methodology used in conducting the 1992 park survey and the final results (Councilmember Hunter); 2) Estimates of cost comparisons between contracting park services and services provided through City employment (Councilmember Nicolas); and 3) What the average Ann Arbor citizen pays for parkland and how that compares to residents of similar cities (Councilmember Hunter).

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before Council, it was moved by Councilmember Hanna-Davies that the meeting be adjourned.

On a voice vote the Chair declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

W. Northcross  
Clerk of the Council

Janet L. Chapin  
Recording Secretary