

PROPOSED DRAFT

ANN ARBOR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES WORKING SESSION - JUNE 22, 1998

The working session of the Ann Arbor City Council was called to order at 7:10 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber by Mayor Ingrid B. Sheldon.

ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL

PRESENT : Councilmembers Tobi Hanna-Davies, Jane Lumm, David Kwan, Jean Carlberg, Heidi Cowing Herrell, Christopher Kolb, Elisabeth L. Daley, Mayor Ingrid B. Sheldon, 8;

ABSENT : Councilmembers Patricia Vereen-Dixon, Stephen C. Hartwell, Patrick A. Putman, 3.

INFORMATION SERVICES STRATEGIC PLAN

Administrative Services Director James Amin gave an overview of the Information Services and Technology Strategic Plan (ISTSP) and its background. He stated that the City retained the services of Plante & Moran, LLP, to assist with the development of information technology resources over the next five years. A Technology Task Force of key departmental representatives was formed to direct the efforts of Plante & Moran, and to review their findings and recommendations. Mr. Amin introduced Art Hodsworth of Plante & Moran, who summarized the City's current problem and suggested several strategies to ensure successful implementation of the ISTSP.

Mr. Hodsworth stated that the objectives of the ISTSP are to establish projects to move the City towards enhanced citizen service levels and staff efficiencies using technology, and to establish strategies to guide the implementation of the projects. The key issues affecting the successful implementation of this plan are staffing in the Information Services Department, upgrading or replacing existing old customized software applications and hardware, and enhancing information automation at the City. The two existing scenarios are: Scenario I: Upgrading the current mainframe computer system and adding new projects; or Scenario II: Replacing the mainframe computer with a client-server platform with fewer new programs.

Finance Director Dean Moore explained that cost projections for both scenarios would require an annual funding level for technology projects of \$1.1 million. In Scenario I there are now 13 Enterprise-Wide projects and 28 departmental projects to be completed over the next five years. In Scenario II there are six Enterprise-Wide projects and eight departmental projects. Under Scenario II, the purchase of a new Client/Server system to replace the mainframe is \$2,350,000 more expensive than upgrading the current software to Client/Server version. With approximately \$800,000 in additional funding each year, beyond the \$1.1 million, all of the 70 technology enhancement projects could be undertaken if Scenario II is pursued. If Scenario I is pursued the additional funding required would be approximately \$400,000 per year.

Alex Little, Labor Relations/Interim Human Resources Director, stated that over the five year implementation period there will be an overlap of new full-time employees to handle the transition of responsibilities and the Year 2000 concerns. He indicated that four retirements and a net of three new full-time employees have been assumed.

Budget Director Alan Burns was present and addressed the necessary action needed by City Council to adopt the proposed plan. Information Services Department staff members were present to answer questions.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

W. Northcross
Clerk of the Council

Frances M. McMullan
Recording Secretary