

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO HELD IN  
THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT CITY HALL ON  
TUESDAY, JULY 22, 1975.

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The meeting was called to order at 2:00 P. M. by the presiding officer, Mayor Lila Cockrell, with the following members present: PYNDUS, BILLA, CISNEROS, BLACK, HARTMAN, ROHDE, TENIENTE, NIELSEN, COCKRELL; Absent: NONE.

75-43 Mayor Cockrell said that this meeting had been called for the purpose of completing a review of departmental and special budgets for the coming fiscal year.

Mrs. Virginia Meyers, Executive Secretary of C.O.P.S., read a prepared statement inquiring if specific projects are included in the 1975-76 budget. (A copy of her statement is included with the papers of this meeting.)

Mr. Pyndus said that he had carefully reviewed the proposed budget for the Fire Department with Chief Martinez and said that it is fully justified. He did, however, have certain recommendations to make and these are included in his report. (A copy of his prepared report is included with the papers of this meeting.)

Mr. Pyndus called particular attention to a list of obsolete fire equipment which needs to be replaced. He said that a complete review and evaluation should be made regarding the replacement of old equipment and report made to the City Council within six months.

Mr. Pyndus said that he had also reviewed the budget for Civil Defense which appears to be in order. He did suggest, however, that this department be reviewed to determine whether this function should be combined with that of the county.

S. A. SYMPHONY SOCIETY

Mr. James Calvert, President of the San Antonio Symphony Society, explained the role of the San Antonio Symphony Orchestra in the cultural life of San Antonio and reviewed its many activities. He requested that the budget allocation to the Society be increased from \$150,000 to \$165,000.

SAN ANTONIO TRANSIT SYSTEM

Mr. Norman Hill, General Manager of the San Antonio Transit System, used a set of prepared charts to review the performance of the Transit System and to show new routes projected. He said that the proposed budget does not include any wage increase because such an item in the budget would be used as a base by the union when contract negotiations begin. The Transit System's request for \$2,691,000 compares with \$1,300,000 in the previous budget.

Mr. Hill said that he would give Council members copies of his letter explaining the effect of a 5 cent or 10 cent fare increase.

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BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Mrs. Vivian Hamlin, Chairman of the Bicentennial Committee, reviewed briefly the plans already made for Bicentennial activities and a detailed budget amounting to \$150,000 for the coming year.

SAN ANTONIO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Mr. J. H. Savage, Jr., President of the San Antonio Zoological Society, invited the Council to make a visit to the zoo soon to see what is being done in the way of improvements. Mr. Savage also outlined activities at the zoo and the program for taking zoo exhibits to the school children. He said that there is a need for a \$500,000 contribution from the City this year which is an increase of \$105,850 over last year's budget.

OFFICE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Mayor Cockrell read a memo she had written to the City Manager requesting the establishment of an Office of Cultural Affairs which would coordinate efforts of the City government with private interests in the encouragement of the Arts. (A copy of Mayor Cockrell's communication is included with the papers of this meeting.) She asked that the City Manager review her request and make recommendations back to the Council.

City Manager Granata said that this office could be started with a minimal staff and probably a budget of about \$27,500.

WAGE INCREASE

There was a general discussion of a wage increase for City employees. Mayor Cockrell said that the City Manager had suggested a review of this subject in February 1976 as he felt that funds would be available at that time for a 5 percent increase. She said that she felt that an increase should be granted before that time and suggested November 1st.

City Manager Granata reviewed for the Council the amount of funds required for various rates of increase which might be considered. He asked that he be given three months experience on the new budget after which he could make a firm recommendation.

After discussion, Council requested that the staff provide the Council with accurate cost data and a review of possible source of funds so that the City Council can make a commitment to City employees that there will be a wage increase.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:50 P. M.

A P P R O V E D

*Lila Cockrell*  
M A Y O R

ATTEST: *J. H. Hamlin*  
C i t y C l e r k

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