

Martinez, Ruben

From: Ed Washatka <ed.washatka@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 11:59 AM
To: Public Comment
Subject: Immediate review of Item 7 on today's consent agenda - Camera Purchase

Importance: High

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Honorable Mayor and City Council Members:

As we are all now aware, Matthew Hawkesworth, the City's Finance Director has told us to expect a prolonged economic downturn for the City for months and possibly years.

Therefore I am asking the Mayor and City Council require all City Department operating budgets be reviewed immediately for possible reductions to ensure there is sufficient operating funds to maintain absolutely essential services for as long as possible into the future.

A place to start for immediate review might be Item 7 on today's consent agenda. It seems to me that with the need for immediate savings to provide operational budget shortfalls, the \$420,000 expenditure for a camera for police helicopters could be delayed.

If there enough money in the current operating budget to pay for this camera, then that money can be culled and redirected to pay for required human health services or be added to the "rainy day" fund

A review of planned expenditures for less than absolutely essential services can highlight opportunities to redirect funds to provide more and broader services to residents who have lost their jobs and are in danger of losing their housing.

The appearance of a "grab and go" appropriation to use monies before they run out demonstrates a possible lack of concern for emergency help required by City residents in desperate need of help.

Best regards,
Ed Washatka

04/20/2020
Item 7

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