

**MINUTES OF THE MARCH 13, 2017
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE ALLIANCE CITY COUNCIL**

The meeting was called to order by President Garnes at 6:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL: Larry Dordea, James Edwards, Julie Jakmides, Donald Kline and Roger Rhome present.

Councilwoman Cherry arrived at 6:05

Council President Garnes Read the Notice of the Special Meeting.

President Garnes explained the need for the special meeting to review and possibly take action on Ordinances 3-17 and 8-17.

Councilwoman Jakmides stated that it is apparent that the Finance Committee was unable to reach an agreement as to percentages of reallocation pursuant to Proposed Ordinance 3-17 and there appears to me a need for more input from the rest of City Council so that numbers can be plugged into the ordinance and allow the Auditor to further formulate the budget.

Councilwoman Jakmides explained that the committee came up with three separate distinct proposals. Her proposal was 84% to the General fund, 4% to the Water fund, 6% to Master Capital, and 6% to streets.

Councilman Edwards and Councilwoman Cherry questioned the minimum needed in the General fund to fund the budget for the year and Auditor Knowles gave them some percentages to meet minimums.

Councilman Rhome stated his proposal was to reallocate 79% to the General fund, 4% to the Water fund, 2% to Master Capital, and 15% to streets. He believes the roads have been neglected too long and that a major influx of funding is needed for both maintenance and necessary infrastructure repairs.

Councilman Dordea explained Council's responsibilities to the constituents the roads and infrastructure and the City in general. Dordea stated that resurfacing to make smooth roads is only a part of the problem and the age of our roads means we really don't know what failures may lay beneath the surface. His proposal was 79% to the General fund, 4% to the Water fund, 6% to Master Capital, and 11% to streets.

Councilwoman Jakmides stated the City is going to run out of money no matter what percentages we put into the ordinance but questioned the wisdom of valuing streets over other infrastructure repairs covered by master capital.

Councilman Dordea stated explained that his desire was to split the difference between the Rhome and Jakmides plans and stated that he believes it is urgent that we address the roads.

Councilman Edwards explained that it is important to explain what is happening to the voters who will see money spent on streets and not believe the City is in dire financial needs.

Councilman Rhome explained that 10% or less doesn't account for salt and other needs if we encounter bad weather. There needs to be more to account for that.

Councilwoman stated that the Federal and State money has been continually drying up and we need to make it clear to the voters that we can't keep functioning at the current levels with current funding. Councilwoman Cherry stated that wage and benefit packages were given to employees that are now in place and protected by contract so we can't do much about that. Stated that maybe coming under fiscal watch or fiscal emergency is necessary to change the mind set.

Councilman Dordea stated that the issue should have been addressed sooner but that can't be changed.

President Garnes asked for clarification of the proposed split between Master Capital and Roads and asked if a more balanced approach may be the more sound approach.

Councilwoman Jakmides clarified that a portion of the Master Capital fund goes into the streets anyway so a more balanced approach does still favor road repair anyway.

Councilman Kline stated that the Auditor's guidance is needed because we are running out of money no matter what.

Auditor Knowles stated that something needs decided tonight because we are running out of time to approve the budget which needs approved by March 31st. Without knowing the allocation percentages desired by Council, it is impossible to formulate the budget.

Motion and second to defeat Ordinance 3-17 and utilize the percentages currently in effect. Mayor Andreani explained that the current statutory percentages are 79% to the General fund, 4% to the Water fund, 10% to Master Capital, and 7% to streets. Safety Service Director Dreger explained that money can be moved from Master Capital or General fund to do paving but not from streets to the other funds to cover expenses. Upon hearing the actual statutory percentages, Councilman Dordea stated he is no longer in favor of defeating ordinance 3-17 and withdrew his motion

Motion and Second to amend Ordinance 3-17 to contain the following percentages 79% to the General fund, 4% to the Water fund, 7% to Master Capital, and 10% to streets. Roll Call Vote: 4 in favor 2 (Kline and Jakmides) against. Motion and Second to adopt Ordinance 3-17 as amended. Roll Call Vote: 4 in favor 2 (Kline and Jakmides) against. **ADOPTED.**

President Garnes questioned any action on Ordinance 8-17 and Councilwoman stated it was premature to act on Ordinance 8-17 since the percentages were just determined by Ordinance 3-17. No action needed on Ordinance 8-17 until next meeting

Motion and Second to hold an Executive Session of Counsel to discuss personnel with Members of Council, Council President, Mayor, Safety Service Director, Law Director, and Auditor with no action to follow. Roll Call Vote: unanimous.

Council entered executive session at 6:58 PM

Council re-entered regular session at 7:28 PM

ADJOURNMENT: Noting no further business presented or discussed with Council, President Pro Tem Dordea adjourned the special meeting of City Council at 7:28 P.M.

LARRY DORDEA, PRESIDENT PRO TEM

GERARD T. YOST, COUNCIL CLERK