

**City of Westminster City Council Study Session
July 3, 2006**

Mayor McNally called the Study Session to order at 6:35 PM. All Council was in attendance except for Chris Dittman and Tim Kauffman.

City Staff in attendance included: City Manager Brent McFall; Assistant City Manager Steve Smithers; City Attorney Marty McCullough; Public Information Specialist Joe Reid; Management Intern Aric Otzelberger; Chief of Police Dan Montgomery; and Administrative Secretary Melissa Salazar.

The guests in attendance were Evie Hemphill with the Westminster Window, Sam Mamet with the Colorado Municipal League, Shannon Hayden of the National Research Center, Mike Litzau, Larry Dean Valente and Karen Hardee.

Presentation by Sam Mamet, Colorado Municipal League

Sam Mamet provided a brief presentation to Council regarding CML programs, upcoming legislation , future issues and to touch base with Council.

No action was necessary; this was an informative update only.

2006 Westminster Citizen Survey Results

Brent McFall introduced Shannon Hayden of the National Research Center who was in attendance to discuss the results of the survey. Council has received a copy of the 2006 Westminster Citizen Survey which was conducted by the National Research Center.

Every two years, the City conducts a citizen survey to measure residents' satisfaction level with City services and gather opinions on specific policy questions. In conjunction with the City's performance measurement program, the 2006 Citizen Survey also incorporated questions that collect performance measurement data. As in previous years, the City contracted with the National Research Center, Inc. (NRC) and Dr. Tom Miller.

Overall, the results of the Citizen Survey continue to be positive. In 2006, the City of Westminster once again ranked above the national average in quality of community and quality of service. 93% of residents rated the quality of life in Westminster as "good" or "very good." Also notable is the fact that 67% of residents "strongly agreed" or "somewhat agreed" that they receive good value for the taxes they pay. This rating places Westminster well above the national average (91st percentile).

Among the three policy questions asked in this year's survey, the strongest amount of support from residents was shown for extending the parks and open space tax; 77% of respondents were at least "somewhat" supportive. Additional information is available in the attached report of survey results document.

This was a review and discussion for Council only. No action was required.

Reclassification of 4.0 FTE Senior Police Officer Positions to Police Sergeant

Dan Montgomery was present to seek Council's approval to prepare a resolution for Council action to adopt an amendment to the 2006 Staffing and Pay Plans to reflect a reclassification of 4.0 FTE Senior Police Officer Positions to the Police Sergeant position classification in the Police Department.

Since the passage of the public safety sales tax in 2003, there have been 28 additional Police Officers hired by the Police Department, but no additional Police Sergeants. The number of sergeants and

lieutenants working each shift in comparison to officers on duty has dropped significantly in the past 2.5 years. This is below the average of 6.7 among the eight law enforcement agencies Westminster is compared to for salary and fringe benefit purposes. If Council concurs with Staff's recommendation it means that on the average, a Police Sergeant in Westminster would be responsible for 7.9 Police Officers per shift instead of 10.3.

In staff's opinion, it is absolutely essential and critical to have high quality and adequate shift supervision of personnel. This is especially true in the police arena where police actions are under the public magnifying glass at all times and often police decisions, whether they are good or bad, result in time-consuming and sometimes expensive litigation.

Council concurred with Staff's recommendation.

Mayor McNally adjourned the Study Session at 8:14 PM.