

**MINUTES  
EMPORIA CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF EMPORIA MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
BUDGET WORK SESSION  
MAY 1, 2008**

*Note to Reader:* Although the printed Agenda document for this City Council Meeting is not part of these minutes, the agenda document provides background information on the items discussed by City Council during the meeting. A copy of the agenda document for this meeting may be obtained by contacting the Office of the City Clerk.

**ROLL CALL**

Upon roll call, the following Council members indicated their presence:

Councilwoman Nancy B. Squire  
Councilman F. Woodrow Harris  
Councilman James C. Saunders  
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey  
Councilman Ned Lankford

Others present: Sheila Cutrell, Finance Director  
Rick Perkey, Director of Finance for Greenville County Public Schools  
Brian S. Thrower, City Manager  
Dr. Angela B. Wilson, Assistant Superintendent of Greenville County Public Schools  
Dr. Philip L. Worrell, Superintendent of Greenville County Public Schools

Absent: Councilman John R. White  
Councilwoman Doris T. White  
Jean V. Whiting, City Clerk

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Thrower opened the meeting by identifying the purpose as being to review and discuss Greenville County Public School's FY08 – 09 Budget requests.

Dr. Worrell provided City Council members with copies of and reviewed Greenville County Schools' proposed budget, which included, but was not limited to, the following information:

**Fixed Cost Increases**

- Health insurance (10 percent increase – School Board pays same percentage)... \$185,000.00
- Electricity increase ..... \$ 20,000.00
- Heating fuel ..... \$ 22,500.00
- Water and Sewer increase..... \$ 11,500.00
- Fuel for buses..... \$ 90,000.00
- Increase in cost of buses ..... \$ 15,000.00

**TOTAL FIXED COST INCREASES     \$344,000.00**

**New Requests**

• Increase instructional allotments to schools by 20 percent .....	\$25,000.00
• Data Warehouse Test Analysis software .....	\$25,000.00
• Increase supplement for Masters and Doctorate by \$500.00 .....	\$50,000.00
• Increase substitute pay by \$5.00/day .....	\$20,000.00
• Office aide for GCHS (salary \$13,000.00 w/benefits) .....	\$21,600.00
• Dual enrollment costs for General Education Certificate.....	\$5,000.00
• Maintenance supplies/purchased services .....	\$35,000.00
• Special Education purchased services .....	\$15,000.00
• Three Special Education aides (salary \$13,000.00 w/benefits).....	\$64,500.00
• Nursing services (salary w/benefits) .....	\$35,000.00
• Student writing software for Belfield Elementary.....	\$6,000.00
• Athletic increase .....	\$5,000.00
• Tuition assistance (increase in college costs).....	\$10,000.00
• Staff development.....	\$45,000.00
• Homebound instruction .....	<u>\$40,000.00</u>
<b>TOTAL NEW REQUESTS</b>	<b>\$402,100.00</b>

**Salary Proposals**

• 5 percent raise including step.....	\$850.00.00
Cost of \$400.00 addition to steps 15 – 24 .....	\$18,000.00
Cost of \$800.00 addition to steps 25 – 32 .....	<u>\$62,000.00</u>
<b>TOTAL COST OF ADDITION TO STEPS</b>	<b>\$80,000.00</b>
• Reduced number of steps on teacher salary scale.....	\$30,000.00
<b>TOTAL SALARY INCREASE</b>	<b>\$960,000.00</b>

Mr. Thrower stated that he and Mr. David Whittington, Administrator for Greenville County, previously discussed providing Greenville County Public Schools with a joint increase of \$100,000.000 over the previous fiscal year’s budget.

Councilman Harris stated that he would be in favor of the City of Emporia and Greenville County providing a joint increase of \$100,000.00 over the previous fiscal year’s budget to Greenville County Public Schools.

Councilman Saunders requested that Mr. Thrower provide City Council members with preliminary budget information prior to the May 6, 2008 City Council Meeting.

Mr. Thrower advised Councilman Saunders that City Council members would be provided with the preliminary budget information as requested.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before City Council, the session was adjourned.

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Nancy B. Squire, President of Council

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Jean V. Whiting, City Clerk