April 12, 2011

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Mayor Gray proposes ‘businessman’s budget’ for city

• Mayor’s Proposed FY12 General Fund budget is a $271 million spending plan. If our revenue projections are accurate, this will be the fourth year in a row that General Fund receipts have declined or been flat. Prior to FY 09 there is only one other year in the government’s history in which general fund revenue failed to grow, year-over-year.

• Moves Lexington toward financial responsibility, resizing and building an efficient government.

• No new taxes. One new fee for emergency medical service.

• Lay-off of 28 employees in Government Communications (7), Parks (5), Social Services (5) and Building Security (11). Lay-offs save $1 million per year in General Fund.


• No lay-offs in police or fire. No new hires. Projects savings of $5.6 million in collective bargaining contracts, plus $3.1 million cut through no unscheduled overtime in fire, no position vacancies, other personnel savings and no fire station brown-outs.

• Through lay-offs, abolishment of 215 unfilled or vacant positions and other savings, reduces annual General Fund personnel costs by $11.8 million. With these changes, city hall will have a workforce of 2,835 budgeted jobs, the lowest since 1999.
• Two-week furlough for Commissioners, Mayor’s Senior Staff. Mayor suspends his salary for six months.

• Close two underutilized pools, Berry Hill and Constitution. All pools closed on Mondays.

• Close Meadowbrook Golf Course, where attendance is lowest among city golf courses. Meadowbrook loses approximately $80,000 a year.

• Provides approximately $30 million to underfunded police/fire pension fund. This is the only expenditure that adds to debt.

• Provides $60,000 to parks to ensure they are accessible to all citizens.

• Use $850,000 to correct necessary life-safety issues at the Kentucky Theatre, the Phoenix Building and Police headquarters by improving elevators and fire protection.

• Provides $3 million in road resurfacing through state and local funds.

• Provides $600,000 to the City’s inadequate Rainy Day Fund.

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