

ITEM	25
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	50
COUNCIL MEETING	Aug. 3/76

Re: BUSINESS TRIP BY THE SUPERVISOR OF SURVEYS
 EVALUATION OF EQUIPMENT FOR COMPUTERIZED MAPPING
 HOUSTON, TEXAS

The Municipal Manager has approved a request to allow Mr. B. Berting, Supervisor of Surveys, to travel to Houston, Texas for the purpose of visiting Synercom Technology, Inc. to obtain "hands on" testing and evaluation of equipment for computerized mapping that is part of the Joint Utilities Mapping Task Force. This approval was given without prior referral to Council because the plan, which has not been officially changed, is to have the two day visit commence on August 2nd, our statutory holiday. There is now, however, some indication that the trip may possibly be postponed and taken a day or two later. In any event, the Manager extended approval in order to allow Mr. Berting sufficient time to make the necessary travel arrangements in anticipation of a possible August 1st departure date.

Specific justifications for the trip are:

1. The Project Manager, Mr. S. Garth, requests Mr. Berting's participation in the evaluation of the computerized plotting, which is very largely a survey type of operation. As well, the administration board of the Joint Utilities Mapping Task Force decided that in the interests of the base mapping aspect of the project Mr. Berting should attend, and this has also been confirmed by the User Group.
2. The Synercom computer-plotter has a coordinate geometry-survey computing program and the capability evaluation should be done by Mr. Berting because he is the most logical person of the three agencies involved.
3. The equipment involved will cost some \$350,000 and, of course, great care must be taken at this time to assess its suitability for our purposes.
4. B.C. Tel., B.C.H.P.A. Electric and B.C.H.P.A. Gas will each have a representative at the "hands on" testing group and it is highly desirable that Burnaby also have a representative there.

The estimated cost is as follows:

Return air fare	\$ 345.00
2 days accommodation (est.)	65.00
*3 days meals	45.00
Incidental expenses	15.00
(Airport transfers, transportation in Houston, etc.)	
	<u>\$ 470.00</u>

*The total per diem cost could be slightly higher if Council adopts the recommendation in Item 23, Page 163.

The cost of the trip would be charged to Code #20-09-05, Mapping Supplies and Equipment.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the approval from the Municipal Manager to allow Mr. B. Berting to visit the offices of Synercom Technology Inc. in Houston, Texas be ratified by Council.

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