City Council Minutes

Budget Workshop
Wednesday, October 22, 2014
6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Guier called the budget workshop to order at 6:36 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members Garberding, Kave Oliveira, and Walker, and Mayor Guier

Absent: Council Members Jones, Putnam, Steiger (Council Member Putnam arrived at 6:43 p.m.)

STAFF PRESENT

City Administrator Richard Gould; Public Safety Director John Calkins, Community Development Manager Jack Dodge, Public Works Manager Lance Newkirk, Senior Center Assistant Darcie Thach, and City Clerk Amy Stevenson-Ness.

AGENDA ITEMS

City Administrator Gould began by reviewing the agenda. He then reviewed the general fund revenue sources and discussed options for increasing revenue.

Council Member Putnam arrived here at 6:43 p.m.

He reviewed Street Repairs and Maintenance and discussed options for raising revenues for street repairs.

There was discussion regarding other possible revenue streams in addition to car tabs with a transportation benefit district.

Public Works Manager Newkirk discussed the Municipal Capital Improvement Project. He provided background history of the project. He said in reviewing the initial investigation, he found items that needed to be supplemented. Temporary modular office facilities will be placed in Centennial Park. The site will need to be developed and costs weren't incorporated initially. Incorporating a contingency, making utility connections, bringing in three modular, moving costs, abatement, HVAC installation, flooring/subflooring/carpet installation, painting, rental of a heated storage unit comes to approximately $587,000.

Discussion ensued regarding the contingency amount, costs for remodeling inside, seeking funding from the legislators, and vacating into temporary structures to fully investigate the extent of needed repairs.

Mr. Gould stated more firm numbers should be in place by the end of November.

Mr. Newkirk then discussed the water meter replacement project. He stated it is crucial to a water utility. If meters haven't been replaced for many years, the wear on the meters can cause them to under-register usage. That is revenue that can be replace with new meters. The proposed meters employ technology to make them more functional and a radio-read can be done in real time.

There was discussion regarding the ability to turn the meters off manually, how long it would take for replacement if it is fast-tracked, and getting a bond for meter replacements to do them all at once.

SEWER RATE INCREASE
Mr. Gould discussed the King County sewer rate increase in 2015. He stated an increase in the King County rates must equal an increase for the City.

Mr. Gould reviewed Capitol Equipment Purchases. He stated there is a police vehicle replacement schedule. There was discussion regarding the age of the vehicles being replaced, pool cars, costs to replace the lap top and in-car video, various patrol car options, and the possibility of using hybrid vehicles.

Mr. Newkirk discussed the Public Works Capital Replacement Project. He stated he needs to rep current trucks with ¾-ton pickup trucks. He hasn't identified the full cost of new trucks but will look at used market first then at the new market. He also identified two new pieces of equipment he needs to purchase: a fuel trailer and a utility locator.

He also identified that a new plotter is needed. The current plotter cannot scan documents and it is important to reduce the amount of documentation kept in files.

Mayor Guier recessed the workshop at 8:17 and reconvened at 8:27 p.m.

Staffing was discussed and changes to staffing were outlined. Police are requesting a traffic officer and it was suggested that this officer also conduct a commercial vehicle program to generate revenue.

Mr. Dodge discussed the need for updated codes for Community Development. He stated the codes and procedures for permitting are hard to decipher and need to be clarified and updated.

PUBLIC WORKS
Mr. Newkirk stated the administrative staff support in his department is light and needs to be looked at.

ADJOURN

Mayor Guier adjourned the workshop at 9:04 p.m.

Amy Stevenson-Ness, City Clerk