



MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
November 25, 2008

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Gilbert at 5:37 pm.

Present: Mayor: Randy Gilbert; Council: Sam Rettinger, Sharon Henderson, Ben Goodwin, and Jim Benson; Council Members Elect: Brian Carpenter and Liz Olson

Staff Present: Interim City Administrator: Terrance Post

Absent: None

APPROVE AGENDA

A motion was made by Henderson, seconded by Benson, to approve the Agenda as presented.

Ayes: all.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2009 Budget Discussion

Post stated that at the November 18 work session meeting, the Council had given staff direction to include the following factors in the 2009 budget planning process:

1. Not fill the City Planner position and utilizing a subcontracted planning consultant for planning cases requiring that level of expertise.
2. Combine the Finance Director and City Administrator positions by eliminating the Finance Director position.
3. Hire the vacant Administrative Assistant position.
4. Establish a 3.00% salary range move for the 2009 Pay Plan.
5. Increase the Public Works Department summer seasonal employee budget in light of increased maintenance responsibilities from the Highway 12 project in addition to the prospect of Public Works employees becoming more involved in code enforcement activities.

Post reported that the proposed 2009 General Fund Budget includes a 2.25% operating levy decrease that when combined with the debt service levy results in a total payable 2009 levy increase of 2.89%. Budget factors of note include a healthy capital spending budget for Fire Department equipment in 2009, and an overall reduction in the number of City staff.

Council members and staff discussed:

- Implementation of a tree trimming program in City parks and right-of-way in 2009;
- Measures to control both the presence of geese at the park and beach water quality;
- Post's recommendation that the Administrative Assistant be budgeted for as a part-time rather than full-time position.

Post provided Council members with a comparison between the 2008 actual and proposed 2009 budgets; reviewed how changes in staffing level and benefits impact the 2009 budget; overviewed the Fire Department budget structure; and reviewed General Fund revenues and expenses by account category.

Post noted that the Truth in Taxation hearing to present the proposed 2009 budget to the public would be held Monday, December 1, 2008. He also reminded Council members that their regularly scheduled Tuesday, December 2 meeting had been rescheduled to follow the Truth in Taxation hearing at 7:00 pm. Final budget adoption would take place at the Tuesday, December 16 City Council meeting.

ADJOURN

Hearing no objection, Mayor Gilbert adjourned the November 25, 2008 City Council Work Session at 6:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette Moeller
City Clerk

MEETING MINUTES TRANSCRIBED FROM AUDIO RECORDING