



Minutes for Mayor and Council Work-Session

Date: December 18, 2007

Place: One Municipal Place Mount Rainier Md. 20712

Council Chair: Mayor Malinda Miles

Council members present: Bryan Knedler, Pedro Briones, Jimmy Tarlau,

Council members absent: Alta Morton

Staff present: City Manager Jeannelle Wallace

Meeting called to order at 7:10pm

Review agenda

Addition to agenda speed humps by Jeannelle Wallace

Move to adopt amended agenda Council member Knedler

Second Council member Jimmy Tarlau

Agenda Passed

Volunteer Fire Department moved to top of agenda

Council member Jimmy Tarlau presents the Volunteer Fire Departments issues to the Council of needing help to purchase equipment that would enable them to use their new pump and what the Council could do to appropriate money to help as he presents figures.

Fire Department Representative:

The Fire Department is asking for \$7000.00 to get a piece of vital equipment in working service.(pumper)

Council member Taralu:

What equipment would the \$7000.00 put into service?

Fire Department Rep.

- 1.1000 feet of 4inch hose**
- 2. Siamese suction valve**
- 3. Intake valve**

Mayor Miles:

Over the last 4 years we appropriated 1500.00 dollars a year and they have not drawn down on it. I am proposing \$7500.00 dollars.

Council member Tarlau:

The \$7500.00 would be an additional \$6000.00 that we would have to appropriate. We already have \$1500.00 in the budget so we are proposing an additional \$6000.00.

Mayor Miles:

Yes

The urgency is the fire dept. is trying to have this work done and operational by January 14th because that's when their truck becomes the lead truck.

Council member Tarlau:

So, how do you suggest we proceed? Is there a way to do it?

Mayor Miles:

We didn't appropriate \$7000.00 for the fire department but what I'm going on is that we have the funding in other items that could be moved. What we would have to do is to look for and appropriate it at the next meeting, to do that it would take four of voting in the affirmative and it would take two readings. I would like to have a consensus that I have the four votes at the table and we would do that on the 15th and the first Tuesday in February.

Council member Tarlau:

Don't we have money in contingency and why can't we use the money in the contingency?

Mayor Miles:

You probably could, I'm not sure how we would do it but some of that money we had in contingency went for police officers.

Council member Briones:

I support it but I would like to hear from Mr. Manjani first. We already have a line item for the fire department and I would suggest that we over spend that line item.

Council member Tarlau:

I would move that we take the money out of contingency and put the money in the fire department.

Council member Knedler:

I would like to get with the treasurer about this and I would like to remind the Council that there is no money in contingency. There is zero in contingency until the end of the year when what ever is left over goes in contingency. We have not received all of our tax money and we have not received all of our funds and we may run short this year. The contingency is there to make up that shortage if you spend the contingency now you aren't going to have it when you need it. You are assuming we are going to have all that tax money that we think we are going to get.

Council member Tarlau:

I disagree, I've been asking Mr. Manjani for financial statements if you would look at this chart we are running a half a million dollars more than we were last year and one million dollars more than a couple of years ago. I'm not suggesting we spend major money but I think \$7000.00 is three. The taxes are coming in if you look year to year last year we were 1.4 million and this year we are at 2 million so there is more money there. I don't think that \$6000.00 dollars is going to put us in any kind of financial risk.

Council member Briones:

I know that there are line items that have sufficient discretion the city manager could extract from.

Council member Knedler:

We could take it out of the Council priorities.

Council member Briones:

I would like to hear from Mr. Manjani and next year I would like to have a narrative that goes along with the budget and each line item.

City Manager Jeannelle Wallace:

Every line item has a narrative.

Mayor Miles:

We need to talk to Mr. Manjani . Would it be possible to expend the money before the next council meeting even though we are required to have the two readings?

Council member Knedler:

You can always over spend a budget line.

Mayor Miles:

Then I would like to require us to do that and to move forward with it .

Council member Tarlau:

Then we will over spend the fire department line.

Mayor Miles:

I will need an ordinance that will change that line item and move the money there and have the two readings and move forward.

Council member Knedler:

Our wish list is getting a little out of control and I hope that we can go through this list and take off what no longer needs to be on it or what is top priority. We need some kind of agreement as to what the top issues are.

Mayor Miles:

The 10th item from the bottom of the page we can take it off as a priority.

Council member Knedler:

Maybe I should create another category for something that needs to be remembered.

Council member Tarlau:

I would like to put this on that category list the seventh one down.

Council member Knedler:

Review recycling schedule

Mayor Miles:

Recycling bins is separate item and cost the schedule might need to be changed if we go with the county.

Council member Knedler:

The ordinance and the personnel manual don't jive and I will work on that. It's a legislative fix.

The annexation stays on the agenda.

The signs permits stay on

Renovation of Public Works= priority

Churches in the town center zone

Reports from cities commission boards and panels

Business licenses for artist

Resolution for budget calendar year move to January 15th, 2008 for a vote.

Council member Tarlau:

I don't see why we should change the ordinance if the person is in violation.

Mayor Miles:

I'm in violation and I intend to honor it.

Council member Tarlau:

The Council shouldn't address it;

Council member Knedler:

What we should do is make it match the county zoning law.

Immigrant Sanctuary City

This resolution would make it more public and extend it city wide and send a strong message to our immigrant community that they are welcome here.

Council member Tarlau"

I support it and I think we should have a public hearing.

Mayor Miles:

I don't agree, I think that in terms of Immigrants being in our city that they should be legal and do what they are suppose to do and that there is a process. This is not a city issue this is a federal issue and I don't know why we are in it. We don't have to write a resolution welcoming immigrants to the city because they are the second largest group in this city.

Council member Knedler:

I think that we have a firm policy in the police department and that is the place for this and it makes sense. I don't want anyone to be the victim of crime and don't want anyone to feel that they can't go to the police without having to worry about being deported. I also believe in the importance of immigrants to the community and we have a large population of all kinds of immigrants, but it doesn't distinguish between legal and illegal. I cannot support something that encourages as public policy illegal immigration. It's wrong, it should not do that. To make this a city policy I find it wrong. We should ask that the county become a sanctuary.

Council member Briones:

What I'm trying to do is show the world that we are better than Prince William County. I will ask Council member Compos to consider this at the county level. I do think that this is a city issue because we have learned that the city police department does not ask as a condition of police service some ones immigration status. As a citizen of Mount Rainier we do not require you to have a green card to have your garbage picked up or to call the police department or the fire department. If we are not going to ask than why not adopt the resolution.

City Manager Jeannelle Wallace

Policy, Legislation is done by resolution .

Mayor Miles:

It needs to be a bit clearer for me to deal with it.

The public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday February 12th 2008 at 7:pm on Immigration.

Speed Humps

Jeannelle Wallace:

We have two quotes so far.

Mayor Miles:

I think we need to move forward with it.

Should we give the employees the Monday before Christmas off and the Monday before New Years off.

The Council has given the employees both Mondays off.

**Motion to adjourn Councilmember Tarlau
Second Council member Knedler
Vote 4-0**