



City of Mount Rainier

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CITY MANAGER REPORT

APRIL 2, 2013

Meetings and Trainings

The management team attended the annual renewal workshop with Local Government Insurance Trust (LGIT) the public official liability, property, and equipment insurance provider. This workshop identified the rationale for the increases in premiums as a result of an increase in claims defended by the Trust for city police departments and other variables across the membership pool. There are 179 incorporated cities and towns that participate in this coverage. The City of Mount Rainier was awarded a plaque for 20 years of participating with LGIT coverage since 1992.

Meetings were held with the Mount Rainier FOP Lodge 85 and the Mount Rainier Business Association (MRBA) concerning the proposed Fiscal year 2014 Budget and the recommendations to include but not limited to the revision to the city's policy for injured worker's compensation, raising service and administrative fees for rental occupancy licenses and business occupancy licenses. Electronic and regular notifications were sent to multi and single-family dwellings concerning the proposed revisions to the permit fees.

Management also met with coordinators of the Art Lives Here Project concerning the proposed façade paintings and window treatment for various businesses within the Rhode Island Avenue corridor and 34th Street.

Management also met with the I-Net group that represents the Comcast Negotiations Team for renewal of the Franchise Agreement.

Several meetings and a closed session with the city attorney occurred concerning the negotiations with Streetsense and finalizing the Land Distribution Agreement.

Several meetings and consultation occurred with the city's legal team to address revisions to the City's Personnel Policy and Procedures Manual. One of the city attorneys is working on drafting legislation to adopt the recommended revisions.

Grants Management

The management team submitted the final report to the Chesapeake Bay Trust concerning the bio-retention cell for the Buchanan Green Street ;project. 90% drawings were submitted this week in order to comply with the April 1, 2013 deadline. The firm of Bio-habitats will present to the council at the April 16th work session the design drawings and will answer questions and hear comments.

The 3rd quarter report was also submitted to Community Legacy for the Bike Share program. Project Manager suggested that the city install bike racks as a phase one of the project and to utilize the funding by June 30, 2013. The project manager further suggested that the city use the same vendor as the City of Hyattsville so that a coordinated effort could be engaged along the Route 1 corridor. Assistant City Manager Michael Jackson contacted Jim Chandler and thus the will be bike racks installed throughout the city and on meters. The bike racks will be installed according to the bike plan presented by the Green Team and the map showing the locations were submitted in conjunction with the report.

The city has been notified that the County has requested to release the funds appropriated for the Façade Improvement Program for the city's business district. There has been a lot of anxiety about this funding and after an approximate two year waiting period, management is looking forward to finally get this program off the ground.

Finance Department

All required reports have been submitted to the State for the Fiscal Year Audit for the period ended June 30, 2012. This includes the Uniform Financial Report and the Independent Audit report required as a result of the Federal Grants received exceeding \$500,000.

The city manager and the finance director submitted a proposed budget to the Mayor and Council in March as required by the City Charter. Discussions are currently on-going with the next budget work session scheduled for April 16, 2013.

Priorities during the month of April

During the next month the management team will conduct an analysis of the property tax income received for properties identified within the city boundaries. This has not been done in the past 2-3 years however the necessity for conducting this analysis was brought to our attention as a result of a property located within the city that is listed on the Maryland Department of Assessment and Taxation as being located in the City of Hyattsville. Phone calls to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission contact person have yet to yield a response.

The City Council requested management to research other local governments as to how they address parking issues within their boundaries. This issue was brought up at the last couple of council meetings. Maryland Municipal League was contacted and sent several examples of

municipal ordinances that address this issue. The information was forwarded to Councilmember Brent Bolin who met with Councilmember Tarlau and Chief Scott to discuss this issue.

Discussions with the council have also occurred regarding the proposed City of Mount Rainier Architectural Conservation Zone. Representatives from Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission have been invited to provide guidance to the council on this issue at the April 16,2013 work session.

END OF REPORT