



Minutes for the Mount Rainier
Mayor and Council Meeting

Date: 3-5-2013

Place: One Municipal Place, Mount Rainier MD 20712

Presiding officer: Mayor Malinda Miles

Councilmember's present: Ivy Thompson, Brent Bolin Jimmy Tarlau and William Updike

Councilmember's absent: None

Staff present: City Manager Jeannelle Wallace and Asst. City Manager Michael Jackson

Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda

Move to accept Councilman Updike

Second Councilman Tarlau

Vote 4-0

Motion to approve the minutes Councilman Tarlau

Second Councilman Updike

Minutes approved with corrections to clerk by March 8th 2013.

Vote 4-0

Ward II

Councilwoman Thompson attended a meeting with Councilman Bolin and Michael Jackson on development on Rhode Island Avenue. Nothing was decided in that meeting. Our German partners will be here to visit us next week Wednesday through Friday.

Ward I There is no report from Councilman Updike.

Ward I Councilman Tarlau is working with four committees. The committees are reviewing the emergency operations plan and working on updating the emergency preparedness plan.

The second committee is the community service committee and they are working on whom to call for assistance and they are working on a list of who people can call for certain kind of emergencies and #3 is the Mount Rainier 5-K run is set for April 27th 2013. You can sign up online. The Home Tour is scheduled for Sunday May 5th 2013 and we have nine homes registered and the cost is \$5.00 for a tour. People will meet at Joe's Movement Emporium.

City Manager Jeannelle Wallace:

This is a presentation to give you a view of significant changes in the budget. The budget is due to the Mayor and Council on the first Monday of March every year. The recommendations to the Mayor and Council are as follow.

Revenue reductions have presented us with a great challenge. The magnitude of those reductions has resulted in a revenue loss of \$456,000.00 approximately which is about 10% of the overall budget. \$ 45 million dollars is the operation budget. The reduction is the result of property assessments done on the real property within the city and the budget is on the city website.

The recommendations to increase revenue are recommending increasing fees for services. The real property tax rate is .86 per 100 of assessed valuation. We have proposed a seven cent tax increase. The real property tax rate should have been increased 14 cents to equal the constant yield tax rate. The raising of fees if approved won't go into effect until 2014. We want to increase parking fees and we are proposing \$123,000.00 for infrastructure and also proposing to replace two police vehicles and a trash truck for public works.\$54,500.00 for all community programs. A grant was submitted to Councilman Will Campos office. His office have stated they will appropriate \$2500.00 for the community garden and \$2500.00 for Mount Rainer Day which is a significant increase.

Mayor Miles:

Is that appropriation for 2014? And was there any discussion around the \$5000.00 commitment for the green team and community garden.

City Manager:

The grant money is for 2013 and the appropriation is for \$5000.00 total. The city is scheduled to receive a new Call a Bus in 2015. The Call a bus program was never intended to be revenue producing and we are the only one charging \$4.00 and \$5.00. Other municipalities are either free or they charge \$1.00.

Treasurer Vijay Manjani:

A decrease in assessable base 57.5 million a loss of tax revenue\$375,00 is what we are losing this year.

Vijay presents attached budget given to the Mayor and Council.

Resident Andy Tores speaks on the great service given by the Call a bus. He feels that the bus should be continued and that a lot of seniors use it.

Resident Pat Surman and Louise Holton from the Brentwood Animal Hospital would like for the city to help her with stray cats and the problem they ha at Queens Town Apartments. This group will spade, neuter , microchip and give shots to cats for \$50.00. They are asking the city to help them work with Queenstown apartments. To reach Ms. Holton for services please call 3-277-5595 and the location is 3902 Rhode Island Avenue and the hours are Monday thru Friday 8-4: pm

The Mayor suggests that the group write something up and give to City Hall for the Message.

Chief Scott:

There has been no change in reported crimes in the first two months of 2012 and 2013. The burglaries are up and kids are breaking into Queenstown vacant apartments. You can see the report on line.

Mayor Miles is asking the Chief to add domestic violence to his report.

C councilman Updike thanks Chief for 70% reduction in crime.

Resident Rick White thanks the Council on behalf of the community garden. The people in the community put in 50 hours and they have enough space for 40 people to garden. The community will be doing some outreach about the garden and the e-mail is info@mountrainiercommunitygardens.org.

Resident John Kerns of the 3300 blk. of Otis Street states that Code Enforcement is not able to handle the growth now. Never had a rat problem and now they have rats. The west end of the alley never gets plowed in bad weather.

Mayor Miles says we will check on this and get back to you.

General Business

Mayor Miles would like a vote to approve a letter in opposition of the liquor sales off site on Sunday and support expanding liquor license to restaurants.

Councilman Bolin is against more off premise sales than Sunday sales, but for on premise sales that would support bringing a restaurant to the city.

Mayor

The amendment would limit the number of Sunday sales to 50 licenses and will add a MUTC license ad they would offer three for MUTC and they would have to bid for them once the three are gone then they are gone. Mayor doesn't feel we should have to fight for one of the licenses. She feels they should allocate one license for each MUTC in the county and we should articulate that as a Council.

Councilman Bolin agrees with the Mayor.

Councilman Bolin says that two tree commissioners' terms expired on Saturday and suggests that we appoint all of them at once. He would like to re propose all names at once as oppose to staggered terms

Mayor wants this item on the agenda.

Mayor Miles ask for a vote to support letters for PSC Legislation SB 853-HB1238 where Senator Ramirez mandates the removal of wires from old poles to new poles and get then to remove old poles in a timely fashion.

Motion Councilwoman Ivy Thompson

Second Councilman Brent Bolin

Vote 4-0

City Manager says that Delegate Carr ask for a letter of support for house bill1129 and 1177 scheduled to be heard March 7th 2013.

Move to support Councilman Bolin

Second Councilman Updike

Vote4-0

Councilman Bolin Motion to send a letter in favor of House Bill 628 regarding the purchadse of street lights.

Second Councilman Updike

Vote 4-0

Councilman Updike

Motions to adjourn into executive session for the purpose discussing land acquisition agreement for the 3200 blk. of Rhode Island Avenue and other city development.

Second Councilman Bolin

Vote 4-0