



Meeting Minutes

City Council

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501

Information: 360.753.8447

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

1. ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Mayor Stephen H. Buxbaum, Mayor Pro Tem Nathaniel Jones, Councilmember Jim Cooper, Councilmember Julie Hankins, Councilmember Steve Langer, Councilmember Jeannine Roe and Councilmember Cheryl Selby

1.A ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Buxbaum noted the Council met in a Special Study Session earlier in the evening regarding the Community Park Feasibility Study findings.

1.B APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Buxbaum suggested moving Item 4E, Approval of 2015 Legislative Agenda, from the Consent Calendar to Other Business. The Council agreed.

The agenda was approved as amended.

2. SPECIAL RECOGNITION - None

3. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

The Council heard comments from Nancy Goldsby, Frank Turner, Tom Crawford, Jack Horton, Daniel Einstein, Susan Sunshine, Meg Martin, Ron Nesbitt, Rosalinda Noriega, Al Walter, Laura Schleyer, Elizabeth Stark, Niel Lawrence, John Van Eenwyk, Beverly Bassett, and Bob Wadsworth.

Mayor Buxbaum noted public comment will continue after the public hearings.

Mayor Pro Tem Jones asked the General Government Committee to review how the Council should manage large crowds for Public Communication as far as calling on those who have not addressed the Council recently. Council agreed.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

4.A [14-1099](#) Approval of November 3, 2014 City Council Meeting Minutes

The minutes were adopted.

4.B [14-1123](#) Approval of Bills and Payroll Certification

Claim check numbers 3452429 through 33453481: Total \$6,101,974.64; and Payroll check numbers 87399 through 87471 and Direct Deposit Transmissions: Total \$3,675,084.08.

The decision was adopted.

- 4.C** [14-1106](#) 2014 Neighborhood Matching Grants: Proposed Budget Reallocation for Two Grants

The decision was adopted.

- 4.D** [14-1114](#) Approval of Agreement with National Development Council for Community and Economic Development Services

The contract was adopted.

4. SECOND READINGS - None

4. FIRST READINGS - None

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Councilmember Hankins moved, seconded by Councilmember Langer, to adopt the Consent Calendar, except Item 4E, which was pulled and moved to Other Business. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Mayor Buxbaum, Mayor Pro Tem Jones, Councilmember Cooper, Councilmember Hankins, Councilmember Langer, Councilmember Roe and Councilmember Selby

5. PUBLIC HEARING

- 5.A** [14-1115](#) Public Hearing on the 2015 City of Olympia Operating Budget

City Manager Steve Hall gave an overview of the operating budget. He reviewed General Fund budget projections, how to achieve a sustainable budget, key features of the 2015 budget, General Fund revenues, general sales tax, major sales tax categories, total number of employees, and 2015 ongoing and one-time unfunded requests.

The public hearing was opened.

Mr. Jack Horton, 2106 Bethel St NE, said parks maintenance is terribly underfunded. He also supports purchasing more park land.

Ms. Patty Belmonte, 504 75th Way NE, Executive Director of the Hands On Children's Museum, thanked the Council for continued lodging tax funding.

Mr. Joe Ford, 1903 Eskridge Blvd SE, asked the Council to augment the 2015 budget by \$150,000 to meet its goals in the 2009 bicycling program.

Mr. Chris van Daalen, 3203 Lorne St SE, suggested the following to increase revenues: leverage partnerships to contribute to economic change, placemaking, and taking action on climate change.

Mr. Bob Jacobs, 720 Governor Stevens Ave SE, spoke on graduated income tax and the need to increase tax rates to maintain the tax level. He suggested staff update a study done many years ago. With regard to the City expenses, he suggested staff review the number of employees and the number of employees with salaries over \$100,000.

Ms. Vicky McCarley, 2104 Allen Rd SE, spoke on the need for a permanent line item in the budget for the Harbor Patrol.

Ms. Theresa Madden, 304 West Bay Dr, spoke in support of providing funding for the Harbor Patrol.

Mr. Robert Marino, 1620 San Francisco Ave, asked the Council to give priority to projects to mitigate climate change.

Master Dean spoke on what climate change means to him.

Ms. Lisa Radcliffe spoke in support of funding the Harbor Patrol.

Ms. Beverly Bassett, 1218 Marion St NE, spoke on climate change.

The public hearing was closed.

The public hearing was held and closed.

5.B [14-0990](#) Public Hearing on the 2015 - 2020 Capital Facilities Plan (CFP)

City Manager Steve Hall introduced this item. He reviewed partnerships that help with City projects, the components of the CFP, funding sources, CIP revenues and funding, underfunded items, and items not included. He also reviewed the 2004 ballot issue language and how the City has spent funds from the utility tax, and how the utility tax money will be spent in 2015.

Parks, Arts and Recreation Director Paul Simmons reviewed the numerous accomplishments the City has seen over the past 10 years, including:

- Purchased 10 parcels throughout the City,
- Developed some of those parcels,
- Performed major maintenance,
- Projects completed through non-utility tax funds.

He noted the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee has made recommendations

to the CFP every year.

The public hearing was opened.

Ms. Karen Messmer said the utility tax funds have been used for maintenance rather than acquisition. She said this points to a breach of voter trust. She said she wants the Council to get back on track in the future.

Ms. Judy Bardin, 1517 Dickinson Ave NW, asked to fund sidewalks and open spaces with the 1% non-voted utility tax.

Mr. Walt Jorgensen, 823 North St, spoke on parks stewardship.

Mr. Joe Ford spoke in support of improving bicycling facilities.

Mr. Brian Faller said the voters taxed themselves to acquire land for parks. He said there is enough money to purchase one of the LBA parcels.

Mr. Bob Jacobs, 720 Governor Stevens Ave SE, said the City has an opportunity to remove the Capitol Center building, with the future population growth, land will not be available to purchase for parks, and he recommended a substantial levy lid lift.

Mr. Stu Henderson, 4815 Edgeworth Dr, urged the Council to look at creative solutions.

Mr. Paul Ellwood, 2217 Wedgewood Dr SE, said the CFP should provide resources for bicycle amenities.

Ms. Beth Norman, 2907 Stirling Ct SW, spoke of the benefits of visiting trails and being in the woods.

Mr. Joe Shorin, 2533 Wedgewood Ct SE, said he voted for the purchase of open space, particularly the LBA Woods.

Ms. Kris Norelius, 4460 Village Dr SE, referenced wants vs. needs in the budget.

Mr. Alan Reichman, 2909 Moore St SE, spoke in support of acquiring one or both of the LBA parcels.

Mr. Jeff Marti spoke on behalf of the LBA Woods Coalition and submitted petitions signed by 5,200 individuals to conserve LBA Woods and acquire the LBA Woods parcels for a community park.

Ms. Maria Ruth spoke in support of saving the LBA Woods. She commented it is hard for citizens to help with the maintenance role in parks.

Mr. Bruce Fortune, 1700 Langridge Ave NW, said he voted yes in 2004 to acquire

parks and the money has been pilfered away.

Ms. Kathy Harkson spoke in support of keeping LBA Woods.

Mr. George Kaminsky spoke in support of keeping the LBA Woods.

Ms. Dorothy Gist spoke in support of LBA Woods.

The public hearing closed.

The public hearing was held and closed. Written comments will be received until Friday, November 21, at 5:00 p.m.

5.C [14-1055](#) Public Hearing on the 2016-2021 Six-year Transportation Improvement Program

Transportation Project Engineer Dave Smith provided an overview of the Transportation Improvement Program. He reviewed projects added and removed.

The public hearing was opened.

Ms. Karen Messmer, President of Olympia Safe Streets Campaign, said the six-year TIP should have \$6 million in it for parks and pathways and the bicycle facilities should contain \$600,000 for six years. She thanked the Council for having the CFP and TIP hearings on the same night.

Mr. Jack Horton, President of Woodland Trail Greenway Association, asked the Council to consider nonmotorized infrastructure and transportation technology.

The public hearing was closed.

The Council discussed the Log Cabin Road extension and how it is a regional transportation plan.

The public hearing was held and closed.

5.D [14-1088](#) Public Hearing and 1st Reading on the 2015 Ad Valorem Tax Ordinance

Mayor Buxbaum noted a change to the ordinance brought forward by staff, which shows an increase of \$48.78.

Fiscal Services Director Dean Walz reviewed the levy calculations and rates.

The public hearing was opened.

Mr. Jack Horton supported the change to the ordinance.

The public hearing was closed.

Mayor Pro Tem Jones moved, seconded by Councilmember Hankins, to approve the ordinance on first reading and forward it to second reading at the November 25 Council meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Mayor Buxbaum, Mayor Pro Tem Jones, Councilmember Cooper, Councilmember Hankins, Councilmember Langer, Councilmember Roe and Councilmember Selby

6. OTHER BUSINESS

4.E [14-1120](#) Approval of 2015 Legislative Agenda

(Item pulled from Consent Calendar)

Communications Manager Cathie Butler reviewed the draft agenda and the list of other issues of interest.

Mayor Pro Tem Jones said he will bring this to TRPC when it is finalized. He has a concern about the WWRP funding and suggested that AWC carry this banner. He also expressed interest in dash and/or body cams for the Police and asked that this be put on the list of other issues of interest. Also, he would like to ask the State to help us with the privacy and disclosure aspects of this.

Mayor Pro Tem Jones said the State is considering reducing parking stalls for State employees on the Capitol Campus. He would like the City to provide input to the State on Commute Trip Reduction.

Council agreed to the one take away and two additions.

Mayor Buxbaum suggested the City collaborate with the Department of Enterprise Services to look for opportunities for energy savings based on a more centralized plan for utilities. Council agreed.

The 2015 Legislative Agenda was discussed and will come back with revisions for consideration at the November 25 Council meeting.

7. CONTINUED PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

8. REPORTS AND REFERRALS

8.A COUNCIL INTERGOVERNMENTAL/COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REFERRALS

Due to the late hour, Reports were not given.

Mayor Buxbaum said next week the Council will hear about the Community Renewal Area initiative and citizen engagement process.

8.B CITY MANAGER'S REPORT AND REFERRALS

City Manager Steve Hall asked who will be attending the Safe Energy Leadership Alliance meeting this Friday. Five Councilmembers indicated they will attend and staff will notice this as a Special City Council meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Jones distributed a draft resolution regarding oil by rail and asked that it be put on next week's agenda on Consent. Council agreed.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:01 p.m.