

**CITY OF PROSSER, WASHINGTON
601 7TH STREET
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Warden called the Special Work Session of the Prosser City Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Becken, Chambers, Everett, Poteet, Rainer, Taylor, and Troemel were present.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Mayor Warden noted Council Members Everett, Rainer and Taylor were awarded First Place in the Commercial Division at the Grandview Grape Stomp.

Council Member Troemel was pleased with the recent meeting with Grandview, Prosser, and Sunnyside to discuss shared services.

Council Member Becken requested the “Emergency Services Radio Purchase” and “Taser Purchase” be moved to the next items of business. No objection was voiced.

EMERGENCY SERVICES RADIO PURCHASE

Police Chief McCullough wanted the Council to be aware that new radios would be required by the State in July 2009. Funding was available in the Criminal Justice Fund and Chief McCullough was planning to order radios at the same time as Richard and Kennewick for stronger purchasing power. The Council was receptive to the idea and learned the purchase was allowable with these funds.

TASER PURCHASE

Chief McCullough noted this requested purchase was scheduled for 2009. Benton County had personnel who could train Prosser officers on the proper use of the Model X26E taser units. Council Member Everett asked for additional information on the need of tasers.

PRESENTATION OF THE 2009 CITY OF PROSSER PROPOSED PRELIMINARY BUDGET

City Administrator Charlie Bush discussed how department heads and Mayor Warden arrived at the proposed preliminary budget. Finance Director Cathleen Koch explained the expenditure adjustments included in the budget document. Noted were a 7 percent reduction in operating expenses across all departments; no funding was allocated for new EMS service agreements with Prosser Memorial Hospital, franchise attorney services, and the Main Street Program. The positions for Public Works Foreman, Recreation Director and one Recreation Assistant were not funded. Projections for sales tax revenue

were conservative. A proposed increase of 2 percent was added for water and sewer utility taxes, along with the establishment of a garbage utility tax of 8 percent.

Council Member Poteet asked if the \$790,000 for Sheridan Avenue could be used for minor repairs. Public Works Director L.J. DaCorsi stated the funds were restricted for major reconstruction, not repairs. Mr. DaCorsi noted the funds would not complete the entire avenue.

DaCorsi said his department was prepared to “tighten their belts” and continue operations. Mr. DaCorsi said the Water Fund and Wastewater Fund were stable. He noted Parks Department and Street Department may suffer a bit.

Council Member Rainer inquired about the North Prosser Water System Improvements. City Administrator Bush said money was allocated in the 2009 budget for land acquisition. Ted Pooler, with Huibregtse, Louman Associates, was scheduled to attend the October 7, 2008 City Council Special Meeting.

Bush asked if the Council Members generally endorsed the proposed preliminary budget and the funding tactics as presented, or was another approach desired. It appeared the Council Members were in agreement with the method used in developing the 2009 Proposed Preliminary Budget.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the City Council at this time, the Special Work Session of the Prosser City Council was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Mayor Paul Warden

Attest:

City Clerk Sherry Biggs