

CITY OF PROSSER, WASHINGTON
601 7TH STREET
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Warden called the Work Session of the Prosser City Council to order at 7:01 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Luke Merritt.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Elder, Everett, Taylor, Troemel, Hamilton, and Becken were present. Council Member Rainer requested an excused absence.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Budget Principles and Priorities

City Administrator Charlie Bush handed out the proposed 2013 – 2014 Budget Principles document. There was discussion regarding keeping taxes and utility rates stable with minimal proposed increases. The purpose of the document is to assist staff with preparing and structuring the budget for Council's consideration. Discussion continued about essential and mandated services and how to revise the terms of the Budget Principles worksheet. Council directed staff to amend the document and bring it back for consideration at a future City Council meeting.

Crime Free Rental Program

Building Official Barry Morrow presented Council with the draft Crime Free Rental Program ordinance. The fee schedule was discussed and staff advised those would be brought back separately at a future meeting. There was discussion regarding community outreach and input from local landlords. The Crime Free Rental Program is a two step process which includes the Rental Program and the Crime Free portion of the program being secondary. Staff advised the Ordinance as written is set to take effect April 1, 2012. Council requested staff invite City of Sunnyside Police Department staff to return for a briefing on how the Crime Free Rental Program is working for their community including statistics. Staff will work with the City of Sunnyside to put together a presentation and put the ordinance in final form for Council's consideration at a future City Council meeting.

Noise Ordinance

Police Chief Pat McCullough introduced Officer Michael Buck who provided Council with a demonstration of the decibel meter machine. Officer Buck explained the equipment was purchased with the intent to enforce the noise ordinance during special events. There was discussion regarding the details of the noise ordinance.

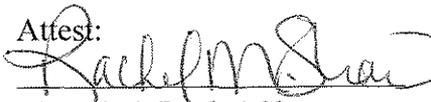
Park Hours/Damage

Police Chief Pat McCullough and Public Works Director L. J. DaCorsi briefed Council on the recent incline in vandalism to City Parks. The damage caused by the vandalism is very costly and has caused the facilities to be at times temporarily out of use while cost repairs are made or equipment replaced. It has been determined that the majority of the vandalism has occurred during the late evening to early morning hours. Staff requested Council to consider an ordinance that would establish City Park hours. The ordinance would allow the Police Department an additional enforcement tool to detect, deny and deter further acts of vandalism. Council directed staff to bring back to ordinance at a future City Council meeting for consideration.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the City Council at this time, the Regular Meeting of the Prosser City Council was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Attest:


City Clerk Rachel Shaw




Mayor Paul Warden