

**CITY OF PROSSER, WASHINGTON 601 7TH STREET
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2014**

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Prosser Heights Elementary "Kid that Cares" Savannah Johnson.

ROLL CALL

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

Others in attendance were City Clerk Shaw, Finance Director Mauras, and Finance Manager Yost.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Council Member Elder stated there are approximately fifty volunteers serving at Jubilee Ministries. Mr. Elder stated Jubilee Ministries is a great organization doing good things in the community.

Boys and Girls Club Quarterly Report

Dena Lodahl, Executive Director provided a power point presentation regarding the third quarter's highlights and discussed seasonal programs. Ms. Lodahl reported a panel of judges will be evaluating the Youth of the Year applicants and a winner will be announced on December 11, 2014. Additionally Ms. Lodahl advised she would like the winner to speak at a future City Council meeting.

Council Member Everett inquired about the current waiting list of students who have yet to receive service from the Club. Ms. Lodahl stated there are approximately 200 children on the list and the Board is working on a plan to reduce that number.

Mayor Warden thanked Ms. Lodahl for her hard work at the Club.

PUBLIC HEARING

2015 FINAL BUDGET

At 7:15 p.m., Mayor Warden recessed the Work Session of the Prosser City Council to conduct a Public Hearing regarding the 2015 Final Budget. Mayor Warden called for public comment, with none being offered. At 7:15 p.m., Mayor Warden closed the Public Hearing and the Work Session of the Prosser City Council was reconvened.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2015 Budget Draft Ordinance

Finance Director Mauras presented the draft Budget ordinance and led the discussion with a high-level summary all the changes Council directed staff to incorporate into the budget document.

There was discussion regarding the proposed salary increase for the four non-union employees as presented and the potential impacts to the 2015 Budget.

Council Member Taylor stated that by not giving the salary increase to the four employees as the results from the salary study suggest in order to get them to a middle-average pay level, than those four employees will just fall further behind. Instead of making the increase 8% with a 2% COLA, the increase should be authorized at a 10% increase with an additional 2% COLA.

Council Member Everett disagreed and stated he felt the increase should not even be considered at 8%, indicating that was too high.

Council Member Taylor said the information Council was provided in the salary study was sound and illustrated that each of the four positions being considered were currently being paid well below the State average. The staff proposal for a 10% increase does not even get those employees to an average pay level; they will still fall below the State average for each of their positions.

Councilman Everett said he would like to see the Mayor have a merit system in place to determine pay increases based on performance.

Councilman Hamilton stated that the four individuals were worth every penny of the proposed 10% increase and Council should authorize it at that level.

Councilman Taylor said he would feel more comfortable if the debate regarding the issue was discussed with a full Council.

Council and Mayor agreed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the City Council at this time, the Work Session of the Prosser City Council was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.



Mayor Paul Warden

Attest:



City Clerk Rachel Shaw

