

CITY OF PROSSER, WASHINGTON
601 7TH STREET
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2014

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 recited.

ROLL CALL

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

Others in attendance were City Clerk Shaw, Public Works Director DaCorsi, Finance Director Mauras, Finance Manager Yost and City Attorney Saxton.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Council Member Aubrey stated the Low-Income Senior and Low-Income Disabled Citizen Utility Discount application that is placed in the City's newsletter should be provided to citizens through a different source; the newsletter is not a legal source of information.

Finance Manager Yost explained the newsletter was a blending of efforts to get the information out to citizens. Staff will work with the contracting agency who prints the City's newsletter to inquire if the application can be printed independently.

Council Member Brumley reported that over the holiday's some of her neighbors advised they had received parking violation tickets and felt that was stiff without first receiving a warning.

Mayor Warden stated he would pass the message along to the Police Department.

Council Member Taylor reported the Fire District received the City's letter in regards to the governance model and will be providing a response to the City in the next coming weeks.

Council Member Becken stated the Prosser branch of the Benton-Franklin Community Action Connection Office is open again.

Council Member Elder reported his son who was visiting over the holiday's received a warning ticket as opposed to a parking violation ticket.

Council Member Elder also reported that the donations for Jubilee Ministry are down tremendously compared to the months past.

Council Member Aubrey stated he attended the Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet at the Walter Clore Wine and Culinary Center and that it was a great event with a good turn-out.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Proposed Park Fees

Public Works Director DaCorsi provided Council with a briefing of the park rental fees and explained the recommendations proposed by staff.

Mayor Warden explained the fee proposal did not fully recover all costs to the City associated with operating the parks.

Council concurred the options were reasonable and directed staff to bring the item back at a future City Council meeting for consideration.

Proposed Personnel Policy Manual Amendments

Finance Director Mauras explained the three proposed amendments to Policy 802, Vacation; Policy 409, Education Allowance; and Policy 404, Bi-Lingual Pay of the Personnel Policy. If adopted, the policy amendments would apply to non-union staff members in order to gain consistency with the provisions provided to represented employees as outlined in the Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBA).

Council discussed the proposed amendments to the Vacation Policy and the importance to keep the CBAs unified with the Personnel Policy.

Council directed staff to amend the language in Policy 802 to an annual vacation buy-back option with a maximum of forty (40) hours at straight time rate of pay with a requirement to have used a minimum of forty (40) hours of vacation during the course of the year. Staff will bring the item back to a future City Council meeting for consideration.

Finance Director Mauras outlined the proposed amendments to Policy 409, Education Allowance. Council discussed the language in the CBAs regarding compensation to union employees for higher education.

Council Members Becken, Hamilton, and Aubrey opposed the amendment stating their displeasure with circumventing the salary scale.

There was discussion regarding which employees were appointed and those that were not Department Heads.

Council directed staff to amend the language in Policy 409 to only compensate non-appointed staff, or those that are not Department Heads, and bring back to a future City Council meeting for consideration.

Finance Director Mauras explained the proposed amendments to Policy 404, Bi-Lingual Pay. Council discussed the language currently outlined in the CBAs regarding Bi-Lingual Pay

compensation to union employees and the importance of being consistent throughout the organization.

Council directed staff to amend the language in Policy 404 regarding Bi-Lingual Pay as presented in the proposal and bring back the amendment to a future City Council meeting for consideration.

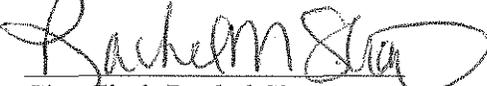
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the City Council at this time, the Regular Meeting of the Prosser City Council was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



Mayor Paul Warden

Attest:



City Clerk Rachel Shaw

