

CITY OF PROSSER, WASHINGTON
601 7TH STREET
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2015

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 recited.

ROLL CALL

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

Others in attendance were City Clerk Shaw, Police Chief Giles, and City Attorney Saxton.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Council Member Becken reported on the mini hydroplane races that took place over the weekend on the Yakima River.

Oath of Office of Reserve Officer Chris Baugh

City Clerk Shaw administered the Oath of Office for Reserve Officer Chris Baugh.

Prosser Aquatic Center Program Update

Lindsay Barnes, Aquatic Center Manager, provided Council with an update on the facility's program and spoke about staffing numbers and pool operations. She proudly told Council how a lifeguard saved an eighteen month old baby from drowning using the CPR training the guard recently received.

Council commended Ms. Barnes on a job well done with both training and certifying the guards and for running the Aquatic Center so smoothly throughout the season.

Mayor Warden echoed Council's praise and appreciation for Mrs. Barnes and stated that unfortunately this is the last season she will be with the City. Mrs. Barnes graduated with her Master's Degree this summer and has been hired as a full time teacher for the East Valley School District.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Mayor Compensation

Mayor Warden provided an overview of the discussion item.

Council Members Aubrey and Hamilton inquired as to why this item was being brought forward for Council discussion.

Mayor Warden explained that with his term coming to an end in December of 2015, he and staff felt that it was a good time to evaluate the Mayor's compensation particularly since it had not been changed since 2006, nine years ago. And further stated that staff was able to determine through a wage study that the Mayor's compensation of \$500 per month was considerably low when compared to like sized cities and neighboring communities.

Council Member Ward stated he felt the three new incoming Council Members who will begin their term January 2016, should determine whether or not to consider an increase in the Mayor's compensation.

Council Member Becken said \$500 per month is adequate and does not need to be increased for a part-time position.

Council Member Aubrey stated that the Mayor role should not be compensated at a high level and if anyone who sign up for the job thinks otherwise they are poorly mistaken.

Council Member Everett stated no one signs up for these jobs for the money, however it's not a bad idea to have Prosser's Mayor compensation level comparable to other like sized cities and further stated he disagreed with increasing the salary while the current Mayor is in office. Prior to the term beginning would be the ideal time to make a change if the Council decided to do so.

Council Member Becken stated he would vote no if the item were to be brought forward for a vote.

Council Member Hamilton stated he felt the Mayor's position should not be compensated at all, it's a volunteer position and \$500 per month is more than adequately compensated and further agreed with Council Member Becken that he too would vote no if brought before the voting board.

Council Member Elder said he personally thinks the Mayor should be compensated at a higher level due to the demands that come with the position.

Mayor Warden concluded that the item would not be coming back for any further discussion.

IT Policy

City Clerk Shaw provided a brief overview of the IT Policy and discussed the timeline for implantation which did not require a Council vote.

Council discussed and verbally approved of the Policy with no recommended changes.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND COMMENTS (cont.)

Council Member Scott Hamilton stated he officially filed a noise complaint with the Police Department regarding a religious event that took place at City Park over the weekend. He said when the officers arrived they became frustrated with the inability to utilize the decibel meter and further stated the officers need to be trained properly if they are expected to use the device.

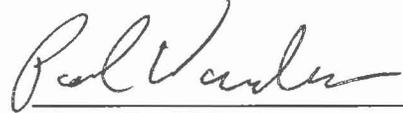
There was discussion regarding officer training of the decibel meter and enforcement of the noise ordinance.

Council Member Everett said it would be nice to have notice on the City's website that alerted neighbors when an event was taking place.

City Clerk Shaw explained a tab has already been added to the homepage of the City's website under the Events & Meeting Calendar tab that is titled Upcoming Community Events. Citizens can go to the website and view events as well as Special Event Permit Applications which describe the event and its location.

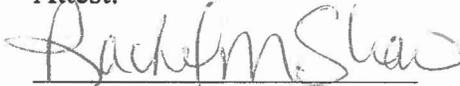
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the City Council at this time, the Work Session of the Prosser City Council was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.



Mayor Paul Warden

Attest:



City Clerk Rachel Shaw

