



***REVISED* CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

MINI-PLANNING SESSION

JUNE 16, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bruce Bassett called the meeting to order at 8:37 am in the Luther Burbank Room at the Mercer Island Community and Event Center, 8236 SE 24th Street, Mercer Island, Washington.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Debbie Bertlin, Jane Brahm, Tana Senn, Deputy Mayor Dan Grausz and Mayor Bruce Bassett were present. Councilmembers Mike Cero and Mike Grady were absent.

2012 COUNCIL WORK PLAN – STATUS REPORT

City Manager Rich Conrad opened the discussion by reviewing the 2012 Council Work Plan. He reported that work accomplished to date was consistent with the halfway point in the Council's work priorities. . He discussed the need to determine the timeline for the City's update to its Shoreline Master Program given that key staff were on leave.

2013-2014 OPERATING BUDGET KICK-OFF PRESENTATION

Finance Director Chip Corder provided the Council with the 2013-2014 operating budget kick-off presentation. He presented the budget review calendar and options for Council's approach to reviewing the budget. He also presented options for balancing the 2013-2014 biennial budget.

Agreements & Direction:

- *The operating budget presentation should be department focused*
- *Staff will focus Council will on "key questions" and service packages*
- *Council directed staff to a 50/50 strategy to balance the budget: 50% expenditure cuts and 50% new revenues.*

ISLAND CREST PARK BALL FIELD – TURF PROJECT

City Manager Rich Conrad introduced the issue of accelerating the Island Crest North Ball Field Turf Project given the offer of private donations to help fund the project. Parks & Recreation Director Bruce Fletcher and Parks Superintendent Jason Kintner provided an overview of the project and related budget and schedule issues. Baseball booster Jerry Goldberg spoke on behalf of the booster group raising the donations. He indicated a strong assurance that at least \$150,000 in donations would be secured with several weeks.

Agreements & Direction:

- *Move forward with construction of the North Field Turf Project in 2012-2013 using \$150K in private donations and \$150K of the City's dollars from the Island Crest Park Lighting Project.*
- *Redirect the grant to the South Field Turf Project for 2013-2014 construction using the \$150K from the new Island Crest Park Lighting Project as matching funds.*

The Council took a short break for lunch.

SUSTAINABILITY POLICY TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Development Services Group Administrative Manager Kirsten Taylor provided an overview of the Sustainability Task Force's report and recommendations. Council expressed approval of the Task Force's report.

Agreements & Direction:

- *Include the Task Force's recommendations by reference in 2013-2014 Budget Policies and the 2013 Comprehensive Plan Update*
- *Attempt to fund a sustainability and communication coordinator in the 2013-2014 biennial budget.*

FIRE STATION FINANCING & TIMING

City Manager Rich Conrad introduced the discussion of the South Fire Station project. Maintenance Director Glenn Boettcher and architects from Miller Hull provided an overview of the current project design and estimated costs. A list of elements eliminated from the project was presented and discussed. Director Boettcher explained that temporary relocation costs are not included in the project estimates. Council was presented with options for project features which could be deleted in order to reduce project costs. The Council discussed all the options and selected several for deletion including amenities in the exterior entry area and bi-fold equipment bay doors. Councilmember Grausz strongly urged the architects to reduce total square footage below 8,000 square feet.

Budget Director Chip Corder presented options for financing the project and the option to include financing for related necessary public safety equipment (self-contained breathing apparatus and fire truck replacement).

Agreements & Direction:

- *Add the following to the total estimated project cost of \$4,411,000 to determine the total amount of debt that needs to be issued (figures are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars):*
 - a. \$67,000 for the relocation of existing overhead power lines (Alternate 3);*
 - b. \$150,000 for temporary housing of South Fire Station personnel and fire trucks;*
 - c. \$75,000 for bond issuance costs; and*
 - d. \$100,000 for pre-design costs.*
- *Keep station design as presented, including removing the power line and dropping the bi-fold doors.*
- *Return to the Council on July 16, 2012 (first reading) and August 6, 2012 (second reading) with a 9-year levy lid lift ordinance and ballot measure intended for the November 6, 2012 General Election*
- *Add funding for fire truck replacement to the levy lid lift (\$99,000 per year).*
- *Add funding for self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) equipment replacement to the levy lid lift (\$53,000 per year).*

PLASTIC BAG BAN

City Manager Rich Conrad introduced the discussion of a plastic bag ban. He explained that the Council asked at January Planning Session that issue be discussed at this mini-planning session. The Council discussed the issue and concluded it would again defer a decision until the January, 2013 Planning Session.

Agreements & Direction:

- *Revisit the discussion as part of a larger, comprehensive sustainability program at the 2013 Planning Session.*
- *Councilmember Senn will talk to retailers about voluntary compliance*

MERCER ISLAND – IN THE FUTURE?

City Manager Rich Conrad and Mayor Bassett asked Councilmembers to provide verbal narratives for their visions for Mercer Island's future. The narratives stimulated conversations that helped form long range planning themes to be discussed further at the January, 2013 Planning Session.

Agreements & Direction:

- *Extended this visioning component in 2013 Planning Session*

ADJOURNMENT:

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 5:00 pm.

Attest:

Bruce Bassett, Mayor

Allison Spietz, City Clerk