



CITY OF NEWARK CITY COUNCIL

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SPECIAL MEETING

Minutes

Thursday, January 28, 2016

City Administration Building
5:30 p.m.
City Council Chambers

A. ROLL CALL

Mayor Nagy called the meeting to order at 5:39 p.m. Present were Council Members Hannon, Collazo, and Vice Mayor Freitas. Council Member Bucci arrived at 6:50 p.m.

B. STUDY SESSION

B.1 Study Session to review the Operating Section of the Biennial Budget for 2016-2018.

City Manager Becker stated that the State budget, PERS Rates, and new residential and commercial development, that place a higher demand on city services, will impact the City's budget.

Administrative Services Director Woodstock reviewed the current operating budget. She stated that staff would be seeking approval to amend the budget at the next City Council meeting. The total revenue amendment would include increases to: Property Tax, Sales Tax, Transient Occupancy Tax, Increase in Development, one time end to triple flip and other. The total revenue amendment was an increase of \$3.1 million.

The total expenditure amendments of \$700,000 included police staffing and training, legal fees, Human Resources staffing and workers compensation oversight, and increase in utility and technology costs.

City Manager Becker reviewed the department budget priorities for 2016-2018.

Police Department: fill existing vacancies and anticipated retirements, utilize retired annuitants and reserves, team policing staffing model, new technology, community engagement, improve public relations, increase public outreach.

Fire Department (Alameda County): complete local hazard mitigation plan, finalize contract extension, continue to support CERT Program, and expand emergency preparedness efforts.

Public Works Department: Building Division will continue to support residential and commercial construction. Engineering Division: support development activity, implement Capital Improvement Plan, complete the Central Avenue Overpass design,

and meet regulatory requirements. Maintenance Division: improve street and parking landscaping, maintain public buildings and equipment.

Community Development Department: Comprehensive Zoning Code update, study civic center renovation/relocation, complete Bicycle and Pedestrian Strategic Plan, conduct Citywide Parks Master Plan, and monitor Dumbarton Corridor Study.

Community Preservation: Receivership program to address blighted and abandoned properties, and proactively address public nuisances.

Council Member Hannon stated that he would like staff to compile data on rental units. Specifically he was looking for the number of rental units (3 units or greater) and the types of complaints received by staff. The information would be used to determine if they want to pursue a proactive approach of inspection of rental units in the city. He envisioned the property owners paying for the service, if it was pursued.

Council Member Bucci arrived at 6:50 p.m.

Recreation and Community Services: marketing to promote programs and services, promote healthy communities, partner with local agencies to enhance senior services.

Administrative Services: Finance Division: new funding opportunity for redevelopment activity, implement new finance software, update policy and procedure documents, explore alternative investment options. Information Systems: implement new finance software, support the expanded use of social media, increase web based self serve options for the public.

Council Member Hannon suggested advertising the small loan program through the county for home repairs in the Newark News.

Mayor Nagy requested that staff research what other communities do to enhance internet connectivity for their residents.

Human Resources Department: negotiate new labor agreements and update compensation and benefit plans, implement federal mandates of the Affordable Health Care Act, develop employee wellness program, reduce workers compensation costs, and support recruiting efforts of city departments.

Administrative Services Director Woodstock stated that she expected revenue would increase by \$1.5 million in fiscal year 2016-2017 and by \$1.7 million in fiscal year 2017-2018. The proposed adjustments to the expenditures would include: increased library hours for Sunday's, budget methodology change, PERS Annual increases, fire contract annual adjustment, additional police annuitants, Total projected supplements \$1.6 million for fiscal year 2016-2017 and \$2.5 million for fiscal year 2017-2018.

City Manager Becker stated that the Capital Improvement Plan Work Session would be held on February 11.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

No one came forward to speak.

C. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:26 p.m. Mayor Nagy adjourned the special meeting.

SHEILA HARRINGTON
City Clerk