

# City of SeaTac

## 2015-2016 Budget Workshop 2

### Minutes Synopsis

October 27, 2014 (Monday)  
2:00 PM

City Hall  
Council Chambers

**CALL TO ORDER:** The SeaTac City Council Budget Workshop was called to order by Mayor Mia Gregerson at 2:02 p.m.

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Mayor Mia Gregerson, Deputy Mayor (DM) Anthony (Tony) Anderson (*participated via phone until 4:37 p.m.*), Councilmembers (CMs) Barry Ladenburg (*arrived during the Executive Session*), Kathryn Campbell, Terry Anderson, Dave Bush, and Pam Fernald.

**STAFF PRESENT:** City Manager Todd Cutts, City Clerk Kristina Gregg, City Attorney Mary Mirante Bartolo, Finance & Systems Director Aaron Antin, Assistant City Manager (ACM) Gwen Voelpel, Police Chief Lisa Mulligan, Community and Economic Development (CED) Director Joe Scorcio, Municipal Court Judge Elizabeth Cordi-Bejarano, Municipal Court Administrator Gail Cannon, Parks & Recreation (P&R) Director Kit Ledbetter, Executive Assistant Lesa Ellis, Senior Permit Coordinator Joyce Mullin, Building Official Gary Schenk, Administrative Assistant 3 Debra McClung, Program Manager Soraya Lowry, Police Captain Annette Louie, Public Works (PW) Director Tom Gut, Fire Chief Jim Schneider, and Deputy Fire Chief Brian Wiwel.

**RECESSED:** Mayor Gregerson recessed the meeting to an Executive Session on Potential Litigation at 2:02 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: Potential Litigation (RCW 42.30.110 [1] [i]) (30 minutes)**

Staff in attendance: City Manager Cutts, City Attorney Mirante Bartolo, Finance & Systems Director Antin, and Senior Assistant City Attorney Johnsen.

**RECONVENED:** Mayor Gregerson reconvened the meeting at 2:34 p.m.

#### UTILITY TAX

City Attorney Mirante Bartolo stated that based on discussions in the Executive Session, the Council has determined to remove water and sewer districts from the proposed Utility Tax Ordinance at this time and direct staff to pursue other avenues, such as negotiating a franchise agreement.

City Manager Cutts presented a Utility Tax FAQ and revised Ordinance. He detailed the added utility tax relief section.

Council discussion ensued regarding the tax relief eligibility.

Mr. Cutts also reviewed the different utility types and how the utility will be subject to the utility tax.

Discussion ensued regarding the utilities.

The revised Ordinance will be discussed again at the October 28 Regular Council Meeting.

#### FEE DISCUSSION

Mr. Cutts detailed the fee increase methodology. He stated that staff plans to bring the fee changes to the November 12 Council Study Session (CSS) and November 25 Regular Council Meeting (RCM).

Discussion ensued regarding the methodology and business licenses.

#### COUNCIL DIRECTED FOLLOW UP DISCUSSION FROM ITEMS REVIEWED AT BUDGET WORKSHOP #1

Mr. Cutts clarified that there are three items for discussion: Community Service Officer (CSO), Lifeguard program, and American Public Works Association (APWA) Accreditation Program.

**CSO position** (\$260,000 over the biennium): One of two positions is being proposed to be cut. Mr. Cutts provided background on the reason for the proposed cut.

Police Chief Mulligan detailed the benefits of a CSO position and the programs that would be limited or discontinued if the position is cut.

Discussion ensued regarding this cut and CMs provided their opinion on whether to cut this position.

**Council direction:** maintain this position in the 2015-2016 budget

**COUNCIL DIRECTED FOLLOW UP DISCUSSION FROM ITEMS REVIEWED AT BUDGET WORKSHOP #1 (Continued):**

**Lifeguard program** (\$35,000 per year): Mr. Ledbetter detailed the current lifeguard program and ramifications of removing the program.

Ms. Mirante Bartolo stated that the City is covered by the Recreational Immunity statute however would need to increase notification and posting process. The City cannot be liable for injuries that happen in the park.

Discussion ensued with Council sharing their opinions on whether to cut this program.

**Council direction:** maintain this program in the 2015-2016 budget

**APWA Accreditation Program** (\$3,300 over the biennium): Mr. Cutts stated that staff has determined that the \$3,300 out of the GF can be absorbed within the existing professional services line item.

Council discussion ensued regarding whether to cut this program.

**Council direction:** maintain this program in the 2015-2016 budget

Mayor Gregerson requested that this item come back to Council for review before moving forward.

Mr. Cutts clarified that the CSO position and Lifeguard program will remain in the 2015-2016 budget. No additional cuts will be made and the budget will move further away from solvency in 2018.

**REVIEW OF THE DRAFT 2015-2020 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP)**

Mr. Cutts reviewed the Major projects included in the 2015-106 CIP.

Parks Projects: Fire Station #45 - \$4.5 million; Hughes Property Trail (2016) - \$600,000; Valley Ridge Community Center Remodel - \$300,000; City Hall Atrium - \$200,000, Pea Patch - \$100,000, Riverton Heights - \$100,000, Parks & Facilities Equipment - \$200,000, and other Parks & Facilities projects - \$400,000.

Public Works: 28<sup>th</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> Connection Project - \$13.4 million, Military Road South Improvement Project - \$3.3 million, Military Road and South 152<sup>nd</sup> Street - \$300,000, Sidewalk Program 2015-2016 - \$3.3 million,

*DMA. Anderson discontinued participation at this point in the meeting.*

Street Overlay projects - \$2.2 million, South 154<sup>th</sup> Street Acquisition - \$1.8 million, SWM Capital Improvements - \$300,000, and Other fleet/computing capital - \$1.4 million.

Discussion ensued regarding the projects included in the CIP.

Mr. Cutts questioned whether the CIP could be included on the November 12 agenda as a Consent Agenda item. Mayor Gregerson requested the item be an Action Item.

**OTHER OUTSTANDING BUDGET BALANCING CONSIDERATIONS**

Mr. Cutts stated that there are no outstanding items. The operating budget will be presented to Council at the November 12 RCM as an Action Item with a Public Hearing (PH). Council can take action November 12 or wait for a subsequent meeting.

Mr. Cutts also stated that the preliminary budget is due Wednesday and will be filed with the City Clerk.

**ADJOURNED:** Council 2015-2016 Budget Workshop 2 was closed at 4:56 p.m.