

CITY OF PASADENA
City Council Minutes
December 1, 2014 – 4:00 p.m.
City Hall Council Chamber

TRAINING SESSION AND SPECIAL MEETING

TRAINING SESSION

(City Hall Basement Training Room, S018)

Vice Mayor Robinson arrived at 4:21 p.m.

AB 1234 ETHICS TRAINING

Michele Bagneris, City Attorney/City Prosecutor, conducted AB 1234 Ethics Training for the City Council and City staff in attendance. (Absent: Councilmember Gordo)

Theresa Fuentes, Assistant City Attorney, presented information on the Brown Act and Taxpayer Protection Act; and Ann Rider, Assistant City Attorney, presented information on the California Public Records Act.

By order of the Mayor, and consensus of the City Council, the information was received and filed. The meeting recessed at 6:01 p.m.

OPENING:

Mayor Bogaard reconvened the special meeting at 6:11 p.m. (Absent: Councilmember Gordo and Vice Mayor Robinson)

On order of the Mayor, the special meeting recessed at 6:11 p.m., to discuss the following closed session:

Vice Mayor Robinson arrived at 6:24 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6

Agency Designated Representatives: Michael J. Beck and Julie Gutierrez

Unrepresented Employees: Unrepresented Management-Executive and Management Employees

The above closed session item was discussed, with no reportable action at this time.

On order of the Mayor, the special meeting reconvened at 6:54 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember McAustin.

ROLL CALL:

Councilmembers:

Mayor Bill Bogaard
Vice Mayor Jacque Robinson
Councilmember Victor Gordo (Absent)
Councilmember John Kennedy

Councilmember Steve Madison
Councilmember Gene Masuda
Councilmember Margaret McAustin
Councilmember Terry Tornek

Staff:

City Manager Michael J. Beck
City Attorney Michele Beal Bagneris
City Clerk Mark Jomsky

BUDGET WORKSHOP TO CONSIDER PRIORITIES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016 BUDGET PREPARATION

Recommendation:

- (1) Receive a report on the City's overall financial position in advance of preparation of the Recommended Fiscal Year 2016 Operating and Capital Budgets; and
- (2) Consider establishing general programmatic priorities for the Fiscal Year 2016 budget preparation process.

Michael Beck, City Manager, introduced the agenda item and summarized the agenda report as part of a PowerPoint Presentation, and responded to questions.

Councilmember Kennedy reiterated his previous requests for prioritizing sidewalk improvements within the City as part of the upcoming Fiscal Year 2016 budget discussion, and strongly urged that this priority receive funding.

Councilmember Tornek thanked the staff for the opportunity to provide input at this early stage of the budget process, and suggested that staff develop a more refined list of budget issues for the City Council to use to identify missing items and establish budget priorities.

Councilmember Kennedy was excused at 7:12 p.m., and left the meeting.

Councilmember Madison highlighted the City's current financial state in comparison to other cities since the economy collapsed in 2008, and congratulated the full City Council, City staff, and bargaining groups for their hard work in achieving budget targets. He also suggested that the City focus on its strategic plan goals, specifically as it relates to transportation and promoting the local economy, including exploring ways to help the youth in the community reach their full potential.

Councilmember McAustin recommended that Attachment B to the agenda report entitled, "FY 2016 Budget Priority Considerations", be the basis for the City's strategic planning process in preparing for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2016 budget adoption.

Vice Mayor Robinson recommended the following items be

considered as budget priorities:

- Expansion of the ArtNight Program to include a “Summer ArtNight” event;
- Installation of sound walls in Northwest Pasadena; and
- Funding for body worn cameras for the Pasadena Police Department Police Officers.

She also encouraged City departments to try to leverage grant funds and additional monies to complete some of the projects listed on the FY 2016 Budget Priority Considerations.

Councilmember McAustin suggested that the City Council consider cost recovery measures for recreation programs and services utilized by non-residents, by increasing non-resident user fees. She also requested that consideration be given to realigning programs to reflect the City’s changing demographics, specifically as it relates to funding various services for senior citizens, and to replace the City’s utility billing system in an effort to provide more timely information to customers.

Councilmember Tornek expressed support for Vice Mayor Robinson’s recommendation to prioritize funding for body worn cameras for Police Officers, stressed the importance for the City to rebuild its funding reserves, urged review of the residential impact fee in terms of cost recovery, and stated that the City should focus on both revenue enhancement and programmatic improvements in order to achieve the Fiscal Year 2016 budget objectives.

Councilmember McAustin requested that staff rearrange the budget priority list to separate multi-year projects from one-year projects.

The City Manager noted that staff will report back to City Council with a matrix of the budget priorities as it relates to small/medium/large projects, one-time versus on-going expenses, and revenue enhancements versus expenditures. He also stated that staff will bring forward potential policy level decisions associated with how to invest surplus revenues for the City Council’s review and consideration.

Councilmember Madison urged the City Council to focus

on its three top revenue generators: sales tax, property tax increment, and utility user fees.

Councilmember McAustin asked staff to include information on City's policies and requirements for funding unfunded pension liabilities as part of the budget priority discussion.

Councilmember Madison was excused at 8:34 p.m., and left the meeting. In response to Councilmember Tornek, the City Manager indicated that staff's PowerPoint presentation will be available for public viewing under the Finance Department's Budget Section and the City Clerk's Agenda Section on the City's website.

By order of the Mayor, and consensus of the City Council, the information was received and filed.

ADJOURNMENT

By order of the Mayor, the special meeting of the City Council adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Bill Bogaard, Mayor
City of Pasadena

ATTEST:

City Clerk