



City Council Budget Workshop Minutes

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Tacoma Municipal Building North, Room 16, 733 Market Street, Tacoma, Washington 98402

December 3, 2004

Mayor Baarsma called the Budget Workshop to order at 4:35 p.m.

Council Members Present: 8 ~ Anderson, Evans, Ladenburg, Lonergan, Manthou, Phelps, Stenger, and Mayor Baarsma.

Council Member Absent: 1 ~ Talbert.

Mayor Baarsma noted that Council Member Stenger would present a number of modifications to the budget amendment presented at the previous Budget Workshop.

City Manager Jim Walton stated that he would present a Breakthrough Change Initiatives at the conclusion of Council's discussion.

Council Member Stenger stated that the changes he would be proposing were the result of suggestions from the Council Members during the last Budget Workshop. He then reviewed the individual items being changed and justification for the modifications.

Ms. Diane Supler, Director of the Office of Management, Budget and Analysis, described the documents being provided to Council, including memos on the current policy on General Fund cash balance, revenues from card rooms and pull-tabs, and health care fund issues. Ms. Supler responded to questions from Council clarifying the data provided.

Mr. Walton reviewed the categories covered in the Breakthrough Change Initiatives document prepared by his office, including employee compensation and benefits, organizational restructuring and consolidation, risk management outcomes, and vehicles and equipment.

Discussion followed regarding funding the implementation of the initiatives.

Mr. Woodrow Jones, Jr., Human Resources Director, provided Council with an informational document comparing the total annual compensation for selected classifications to confirm actual costs of the employees' benefits packages.

Council next heard presentations from the directors of Business Information Systems, Finance, and Office of Management, Budget and Analysis department on the impact statements for proposed budget reductions for their respective departments. Each director responded to requests for a more detailed explanation of particular facts.

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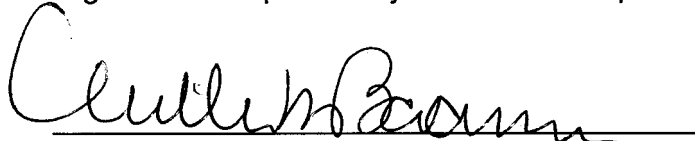
Mayor Baarsma called for a break at 6:22 p.m. and reconvened the Budget Workshop at 6:44 p.m.

Council Members then heard presentations from the Human Resources and the General Services directors regarding the impacts of proposed budget reductions for their areas, with the directors responding to questions of clarification.

Discussion followed regarding the information presented during this workshop in context of earlier budget workshops, including the jobs tax credit, domestic violence programs, funding for capital facilities, and maintaining an appropriate cash balance.

The Council then discussed the timeline for reaching consensus on the preliminary budget.

There being no further business, the Budget Workshop was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.



WILLIAM H. BAARSMA, MAYOR

ATTEST: 

DORIS SORUM, CITY CLERK

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