

CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION
August 16, 2010

The work session was called to order by Mayor Bradley at 5:02 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, 401 Park Avenue South, Winter Park, Florida.

Members present:

Mayor Kenneth Bradley (departed 6:16 pm)
Commissioner Tom McMacken
Commissioner Beth Dillaha
Commissioner Carolyn Cooper (via Telephone)

Also present:

City Manager Randy Knight
Deputy City Clerk Michelle Bernstein

Absent:

Commissioner Phil Anderson

This meeting was a work session with no public input.

Budget discussion:

This work session meeting was to discuss the 2011 budget. It was noted that Mayor Bradley and Commissioners Dillaha and Cooper submitted their proposed budget recommendations and budget adjustment items (see attached). Each Commissioner was asked to provide a brief summary of their items to help prepare a more defined list to determine the areas and priorities they need to focus on to determine their overall goal. Based on the suggestions, it was noted that there were at least three Commissioners who feel there is a need for additional reserve funding.

Mayor Bradley asked City Manager Knight or Finance Director Hamil to take all of the ideas presented and list them in broad categories to help in the September 13, 2010 budget discussion meeting. He also suggested if they could review the list and inform them if the items are doable or not. The five major categories presented are pension issues, buying and building, budget cuts including broad policy discussions, increases and enterprise conservations.

City Manager Knight provided an update on his conversation with the actuary Foster & Foster regarding the Police and Fire Pensions. He noted that they provided three different ways to smooth the cost of payout and provided a summary of each option.

Some of the questions and discussions that will be addressed in the next meeting are as follows:

1. Pension issue discussion on how much they need to address in the plan change and the potential funding, what they do about it and when they do it.
2. A conversation on what they should buy and build, such as parks and buildings and to possibly summarize how they will or will not fund parks so they can bring it under a one policy conversation.
3. A discussion on where they cut and if there are specific areas to cut which will be provided by both Commission and staff suggestions. Will address: overtime, benefits, pensions and the needs and benefits of a state lobbyist.

4. A conversation on where they add such as funding to the historical society, legal help with the pension study, adding park rangers, an increase in commissioners pay and increase paving, curbs and sidewalks.
5. A discussion on possible ways to increase the budget or savings measures, such as street lighting, utility bill services, fleet maintenance and tree trimming. Another key item to be addressed is capital improvement ideas/policies and the funding of outside specific organizations. It was also suggested that there be enterprise conversations (utility budget) and the potential for the electric utility building regarding the lease situation.

In summary it was mentioned that there are at least three Commissioners recommending between \$500,000 to \$1.6 million continued reduction in the funds based upon the ideas, suggestions and proposals presented. Mr. Knight noted that in the budget that he presented there was already a 3% reduction. He said that if the Commission requests him to make another 4% reduction, there will be a reduction in the level of service provided by the City.

There was a mentioning of possibly having another budget work session meeting to continue the conversation on budget recommendations.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m.


Deputy City Clerk Michelle Bernstein