



COMMITTEE of the WHOLE

CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES
April 28, 2008
5:00 P.M.
Council Office

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

V. Spencer, M. Baez, S. Fuhs, M. Goodman-Hinnershitz, S. Marmarou, D. Sterner

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

L. Kelleher, S. Katzenmoyer, C. Younger, R. Hottenstein, C. Jones, T. McMahon

Vaughn Spencer, President of Council, called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 5:23 p.m.

I. Canvassing and Solicitation Ordinance

Mr. Spencer noted that Council requested changes in the exemption section of the ordinance. The changes were reviewed. Ms. Kelleher noted that Chief Heim has also reviewed and approved the changes.

Mr. Sterner noted his concern about enforcing the ordinance. Mr. Spencer noted that since the Police Chief initiated this issue that it would be enforced. He also noted that this ordinance would be publicized as all ordinances are. Mr. Marmarou informed Council that this permit was required in the 1960's. When officers are called, they will request to review the permit and if one is not issued, they will inform the solicitor of the process.

II. Payments from the Non-Departmental Area of the General Fund

Mr. Spencer questioned how many agency funds the City had. Mr. Hottenstein explained the purpose of agency funds and indicated that the City maintained hundreds of them.

Mr. Spencer showed Council the amount of information received from the City Auditor. He noted the time it will take to review and analyze this information. He

noted his frustration at the long process. He requested that Council table the ordinance and it be moved into the pending area of the agenda.

There was a discussion on the monetary limit that would need Council approval. This will be examined during the process of analyzing the information.

Mr. Sterner noted that he would like to see the monthly financial reports reflect the actual numbers and the percentage of the budget used to date.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz noted that benchmarks are needed for budget management.

III. Agenda Review

Council reviewed ordinances and resolutions on the meeting agenda for passage.

The award of contract for site engineering and building architectural services for the waste water treatment plant laboratory building was discussed. Mr. Jones gave a brief background.

Mr. Spencer questioned if an RFP was issued for these projects. Mr. Jones noted that there was at the first phase of the project but not for the second phase. He distributed the RFP information.

Mr. Spencer questioned why the contract was being awarded at this time and not all at one time. Mr. Jones noted that a feasibility study was needed first to see if this property could accommodate the building. The study shows that it is.

Mr. Fuhs questioned why the same two firms who did the feasibility study were being awarded the contracts. He noted his belief that these contracts should have been done through competitive bidding. Mr. Jones noted that the original RFP was worded in a way that those receiving the feasibility contract could receive the building contract. Mr. Fuhs questioned if the City was legally bound to do an RFP. Mr. Jones noted that it is not but that these firms have excellent experience with this type of project.

Mr. Fuhs noted the similarity between the management of these contracts and those for the Waste Water Treatment Plant and Black & Veatch. He feels very uncomfortable with this.

Mr. Sterner questioned why these contracts were not bid out. Mr. Jones restated the wording in the RFP allowed for the contracts to be awarded without additional bidding.

Mr. Fuhs noted that he will not support awarding these contracts. He further noted the Administration's need to adjust this process.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz noted that this is an unusual RFP process. She further noted that it did not follow common sense.

Mr. Spencer noted that the original contracts were less than \$10,000 and did not need Council approval. However, these studies have grown into a \$650,000 project.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz requested a copy of the original RFP for review.

Mr. Spencer noted that this will be pulled from the consent agenda and will be voted on separately. It will be further reviewed in Committee.

IV. Executive Session

Council entered into executive session at 6:40 pm to discuss personnel issues. The executive session ended at 6:43 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:44 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

By: _____
Linda A. Kelleher, City Clerk