

**CITY COUNCIL
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
November 15, 2011**

The Business Meeting of the Monroe City Council was held on November 15, 2011, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Pro-Tempore Kurt Goering called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Absent: Mayor Robert Zimmerman

Councilpersons present: Balk, Cudaback, Tuttle, Stima, and Goering.

Councilperson(s) absent: Williams and Kamp,

Staff present: Brazel, Feilberg, Warthan, Willis, Roberts, Farrell, Sax, Popelka, and Martinson.

City Attorney Zach Lell was also present.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Pro-Tempore Goering read the Proclamation announcing Police and Fire Appreciation Week, November 13-19, 2011.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session: For Setting the Minimum Price for Which Property Will Be Sold

Mayor Pro-Tempore Goering explained there was a need for an executive session. City Attorney Lell explained that the executive session would be for approximately 20 minutes, and was to consider the minimum price at which real estate will be offered for sale or lease, pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 1(c). Council may take action in open session when they reconvene.

MEETING RECESSED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION: 7:05 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION EXTENDED

MEETING RECONVENED INTO REGULAR SESSION: 7:44 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING

Second Public Hearing on the 2012 Preliminary Budget

Finance Director Nelson explained that this was the final public hearing being held on the 2012 Budget, to give citizens an opportunity to address council.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Goering opened the public hearing.

No citizens wished to address Council.

The motion was made by Councilperson Stima and seconded by Councilperson Cudaback, to close the public hearing.

After Council comments, the motion was on the floor to close the public hearing. On vote,

Motion carried 5/0.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

No citizens wished to address Council

CONSENT AGENDA

The motion was made by Councilperson Balk and seconded by Councilperson Stima, to approve the Consent Agenda. On vote,

Motion carried 5/0.

Items approved: 1A) October 18, 2011 Business Meeting Minutes; 2A) Bills (Checks #81048 – 81156) in the amount of \$594,212.21; and 2B) Payroll (Checks #31129 – 31197) in the amount of \$923,603.48.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion: 2012 Legislative Priorities

City Administrator Brazel explained that this was brought to Council last year. Feedback from last year had to do with Street utility. Additional cities signed on since last year. There are just over 20 cities in the county.

After discussion, the motion was made by Councilperson Balk and seconded by Councilperson Stima, to approve the 2011-2012 Legislative Agenda. On vote,

Motion carried 5/0.

Ordinance Amending 2011 Budget/1st Reading

Finance Director Nelson gave a brief overview, explaining that this was a housekeeping item for the 2011 Budget to keep us in compliance and ensure we aren't over budget in any funds. The proposed changes are listed in the packet.

After discussion, the motion was made by Councilperson Goering and seconded by Councilperson Balk, to accept as first reading an ordinance of the City of Monroe, Washington, amending the budget for fiscal year 2011 to account for additional revenues and expenditures; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date. On vote,

Motion carried 5/0.

Presentation of Utility Funds and CIP Funds Budget

Finance Director Nelson gave presentation, explaining the five funds in Utility Operations and Maintenance and the seven CIP funds (Capital Improvement Projects).

After discussion, the motion was made by Councilperson Stima and seconded by Councilperson Balk to not lay off the custodial position for 2012. On vote,

Motion 4/1.

Councilperson Goering was opposed.

The motion was made by Councilperson Stima and seconded by Councilperson Goering, to put one of the parks positions back into the budget. On vote,

Motion carried 5/0.

The motion was made by Councilperson Stima and seconded by Councilperson Cudaback, to re-include a second parks position, contingent on there being a \$70,000 savings from the health plan.

After discussion, the motion was on the on the floor to add back in a second parks position contingent on health plan savings. On vote,

Motion carried 3/2.

Councilpersons Goering and Tuttle were opposed.

The motion was made by Councilperson Stima to move \$6,000 from the Council budget to the General Fund balance.

After discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

Interlocal Agreement for the North Sound Metro Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Crisis Negotiating Team (CNT)

City Administrator Brazel explained that the information in the packet was for Council's review and to craft questions for next week prior to action. Many cities supporting the legislative priorities are involved.

After a question from Council, Chief Quenzer stated that additional information would be provided the following week.

FINAL ACTION

Ordinance Setting Property Tax Levy: A. Adopt Ordinance Setting Property Tax with No Increase/2nd and Final Reading; OR, B. Adopt Ordinance Setting Property Tax with 1% Increase/1st Reading

City Attorney Lell suggested that Council waive their procedures, in order to have a first and final reading on this item.

The motion was made by Councilperson Balk and seconded by Councilperson Cudaback, to suspend Council rules regarding ordinances. On vote,

Motion carried 5/0.

After discussion, the motion was made by Councilperson Balk and seconded by Councilperson Cudaback, to accept as first reading ordinance #027/2011 of the City of Monroe, Washington, fixing the amount of taxes to be levied by the City for the calendar year 2012, with a 1% increase.

After discussion, the motion was on the floor to accept as first reading the ordinance increasing property taxes by 1%. On vote,

Motion failed 2/3.

Councilpersons Tuttle, Stima, Goering were opposed.

The motion was made by Councilperson Goering and seconded by Councilperson Stima, to table this item to next for further discussion. On vote,

Motion carried 5/0.

Adopt 2012 Comp Plan Amendment Docket and Work Program

Permit & Planning Manager Popelka stated that all of the information was in the packet and that he would entertain any questions Council might have.

The motion was made by Councilperson Stima and seconded by Councilperson Goering, to adopt 2012 Comprehensive Plan Docket as listed:

1. CPA2012-A (West Monroe Subarea Land Use Study)
2. CPA2012-B (Comprehensive Plan Update)
3. CPA2012-C (System Updates)
4. CPA2012-01 (First Air Field)

On vote,

Motion carried 5/0.

The motion was made by Councilperson Stima and seconded by Councilperson Goering, to adopt the 2012 Planning Commission Work Program. On vote,

Motion carried 5/0.

MAYOR/COUNCIL/ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF REPORTS

Councilperson Balk reported that he attended the Veteran's day event on November 11th and had read the proclamation.

Draft Agenda/November 22, 2011 Study Session

City Administrator Brazel presented the draft agenda for November 22, 2011. Both ordinances pertaining to property taxes were added to the agenda.

Councilperson Goering asked that the ordinance setting term limits be added to the November 22nd agenda; but, agreed to leave it on the December 6th agenda.

At Councilperson Stima's request, a budget discussion was added to the agenda.

Public Works Director Feilberg gave a report on the Wastewater Treatment Plant improvement project.

Parks & Recreation Director Farrell reported that he had put a flyer in the Councilpersons' mail boxes about a partnership volunteer project for Saturday.

Mayor Pro-Tem Goering introduced Ben Warthan, the City's new Human Resources Manager.

There being no further business, the motion was made by Councilperson Cudaback and seconded by Councilperson Stima, to adjourn the meeting. On vote,

Motion carried 5/0.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 9:30 p.m.


Kurt Goering, Mayor Pro-Tempore


Eadye Martinson, Deputy City Clerk