



WHERE COMMUNITY AND SPIRIT MEET®

WORK SESSION MINUTES

A work session of the Kirkwood City Council was held on January 29, 2015, at 5:30 p.m. Present were Mayor McDonnell, Council Members Biedenstein, Jaksetic, Luetzow, Sears, and Ward. Also in attendance were Chief Administrative Officer Russell Hawes, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer Georgia Ragland, and Public Information Officer Beth von Behren. Council Member Griffin was absent and excused.

APPROVAL OF WORK SESSION MINUTES

Motion was made by Council Member Sears and seconded by Council Member Luetzow to approve the meeting minutes of January 15, 2015. The motion was unanimously approved.

BUDGET DISCUSSIONS

Mr. Hawes reported on some of the important aspects of the proposed 2015-2016 budget. Some of the discussion included:

- The proposed budget will help assist in supporting improving City services.
- The Business License process will be reviewed to assure that the right fees are being collected.
- Continue to improve transparency with citizens.
 - Develop better approach to a citizen request module. Want to add geographic component to allow citizens to report issues using their cell phones that would be tied into a specific geographic location. This would also allow citizens to see what has been reported and the status of the issue.
 - The Laserfiche program continues to move forward and it is hoped that this will eliminate the need for so many paper records.
- The Police Department will investigate body cameras and in-car mobile cameras. It is hoped that if the department proceeds with such purchases that the funding will come from grants and forfeiture funds.
- The budget does not include any revenue from the proposed ¼ cent Fire Department sales tax. If the ballot issue is successful it will relieve some of the strain on the General Fund reserves. The sales tax will also help fund the future needs of the Fire Department.
- Some of the things that will be occurring in the Public Services Department are:
 - Working on new Comprehensive Plan
 - New Water Master Plan including changes to the rates that will support the capital plan needs of the department and will assist in improving infrastructure in a systematic way.
 - Sanitation – have had conversations about commercial service.
- The Electric Department is making real progress on the substations and distribution system and this year the Albert Substation should be completed. Will likely look at a rate increase.
- A discussion took place about more funding going toward asphalt streets. This issue will be addressed once the street analysis is completed.
- Staff will look at fees to identify that the City is not overcharging or undercharging.



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- A discussion took place about contracts with Rock Hill, School District and Oakland and it was requested that information on the revenue generated from each of these contracts be provided to the council.
- The proposed health benefits include an increase on the deductible from \$500 to \$750 with the out of pocket maximum being two times that amount.
- More discussion of ways to streamline and be more efficient should take place possibly at another retreat
- Many department heads gave great information and there may be a need to work with those departments that have not provided updated information.

There being no further issues to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned.

Betty Montaña, MMC/MPCC
City Clerk