



CITY OF SURPRISE
City Council Work Session Minutes
100 North Civic Center Plaza
Surprise, AZ 85374

Thursday, January 14, 2010 @ 04:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER.

A. Roll Call

Mayor Truitt called the **Regular City Council Work Session** to order at 04:00 p.m. Surprise City Hall Council Chamber 16000 North Civic Center Plaza Surprise, Arizona 85374 , on **Thursday, January 14, 2010**. Also in attendance with Mayor Truitt were Vice Mayor Alton, Council Member Wolcott, Council Member Williams, Council Member Villanueva, Council Member Hall, and Council Member Woodard.

Staff Present: City Manager, Randy Oliver, City Attorney, Michael Bailey, and City Clerk, Sherry Aguilar.

Regular City Council Work Session Agenda:

REGULAR AGENDA ITEM - NON-PUBLIC HEARING:

#1. Presentation of FY 2010 Budget Update and FY 2011 Budget Forecast - NO ACTION

PRESENTATION

City Manager Oliver gave a presentation regarding FY 2010 and FY2011 Budget Forecast. Statistical information was presented to council. Discussion included Non-Construction Local Sales Tax; RIF 16.8 positions eliminated as well as other eliminations and action taken in January.

FY2011 Potential Options were discussed for costs savings including holiday reductions; furloughs; pay reductions; increased employee insurance contributions; increase sales tax and implement food tax were a few suggestions.

Council Questions/Comments:

Council Member Woodard - Are Employer Pension Contributions adjustable?

City Manager Oliver - Yes we are with the state pension plan and can be adjusted.

Council Member Woodard - If we reduce the wages at 3% across the board, how do we adjust the scale?

City Manager Oliver - You can increase those numbers when the economy turns around.

Council Member Woodard - Furloughs does not seem to be advantageous, but the furlough would maintain their pay rate level, correct?

Mayor Truitt - Are we giving the employees options for these suggestions?

City Manager Oliver - We are wanting to do this but need to explore options.

Council Member Woodard - Food tax, would like further discussion on this.

Council Member Wolcott - Any other revenues that come from the State that comes with restrictions?

City Manager Oliver - Yes some are restricted.

Council Member Williams - Need to include the employees, need input from everyone.

Council Member Williams - is this a crisis right now?

City Manager Oliver - we do have a crisis, but our percentage of shortfall is at the lower end then some of the other cities.

Council Member Hall - Do we have an economic profile for 1% food tax per family?

Council Member Villanueva - Are you going by departments with seniority?

City Manager Oliver - Strictly departmental, people that are being laid off have first rights to vacancies if they qualify.

Council Member Villanueva - It seems that seniority does not mean too much.

Council Member Alton - It seems like we have laid off a lot of employees. I think we are facing a dilemma of what to do. We are harming services, we need to broaden the base and look to getting volunteers to help us out for now. Let's leave cutting our workforce to the end and find some other alternatives.

Council Member Wolcott - I appreciate what we are trying to do right now but we need to discuss options and still need to maintain services, especially state compliance issues.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Truitt adjourned the Regular City Council Work Session of January 14, 2010 at 5:58 p.m.

ATTEST:

Sherry Ann Aguilar, City Clerk,

CERTIFICATION:

I, Sherry Ann Aguilar, City Clerk for the City of Surprise, Maricopa County, Arizona, do hereby verify that these are the true and correct minutes of the Regular City Council Work Session of **Thursday, January 14, 2010.**

Sherry Ann Aguilar, City Clerk,