

MINUTES OF THE MISSION FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

January 10, 2018

The Mission Finance & Administration Committee met at Mission City Hall, Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at 7:25 p.m. The following committee members were present: Pat Quinn, Hillary Thomas, Arcie Rothrock, Nick Schlossmacher, Kristin Inman, and Sollie Flora. Absent: Debbie Kring. Councilmember Schlossmacher called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m.

Also present were City Administrator Laura Smith, City Clerk Martha Sumrall, Public Works Director John Belger, Parks & Recreation Director Christy Humerickhouse, Chief Ben Hadley, and Public Information Officer Emily Randel.

2018 Legislative Platform

Ms. Smith stated that each year the City adopts policies and priorities that can be shared with legislators for the upcoming State legislative session. In the past, this has been prepared in January, but going forward we can adjust the timing to begin the discussion process on these policies in November and/or December. She stated that local city administrators and managers, along with Johnson County, meet to review the issues and set priorities. A joint City/County program is adopted. The League of Kansas Municipalities also adopts a legislative program. Our program is a narrower focus on those issues that we believe will gain traction this session, includes areas of commonality with other cities, and incorporates issues we have included in the past. She noted that a clarification has been made in the language addressing the property tax lid and several suggested additions from Councilmember Flora are highlighted.

Councilmember Flora stated that she would like to see the addition of the following:

- Opposition to any constitutional amendment that would remove the State's obligation to adequately and equitably fund K-12 education.
- Restore local gun control so that we have the ability to regulate and enforce the possession and use of weapons within city-owned facilities
- Support of the development of a coordinated and comprehensive statewide energy policy
- Support of increased federal and state funding to assist local communities with infrastructure funding

Councilmember Quinn and Inman stated that they agree with the inclusion of the plank on K-12 funding.

Councilmember Quinn stated that he does not agree with the inclusion of restoring local gun control, noting that we currently have that ability with proper security. Councilmember Schlossmacher agreed stating that he does not see a problem. Discussion continued on this issue, including whether Mission should have stronger requirements than the state; will this solve the problem if law abiding citizens do not have a gun, but others may; whether additional

time is necessary for further research on this issue before making a decision about including it in our priorities; why this was not initially included in our draft policy this year; whether local control would actually make anyone safer; concerns with having different requirements in different cities; and our current ability to control city facilities with proper security, although this may be cost prohibitive. Councilmember Flora stated that she feel it is important to voice our support for local control on this issue.

Councilmember Quinn asked Chief Hadley for this thoughts on the issue. Chief Hadley provided background on our initial decision to not put a safety plan in place as we knew it would be cost prohibitive, and he stated that he would prefer only the Police Department have guns in our buildings. He also stated that we will be offering active shooter training in the coming months.

Councilmember Flora stated that she would like to have this issue included in the program that is being considered by Council at this month's meeting as she feels it is important to send our full Legislative Priorities to our representatives in Topeka early in the session. Ms. Smith stated that the program considered by Council at their meeting next week could include these recommended additions so that the public is aware. Discussion continued on the ability of the public and employees to have guns in City facilities.

Councilmember Flora stated that she feels we should also include our support for sustainable and renewable energy, and that we need to signal our support for the continued and expanded state funding of infrastructure. Ms. Smith stated that some of the infrastructure issues are mentioned in the policy under the Motor Fuels Tax, but noted that this additional language is expanded to include stormwater. Councilmember Quinn asked if "Federal" should be removed as this is being sent to our state representatives. All agreed.

The committee also discussed concerns with elections again being changed, and partisan influences on our local elections which are non-partisan.

Ms. Smith stated that Mission does not hire a lobbyist for Topeka, but that she has the opportunity to participate in a weekly conference call update on current issues. She will pass information from this call along to Council and stated that we always have the opportunity to take a stance on specific issues as they come up.

Councilmember Quinn recommended that the 2018 Legislative Program for the City of Mission be forwarded to Council for approval. All on the committee agreed, but this will not be a consent agenda item.

Resolution - Destruction of Records

Ms. Sumrall reported that annually, Council adopts a resolution outlining those records that may be destroyed during the coming year. The records listed in the proposed resolution are identified in State statutes and she noted that ordinances, resolution, minutes, Council and

commission packets, and records of historical value are kept permanently. She stated that staff is careful in considering which records to destroy and if there is a question, they are kept or we look to other cities for best practices. There was no discussion on this item.

Councilmember Quinn recommended that the resolution authorizing the destruction of certain records of the City of Mission as authorized by Ordinance No. 1143 be forwarded to Council for approval. All on the committee agreed. This will be a consent agenda item.

Other - Department Updates

Chief Hadley provided an update on recently hired officers for the Police Department. Several certified officers are in training in Mission and will be on the streets in January and February, and several are at the academy. He stated that Officer Tim Gift is leaving Mission tomorrow after six years to go to the Sheriff's Department and that Officer Tanner Eddings is anticipating being deployed to Afghanistan in February. Officer Bieberback recently completed his rotation through the Investigations Department and has returned to patrol.

Ms. Smith stated that she and Mayor Appletoft have been working on possible dates for Council retreat and goal setting sessions and she will be emailing Council for their preferred dates soon.

Ms. Smith reminded all that there will be a reception to thank Mayor Schowengerdt for his service to Mission on Thursday, January 11th from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. All were invited to attend.

Meeting Close

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting of the Finance and Administration Committee adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Sumrall
City Clerk