

AURORA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

*Aurora City Hall, City Council Chambers,
Monday, November 18, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.*

I. Call to Order:
Mayor Barton called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call:
Mayor Linda Barton
Chairman Pro Tem Ramirez
Councilwoman Rentfro
Councilwoman Colwell
Councilwoman Henderson

All council members were noted present.

III. Agenda: Budget Work Session

City Manager Randall forwarded information from the Lagers website to City Attorney Woodard for his review. City Attorney Woodard, in his opinion, didn't feel like the city could get out of the plan. City Clerk Needham spoke with a representative from Lagers and they stated there was no exit provision in the state statues for leaving the program. Numerous cities have tried unsuccessfully.

The draft budget was submitted with changes previously approved by council. In regards to health insurance no recommendation for changes was submitted. Nationwide significant changes have occurred in the health care industry. Other municipalities are changing as the federal rules are being imposed. Although no changes are recommended today there will be changes in the future. City Manager Randall stated it was incumbent on staff to be aware there will be changes coming down the road.

Staff explained how important their health insurance benefits were and how much they appreciated the benefit. Several employees stated how detrimental it would be to their families if they had to pay the expense from their own pocket and how they didn't see how they could afford it. Years ago there was very little out of pocket for health insurance and the plan paid everything. Through the years the coverage has declined drastically with higher deductibles and out of pocket expenses.

Mayor Barton stated the government is going to make it worse.

The budget, as submitted, was into fund balance by \$39,592 and anything else added would continue to push deeper into fund balance.

The Police Department is going to return a significant amount of cash back to the General Fund through salary savings from the department in 2013. City Manager Randall stated the Chief had expressed the need to purchase spike strips at a price of \$800 to \$1,000. Council asked the chief if he only needed one set. He stated two would be better.

Staff stated several seasonal employees were in the audience and how was the health care change going to affect them? Even though the government has put off the health care requirement for all people to have health insurance until 2015 the safe harbor period will still be 2014 for employers. What the city does in 2014 will reflect in 2015. Seasonal employees will only be allowed to work 28 hours a week to keep them under the required 30 hours. Everyone was encouraged to bring any information forth they might have that would dispute the change. All information would be reviewed.

Council discussed salary increases. Chairman Pro Tem Ramirez wanted to give a 3%, Councilwoman Colwell at 1 1/2% increase and Mayor Barton a 2% increase. Councilwoman Colwell stated the council could not afford to give a 2 or 3% raise.

Motion was made by Mayor Barton to raise all employees' salaries by 1 1/2% and to freeze the pay plan. Councilwoman Colwell seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0 with the following Council members voting aye on the motion:

AYES: Barton, Colwell, Ramirez, Henderson, Rentfro

NAYES: 0

Carpet bids were reviewed from a second company for carpeting the council chambers. The second bid was worse than the first bid. Council decided to put off doing anything until a later date.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Rentfro to allow the Police Chief to purchase two sets of spike strips though the 2013 budget. Councilwoman Henderson seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0 with the following council members voting aye on the motion:

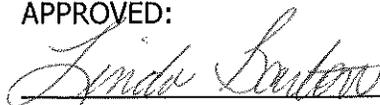
AYES: Barton, Rentfro, Henderson, Colwell, Ramirez

NAYES: 0

IV. Adjourn

Motion was made by Councilwoman Henderson to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Councilwoman Rentfro seconded the motion. Motion passed with all members voting aye.

APPROVED:



Linda Barton, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathie Needham
Kathie Needham , City Clerk, MMC/MPCC