CITY OF LONG BEACH BUDGET OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Gary DeLong, Chair Patrick O'Donnell, Vice Chair Suja Lowenthal, Member



CALL TO ORDER

At 4:06 P.M., Chair DeLong called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers DeLong and O'Donnell Present:

Councilmembers S. Lowenthal

Absent:

Also present: Patrick West, City Manager; Heather Mahood, Assistant Chief City Attorney; Suzanne Mason, Director, Human Resources; Lori Ann Farrell, Acting Director, Financial Management; Larry Herrera, City Clerk; James Johnson, Special Projects Officer; and City Clerk Specialists Gloria Harper and Dina Lopez.

Chair DeLong spoke.

1. 07-1289

Recommendation to approve the Budget Oversight Committee minutes for the meeting of Thursday, September 6, 2007.

A motion was made by Member O'Donnell, seconded by Vice Chair DeLong, to receive and file. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - DeLong and O'Donnell

Absent: 1 - S. Lowenthal

2. 07-1029

Recommendation to discuss the following budget management strategies:

a. That the City Manager create a Hiring Freeze Committee charged with review of any proposed management hires.

Patrick West, City Manager, spoke.

Lori Ann Farrell, Acting Director, Financial Management, spoke.

Suzanne Mason, Director, Human Resources, gave a staff report on Agenda Item 2a and responded to questions.

Chair DeLong spoke.

A motion was made by Vice Chair DeLong, seconded by Member O'Donnell, that this matter be approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - DeLong and O'Donnell

Absent: 1 - S. Lowenthal

07-1029

Recommendation to discuss the following budget management strategies:

b. That the sum total of all percentage increases referenced in the City's Salary Resolution for the compensation of Executive or Professional Salary Range employees shall not exceed seven percent during any fiscal year without approval of the City Council.

Councilmember O'Donnell spoke.

Suzanne Mason, Director, Human Resources gave a staff report on Agenda Item 2b and responded to questions.

Chair DeLong spoke.

Harvey Cochran, Long Beach resident, spoke.

Larry Boland, Long Beach resident, spoke.

A motion was made by Vice Chair DeLong, seconded by Member O'Donnell, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - DeLong and O'Donnell

Absent: 1 - S. Lowenthal

SECOND ROLL CALL

S. Lowenthal joined the meeting.

Councilmembers DeLong, O'Donnell and S. Lowenthal Present:

3. 07-1272

Recommendation to reveiw a schedule of Optimization Report presentations.

Lori Ann Farrell, Acting Director, Financial Management, gave a staff report and responded to questions.

Chair DeLong spoke.

A motion was made by Chair S. Lowenthal, seconded by Member O'Donnell, to receive and file. The motion failed by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - DeLong, O'Donnell and S. Lowenthal

4. 07-1095

Recommendation to receive and file the Fiscal Year 2007 Third Quarter Budget Performance Report.

Larry Boland, Long Beach resident, spoke.

A motion was made by Member O'Donnell, seconded by Chair S. Lowenthal, that this matter be receive and file. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - DeLong, O'Donnell and S. Lowenthal

5. 07-1273

Recommendation to receive and file a memo from the City Manager transmitting the following reports:

- a. Approved contracts valued at \$50, 000 \$95,000
- b. Open bids and Requests for Proposals (RFPs)
- c. Homeland Security Expenditures

Harvey Cochran, Long Beach resident, spoke.

A motion was made by Member O'Donnell, seconded by Chair S. Lowenthal, that this matter be receive and file. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - DeLong, O'Donnell and S. Lowenthal

6. 07-1276

Recommendation to receive and file the City Manager's policy restricting out-of-state travel.

Harvey Cochran, Long Beach resident, spoke.

A motion was made by Member O'Donnell, seconded by Chair S. Lowenthal, that this matter be receive and file. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - DeLong, O'Donnell and S. Lowenthal

7. 07-1278

Recommendation to receive and file the City Manager's policy prohibiting the use of General Fund monies to purchase tables at community events.

Councilmember O'Donnell expressed his concerns about the prohibition of memberships.

Patrick West, City Manager, agreed to prepare information for a discussion regarding memberships at the next scheduled meeting.

Harvey Cochran, Long Beach resident, spoke.

A dialogue ensued.

Harvey Cochran, Long Beach resident, spoke.

A motion was made by Chair S. Lowenthal, seconded by Member O'Donnell, that this matter be receive and file. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - DeLong, O'Donnell and S. Lowenthal

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Members of the public are invited to address the Committee.

Councilmember S. Lowenthal reminded those that had an interest in the Transient Occupancy Tax, Cultural Events Ticket Tax, and City Council being notified when employees receive compensation over the cost of living adjustment, that the items will be discussed at a future meeting.

Chair DeLong spoke.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:35 P.M., there being no objection, Chair DeLong declared the meeting adjourned.