

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE ROOM
MAY 1, 2019 at 4:30 pm

Committee Members present: Councilor Martin P. Dumont, Sr., Chairman
Councilor Nancie Cameron
Councilor Edward Levasseur

Administration/Staff present: City Manager, Bob Belmore
Finance Director, Scott Smith
Deputy City Clerk, Kelly Gagne

Other:

Chairman Dumont called the meeting to order at 4:34 pm.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion made by Councilor Levasseur, seconded by Councilor Cameron to accept the December 12, 2018 minutes as presented. Motion Passed 3-0

CITY ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 6 – CODIFICATION ADJUSTMENT

Manager Belmore stated that currently the credits and exemptions are in Chapter 6 City Officials. He explained that if a resident is looking for an exemption or credit that they wouldn't necessarily look in Chapter 6 labeled City Officials. He suggested that City staff create a new chapter, and add all credits and exemptions into that chapter and delete them from chapter 6, to be more streamlined. Committee Members reviewed the red-lined version of Ch. 6 and the new proposed Draft of Chapter 34.

Councilor Levasseur stated that making this change would makes it easier and better for the residents.

Councilor Levasseur, seconded by Councilor Cameron made a motion that the Government Operations Committee sponsors an Ordinance to delete credits and exemptions from Chapter 6 and create Chapter 34 Credits and Exemptions. The motion passed 3-0.

Manager Belmore explained what a codify process is. A company would go through all the Ordinances and clean them up and create a more formal document. Many surrounding Cities have completed this process.. He offered to get a sample of what would be done from the company if that is something that the Committee is interested in. The Committee discussed this and the consensus is to get a sample for further discussion.

CITY MANAGER UPDATES

Manager Belmore discussed new hires and employees that have left the City.

Councilor Dumont stated that he had a personal experience with one of our Police Officers. He learned he was part of the military guarding the tomb of the unknown. He started he was a very polite man and professional officer.

COUNCIL RULES – BUDGET REVIEW PROCESS (FROM MAYOR)

Manager Belmore explained that the Mayor has suggested considering placing something in Council rules regarding the budget process and how Council might proceed during the review and budget amendment process.

There was a robust discussion on the current budget process and in the future, what can be done to help streamline the budget process. Belmore passed out a Draft of some potential language that might be placed under item 10. Voting.

Councilor Dumont agreed that anything for clarification is helpful.

The Committee recommended that the Council consider holding a special meeting held during the budget process to focus only on the Budget Ordinance as was recently done.

The suggestion is to add a paragraph regarding a special budget meeting into the Council Rules under item 1. Council Meeting.. Which would be held after the budget Ordinance is introduced and after the public hearing. There was discussion of other ideas. Manager Belmore stated that he and Director Smith would complete further work on some Draft language for the Committee's consideration.

MISCELLANEOUS

Manager Belmore proposed a change to keep the General Foreman pay in line with his AFSCME covered highway employees when working on a holiday. Currently, the Ordinance states that any employee required to work on a holiday receives full pay for the time worked in addition to holiday pay. The proposed change is for the employee to receive one and one-half times the adjusted base rate in addition to the holiday pay.

Councilor Levasseur, seconded by Councilor Cameron made a motion that the Government Operations Committee supports an Ordinance change to add one and one half-times the adjusted base rate. Motion passed 3-0.

The Committee set a tentative date of May 29th @ 4:30 for the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Cameron seconded by Councilor Levasseur the meeting adjourned at 5:17 pm. Motion passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Gagne, Deputy City Clerk