

**OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

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**SPECIAL REORGANIZATION REVIEW COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**February 6, 2014**

**4:00 p.m.**

**City Council Chamber**

**1st floor, City Hall**

**117 West Duval Street**

**Attendance:** Council Members Clay Yarborough (Chair), Denise Lee, Bill Bishop, Johnny Gaffney, Greg Anderson (Temporary Appointment)

**Excused:** Council MembersStephen Joost, Richard Clark

**Also:** Council Member Don Redman; Marilyn Allen – Legislative Services Division; Yvonne Mitchell – Council Research Division; Kirk Sherman and Janice Billy – Council Auditor’s Office; Peggy Sidman – Office of General Counsel; Teresa Eichner, Cleveland Ferguson, Karen Bowling – Mayor’s Office; Jim Robinson – Public Works

Council Member Yarborough called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. He requested explanation of the Bishop Amendment to 2013-209. It replaces Public Buildings as a division in the substitute. Additionally, it strikes out items that would normally be under Public Buildings but will now be the responsibility of the Right-of-Way Grounds Division.

**Motion** (Bishop):to accept the Bishop amendment – approved.

Cleveland Ferguson, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, stated an email was sent to committee members with a copy of the revised chart requesting that funding come from the Office of General Counsel Recapture. Additionally, he reviewed the divisional cost chart that displayed the budget cost for FY 14 and FY15. Mr. Sherman stated that the recapture has already taking place and the action taken should be a transfer from the fund balance.

Council Member Lee noted the decrease in the amount requested from the previous meeting. She indicated Mr. Sherman explained to her that the initial amount presented was for a year and it had been prorated to show actual amount from April to September. Additionally, if a position was a promotion the funding amount would only be the incremental cost not an entire salary. Mr. Sherman clarified that funds from Clerk of Court, Jacksonville Journey, Special Events, JCC, Convention Center, General Counsel and JEDC were added to the balance in fund account. He further explained that funds are requested from the general fund and when the total amount is not expended the remaining balance is returned to the general fund at the end of the year. This particular fund has been in place for the past five years. The amount of recaptures must be agreed upon between the Finance Department and Council Auditor’s Office; otherwise, it must be brought before the Council.

CM Lee expressed her concerns about the agencies listed possibly requesting their residual funds after being recaptured and if they were notified of such action. In addition, she requested to revisit the recapture process at a later date to address the residual amounts and other ways funds could be utilized. Mr. Sherman stated there was legislation pending that would address her some of CM Lee’s concerns. After further discussion on use of recapture funds, CM Lee requested the Office of General Counsel to get with Mr. Robinson to draft legislation for her to utilize funds from recapture to pay for sidewalks in her district.

Motion (Lee): amend the substitute to add appropriation section and reclassification to move the money for the individuals - **approved**

CM Anderson thanked Council President for his temporary appointment to the committee. He reviewed the divisional cost sheet for clarification which Mr. Sherman stated that the funds were coming from the General Funds Fund Balance. Teresa Eichner confirmed that the FY14 cost were for salary increases and new positions. CM Anderson stated he wanted to make sure that Council understood before voting that $526,115 for FY13 and $856,695 for FY14 will be funded out of general fund money.

Mr. Ferguson thanked the committee for its diligence in working through this process.

CM Lee inquired about the interview process of the chief for the new division, Mowing & Landscape Maintenance. Mr. Robinson stated that March 1st is the date 2013-683 begins to fund several new positions in the division. The interview process has begun for the chief position and has begun the recruiting process for the other positions. The expectation is to have the chief in place within next two weeks and assured CM Lee that the individual will definitely meet the qualifications as discussed.

CM Lee expressed her appreciation to Ms. Bowling for her leadership, Mr. Ferguson for his professionalism and their willingness to work harmoniously with the committee. She encouraged them to consider the work of individuals that have been “acting in positions” such as Mary Holley with Senior Services. CM Lee clearly stated her intentions were not to tell them who to hire but requested that they use the same type of leadership and respect of treating people fairly in selection of the new chiefs.

Motion (Bishop): to move the bill as a substitute as twice amended – **approved.**

There being no further business, the agenda meeting was adjourned at 4:43 p.m.

Yvonne P. Mitchell, Council Research Division (904) 630-1679

Posted 02.11.14

12:00 p.m.