CITY OF SHORELINE

SHORELINE CITY COUNCIL SUMMARY MINUTES OF WORKSHOP DINNER MEETING

Monday, July 26, 2010

Conference Room C-104 - Shoreline City Hall

6:00 p.m.

17500 Midvale Avenue N.

PRESENT:

Mayor Keith McGlashan, Deputy Mayor Will Hall, and Councilmembers

Doris McConnell, Chris Eggen, Chris Roberts, Terry Scott, and Shari

Winstead

ABSENT:

None

STAFF:

Bob Olander, City Manager; Scott MacColl, Intergovernmental Program

Manager; Dan Pingrey, Shoreline Police Chief; Scott Passey, City Clerk

GUEST:

Sue Rahr, King County Sheriff

At 6:28 p.m., Mayor McGlashan called the meeting to order and introduced Sheriff Sue Rahr.

Sheriff Rahr provided an overview of the Sheriff's Office, the contract with the City of Shoreline, and the service impacts of potential budget cuts and how they would affect Shoreline.

Sheriff Rahr pointed out that she is able to bargain for overtime and mandatory rotation, and there is still 2.5 years left on the current contract. She noted that the Charter Review Commission was stacked in favor of labor and the full amendment change was not recommended. The King County Council is proposing a sales tax measure which would provide 0.10% for criminal justice and operations & maintenance, which would sunset in three years. There was brief discussion about how the sales tax ballot measure would affect cities like Shoreline.

Sheriff Rahr explained that contracts with cities are aimed at achieving full cost recovery. She noted there was a list of changes that were not included in the contract but that serve to enhance law enforcement services. She conceded that even though mistakes have been made, the Sheriff's Office operates efficiently. She noted that we lose jobs if we don't treat communities like customers. She said although they are contract employees, employees of the Sheriff's Office are dedicated to the City of Shoreline and seek for quality and fairness.

Mr. Olander commented that Shoreline has a unique identity because our City limits are coterminous with our police contract.

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Sheriff Rahr discussed the benefits of contracting, including cost reductions through economies of scale. She also discussed the high quality of police officers in Shoreline, due in part to the opportunities provided in the City as well as the state-of-the-art equipment and infrastructure.

Councilmember Eggen inquired about the County Executive's goals going into the contract negotiations, to which Sheriff Rahr responded that his goals include working to control costs and keeping city customers satisfied with the level of service. She said even though budget cuts could be significant, they have modeled a "scorched earth" scenario and would not pass any increased costs onto customers. She explained that cuts will still have to be made even if the sales tax measure passes; however, the cuts will be dramatic if it fails. She estimated cuts could be about 12% across-the-board if the measure fails.

There was brief discussion about the City's fraud unit and the local expertise in the arson unit, where the Fire Department does the initial screening. A brief discussion followed regarding the sales tax ballot measure and how the liquor ballot measure would impact the City of Shoreline. Councilmember Eggen noted that the City could reinstate the human services if the sales tax passes since it is a criminal justice issue.

Mr. Olander expressed appreciation for the good working relationship between Sheriff Rahr and himself and for open and willing communication. Sheriff Rahr concluded the discussion by stating that the goal is for Shoreline citizens not to realize that police services are provided by a contract with the Sheriff's Office.

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Scott Passey, City Clerk		

The meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.