

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 20, 2015 @ 4:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Blair Briggs, Chairman; Jacqueline Martin; Sherell Roberts, and Marvin Richard. Aldermen Julius Alsandor and J. Tyrone Glover were also present in the audience.

ABSENT: None

A moment of silent meditation was observed and the pledge to the U. S. Flag was led by Alderman Blair Briggs.

The following item was deleted from the Budget Committee Agenda at the start of the meeting: *"Accept the retirement request of former Police Chief Perry Gallow, effective 12-31 2014, and approve payment for 1,032 hours of unused annual leave in the amount of \$43,658.80, pending verification from the Fire & Police Civil Service Board"*. On a motion by Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin, seconded by Alderman Marvin Richard and unanimously carried, it was resolved to accept the agenda with the corrections.

1. *(Item Deleted) Accept the retirement request of former Police Chief Perry Gallow, effective 12/31/2014, and approve payment for 1,032 hours of unused annual leave in the amount of \$43,658.80, pending verification from the Fire & Police Civil Service Board.*
2. *Discuss request by Police Chief Donald Thompson regarding an increase in salaries and raises for non-commissioned police personnel (Police Communications Officers, Secretary, Police Records Clerks). Chief Thompson stated that he is not asking for any additional money. According to Chief Thompson's figures, he is requesting to raise the starting pay from \$7.50 per hour to \$10.00 per hour which is a 33 percent increase. In addition he would like to raise his current employee salaries by 33 percent also. Alderman Briggs asked if the figures the Chief was presenting included the City's portion of the Police Employees Retirement which is 31.5 percent. Alderman Briggs stated that he is inclined to increase the starting pay only and not the pay for all of the employees as the Chief is currently requesting which amounts to approximately \$120,000 plus approximately \$35,000 in retirement benefits as well as an additional 10 percent in other benefits. Lt. Scott Aymond stated that it is only fair that the current employees received a pay increase too. Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin wanted to know if the Police Department would be able to state within its budget with these new figures. Chief Thompson stated that he believes that they will be alright. On a motion by Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin and seconded by Alderman Marvin Richard, it was resolved to forward to the full council for further discussion and approval of request to approve the increase in the Police Department for non-commissioned police personnel (Police Communications Officers, Secretary, Police Records Clerks) from \$7.50 to \$10.00 per hour for starting pay only.*

On a motion by Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin, seconded by Alderwoman Sherell Roberts and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn. The Budget Committee meeting was adjourned at 4:16 p.m.