

MINUTES
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE WORK SESSION
February 4, 2019
City Hall Conference Room A

PRESENT: Mayor Stiehm. Council Members Steve King, Laura Helle, Paul Fischer, Rebecca Waller, Jason Baskin, Joyce Poshusta Council Member-at-Large Jeff Austin

ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: City Administrator Craig Clark, Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert, Public Works Director Steven Lang and City Clerk Ann Kasel

ALSO PRESENT: Honorary Council Member Rain Suereh, Austin Daily Herald, Public
Mayor Stiehm opened the meeting at 5:51 p.m.

Item No. 1 – Local Option Sales Tax

Public Works Director Steven Lang provided an update for the local option sales tax progress. He stated that since the tax began in 2007 there has been approximately \$10,400,000 collected. The maximum length the tax can be collected is until 2027.

He stated the City has completed many projects around town and have a few projects identified for possible future construction including the Wildwood Park area, the Lions Park area and the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Mr. Lang stated an alternative to the Wildwood project would be to buy out the seven homes currently in the flood plain instead of a levee. He stated Lions park could also be scaled back.

Mr. Dankert stated this is an important discussion to have because the sales tax could shut off earlier than originally planned.

Council Member-at-Large Austin stated the tax could be extended for a different type of project.

Council Member Helle stated the Chamber of Commerce was supportive of the LOST tax when it was originated but may not be as supportive of it now. She suggested keeping the communication lines open with the Chamber.

Mr. Lang provided the amount of funding required for different projects around the City.

Council Member Baskin stated the tax was implemented to fix flood issues and he would like to see all of the projects completed that are feasible.

Mr. Lang stated the topic will be discussed at the March 5, 2019 retreat.

Item No. 2 –Honorary Council Member Comments

None.

Item No. 3 – Administrative Report

None.

Item No. 4 - Open Discussion

Council Member King requested an update on the compensation and classification plan.

City Administrator Craig Clark stated it is delayed and will probably be spring.

Council Member King stated he is a part of the Austin Area Drug Taskforce and the taskforce would like to increase the legal age to buy tobacco products to 21. He stated the taskforce will present at a future work session.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member, adjourning the meeting at 6:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann M. Kasel
City Clerk