

**CITY OF NEWBERG CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
JANUARY 24, 2008
7:00 P.M.
NEWBERG CITY HALL PLANNING CONFERENCE ROOM**

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Bob Andrews called the meeting to order.

II. ROLL CALL

Members

Present:	Mayor Bob Andrews	Mike Boyes	Roger Currier	Bob Larson
	Jeff Palmer	Bart Rierson (arrived at 7:15)		Marc Shelton

Staff

Present:	Robert I. Tardiff, City Manager Pro Tem	Terrence Mahr, City Attorney
	Elizabeth Comfort, Finance Director	Janelle Nordyke, Asst. Fin. Dir.
	Norma I. Alley, City Recorder	Dave Brooks, IT Director
	Dan Danicic, Public Works Director	Leah Griffith, Library Director
	Barton Brierley, Planning & Building Director	Al Blodgett, Fire Chief
	Becky Green, HR Manager	Brian Casey, Police Chief

III. AGENDA ITEMS

Bob Tardiff described the process for the night and handed out the ranking sheets and expense proposal.

1. Individual ranking of the General Fund departmental expense proposals.

Bob Tardiff explained how the estimated costs were calculated.

Council ranked their priorities and all tallies were collected and totaled.

2. Individual ranking of Public Works expense proposals.

Bob Tardiff explained how the estimated costs were calculated.

Council ranked their priorities and all tallies were collected and totaled.

3. Review of the individual rankings and discuss consensus priorities.

Elizabeth Comfort handed out the totals.

Bob Tardiff said consensus is to focus on existing projects.

Councilor Rierson asked where do economic development funds come from.

Elizabeth Comfort said the City has an EDRLF loan right now and once it is encumbered it is gone.

Bob Tardiff said there is high priority to plan for repair and maintenance and planned growth, but not a high priority high priority for staffing.

4. Review the individual responses and consider the City Council's collective interest in pursuing various types of new revenues.

Bob Tardiff explained the differences between revenue options.

Councilor Rierson asked how long the levy would be on the \$1 per thousand equivalent dwelling unit.

Bob Tardiff said you could go for a maximum of four years.

Councilor Boyes asked is the estimated million dollars per year.

Bob Tardiff answered yes, that is per year.

Council ranked their priorities and all tallies were collected and totaled.

Bob Tardiff stated the majority preference is for the public safety fee.

Councilor Rierson asked how the fee would be collected.

Elizabeth Comfort said the public safety fee would be on the water bill every month.

Councilor Rierson said I like the public safety fee because it is equally shared by everyone.

Discussion was held on levy revenues and impact on citizens. Consensus was met to not support a levy for general fund.

Bob Tardiff asked for input on a safety fee or a privilege tax.

All the Councilors except Councilor Rierson expressed interest in the public safety fee.

Councilor Rierson said I do not like the idea of charging two fees that fund the same thing. I feel more comfortable having a safety fee and not raising the privilege tax.

Bob Tardiff said there is a preference for public safety fee. Do you want to increase the privilege tax or just the fee.

Councilor Rierson said I do not want to increase the tax.

Councilor Palmer said I do not want to increase the tax.

Councilor Shelton suggested considering the 1% increase to the PGE Privilege Tax.

Councilor Rierson said I could support that, but use it for public works projects.

Bob Tardiff asked the Council are you willing to pass a levy, a tax levy, or a split for better roads.

Three councilors wanted fee only, two wanted levy only and two wanted to split it.

Councilor Palmer said I do like the idea a non-profit land owner supporting our streets, which the fees do that, and I am also in favor of a larger land owner contributing more.

Bob Tardiff said he will work with staff to look at options when preparing the budget.

5. Other Projects

Councilor Palmer said I would like to see funding start at \$25,000 a year to support the Riverfront Master Plan.

Elizabeth Comfort stated that could be funded through the Economic Development Fund.

Bob Tardiff said staff will look at options.

Mayor Andrews suggested looking into increasing Newberg's transient occupancy tax.

Bob Tardiff said he has received great feedback and is in a good place for staff to start preparing the budget.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.