

The City of Columbia City

In Columbia County on the Columbia River



CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP SESSION JANUARY 20, 2011 - 6:32 P.M. CITY HALL, 1840 SECOND STREET COLUMBIA CITY, OR 97018

Present:

Mayor Cheryl A. Young
Councilor Sally Ann Marson
Councilor Shannon Fitzgibbons
Councilor Josh Fromm
Councilor Casey Wheeler (by telephone)
Michael McGlothlin, Chief of Police
Leahnette Rivers, City Administrator/Recorder

The City Council met with staff to review updated financial projections for the General Fund activities.

The financial projections showed a continued decline in the fund balance (fund equity) of the General Fund. The 2010-11 year is projected to end with a fund balance of \$129,535, down \$121,090 from three years ago, and the fund balance is projected to dip into a negative position by the end the 2012-13 year. To stop this downward trend, additional revenues and/or service level reductions are necessary.

The Council discussed the services provided within the General Fund at length with staff. Services include, but are not limited to, administrative services, police protection, park maintenance, building and planning services, municipal court, and library. The Council reviewed the final results of the citizen survey dated October 4, 2010, with respect to various services provided by the City. Survey results showed police protection services ranked as the highest priority, and library and parks ranked the lowest, respectively.

After lengthy discussions with staff and further review of the General Fund financial projects, it was the consensus of the Council that the City submit a ballot measure for a five-year local option levy for police protection services in the amount of \$0.67 per \$1,000 assessed value to the voters in May.

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Concurrently, staff will prepare several service level cut back options for consideration and review by the Council during the coming months and in preparation for the upcoming budget process.

Meeting adjourned 7:45 p.m.