



Measure L Citizens' Oversight Committee

1st Floor City Council Conference Room Area 'B'

Wednesday February 20, 2013

APPROVED MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

George 'Andy' Anderson, Lance 'Scott' Garver,
Michael Petersen, Phil Salvatore, Eddie Thomas

Special Meeting – 4:30 pm

This meeting room is wheelchair accessible. Accommodations and access to City meetings for people with other handicaps may be requested of the City Clerk (499-5002) five working days in advance of the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order by Chairman Thomas at 4:41

ROLL CALL: Roll call was taken and all Committee members present were Andy Andersen, Michael Petersen and Eddie Thomas. Mr. Salvatore and Mr. Garver were not present.

DISCUSSION AND OTHER ACTION ITEMS

- A. Discussion with City Attorney:** Measure L Citizens' Oversight Committee Process – Mr. Lemieux discussed the action and non-action items. Discussion the items that were on the agenda and that we would not be able to take action due to the fact that they were not listed correctly as agenda items. Explained to the Secretary Karen Harker how to make sure that Action Items are placed on the agenda for future meetings. Mr. Lemieux felt that the Committee could take action on the items (resolutions) at their regularly scheduled meeting that was being held on February 25, 2013. Action items public can comment on and non-action items are items that public doesn't need to comment on or if the committee wishes for the public to speak they can. Mr. Lemieux asked if there were any questions to the red-line document (resolution) that needs to be changed. Mr. Peterson made the comment that all seemed to look in place. Mr. Lemieux had thought about placing contents of the annual reports and review of budgets in the portion of the resolution, but after consideration that it best not to. You are clearly in charge of following the money but there is also language that defines what you as a committee must do. The intent was for the Committee to track Measure L through the budget and Mr. Lemieux went on to give the example of the Parks and Recreation and how that came up last year as a possible issue of Measure L money giving funds away and if this was appropriate. He had given this example before when he was last here. There was concern about City revenues which led to a conversation with Mr. Salvatore and led to the back-fill analysis. He understands this as an argument.

How does he takes this and reconciles it with the language in the initiative. Can we create a bright line so it doesn't include an inquiry of the entire budget. Mr. Andersen feels that the committee is not going into the entire budget and that they are just establishing a baseline. What we are trying to prevent is the misconception to the public that the funds are not being spent where they should be and keeping the promise of what the council said they were going to do with the money. Discussion of how the promise of the City Council was made to the public and the perception that needs to be given to the public. Continued discussion on how the committee is only looking at the street budget and the police budget and not the entire City Budget in order to get the backfill analysis so that the committee has this base line of what will be spent. The Committee doesn't want to see cuts and then have the streets and police have the Measure L money funds them and not see the extra dollars going into the departments to do the extra work that was intended by the tax dollars that the Council had promised. Now we know that it is a general tax and that they can do with it what they want to do.....but we can still report if they don't spend it on the street and the police.

Mr. Lemieux understands now what that committee was only looking at what was/is happening in the budget on the prior year's funding of street and police and that it is important that they have this information. It is also important that they have this information of funding going forward so they know what is going on. Is this the consensus of the committee, the committee agreed?

Mr. Lemieux and the Committee continued having a discussion about different scenarios and what would happen if and when items are being fully funded. What would happen if there were no budget cuts and the police and the streets had all that they needed could the money be spend on other areas? Some of the committee members thought that it could be and that that was how it was stated in the literature of the Measure L. The Committee asked if everyone agreed. Mr. Eierman indicated that if revenues go up and there is Measure L money it should always go to the streets and or police. I can't imagine that the streets in the city don't need to be fixed in some sort of manner.

Mr. Lemieux says that he will see the interim reports and if he feels that there is a problem with what the Measure L committee is looking at budgetary wise, he will just let them know and work with them to see if there will be a solution for how to get the information.

Citizens Comments

Barbara Auld – presented to the voters that Measure L money could be used for other city services.

Al Huey – not what the council promised the citizen. What I want to hear from the committee is where the money was spent. Promised Measure L to streets and police.

Mr. Lemieux – the committee is in a unique situation and that you have to interpret, just like a judge would do, what did the voters decide when the measure was pass. Please look at the 1) language 2) supplemental materials and 3) what the City Council Members said. These written materials should be your guiding factors.

Al Huey – discussed the difference between the general tax and specific tax. And this resolution that they are going to present to the City Council should help with how the public will perceive the Measure L money and how it will be spent. It will be right there.

Jerry Taylor – a Special City Council Meeting at the Kerr McGee Center was presented on November 7, 2011 regarding the Measure L. This would be good information.

Mike Neel –that the citizen of Ridgecrest have paid this tax and they expect the for the Measure L funds to be used properly.

Paul Vanderwerf - business cycle - need to collect data and analysis data and will not be a proper scope.

B. Draft Resolution of Baseline with Measure L Supplement

Mr. Lemieux gave Mr. Petersen some guidance on how to find tune the resolution. Mr. Petersen will make those changes and get them to the secretary for the February 25, 2013 meeting for a vote of the members.

PUBLIC COMMENT OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Quarterly report so that they have

Katy Nazak - Issue with the mayor letter has this been resolved. Chair stated that we sent the letter and asked the mayor to join us at our regularly scheduled meetings.

Paul VanderWerf – business cycle number cannot be reasonable coming out so close to the financial reporting date. Not matching up with your numbers or giving yourself enough time.

Jerry Taylor – midyear financial report came out yesterday at the City Organization Meeting. I would recommend that the Committee try and get a copy to take a look at this.

Mr. Eierman – At the last meeting a draft letter was presented to the mayor. This has been signed by all the members of the committee and sent to the Mayor.

Committee Members: yes it has been signed and delivered to the mayor. Can you have that letter placed in the agenda packet for next week so that the public can see the entire letter that went to the mayor? The Committee agreed to place it in the agenda packet as an information item only.

CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Mr. Anderson – supporting documentation for the Letter to the mayor. We will have available to the committee.

Mr. Petersen– working on the preliminary report. Received information from Mr. Andersen and Mr. Salvatore and waiting from Mr. Thomas and Mr. Garver. I will have a draft to Ms. Harker to the agenda packet next week.

Mr. Garver –

Chair – thanked the public for coming.

STAFF COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 5:40



Eddie Thomas, Chair

Karen Harker, Secretary