



Observer Reporting Form

Feature Evaluated	Yes	No	Comments
Meeting started on time?	X		
All members present?		X	Council Member Chris Woodhull absent
Members attentive?	X		
Did members appear to have done their "homework?"	X		Budget Hearings
Were members courteous to each other and the public?	X		
Agenda sent/posted 72 hours before?	X		
Agenda items clearly described what was to be discussed?	X		
Adequate opportunity for public input?	X		
Was there an appearance that some action items were discussed in closed rather than open session?		X	Open Discussion Meetings including a Sunshine Dinner to discuss Budget & Funding "Mercer" Plan
Was background information available to the public?	X		
Facilities adequate? (room size, lighting, ventilation, speakers audible, accessible to handicapped)	X		

There was lengthy debate with public input related to fully funding the third and last year of the "Mercer" Plan (plan to bring city employees' salaries in line with public workers in other cities). Bob Becker's motion to use rainy day funds to provide the \$1 million needed and Marilyn Roddy's motion to use funding from proposed budget's capital improvements, both failed. Mayor Haslam declined to vote in favor of either motion to break the 4/4 tie votes. Duane Grieve, Nick Della Volpe & Mayor Haslam reiterated that given the economic climate and reduced revenue, the proposed city budget is good and fair giving all city employees a 2.5% raise, no layoffs and funding 50 to 68% of the plan. Della Volpe suggested that the Council look at revenues in Jan. to see if fully funding the "Mercer" Plan would be plausible at that time. Pavlis and Becker showed unwavering support in fully funding the "Mercer Plan" stating that the Council has been prudent in the past and now is the time to use the well funded rainy day fund. Council passed the 2010/11 Budget with 6-2 vote.

Were any issues on the agenda relevant to LWV positions or programs? Council approved on first-reading the East County Sector Plans. Residents opposing the plan stated that it would promote urban sprawl. Some residents expressed opposition to County plan to build the Midway Business Park and strongly feel what happens in one section of the city or county affects the other.

Do you recommend League action on any of these issues? No, but observers need to continue to be aware of land use issues that may arise in city and county public meetings.

Observer: Barbara Nicodemus Meeting: Knoxville City Council Date: June 1, 2010