



## **General Government & Social Services**

November 1, 2016

### **Summary and Motions**

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Chair Lamb called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. Committee members Evans, Akers, Bledsoe, J. Brown, F. Brown, Gibbs, Henson, Moloney and Scutchfield were present. Vice Mayor Kay and Council Member Plomin were also in attendance.

#### **I. Approval of Committee Summary**

A motion was made by F. Brown to approve the September 13, 2016 General Government & Social Services Committee Summary, seconded by Moloney. The motion passed without dissent.

#### **II. Review of Ethics Ordinance**

Evans presented a verbal update regarding proposed amendments to the Ethics Ordinance. She stated that the Ethics Commission has reviewed the proposed ordinance language, and she will be meeting with them to obtain additional input. This item will be ready to move forward during the next regularly scheduled Committee meeting in February 2017.

No further comment or action was taken on this item.

#### **III. Parks & Recreation – Catering & Food Service Function Audit**

Henson introduced Monica Conrad, Director of Parks & Recreation, who presented a management action plan in response to the subject audit. Immediate measures taken include: discontinuation of concession services; associated personnel actions; implementation of additional training; development of written procedures; implementation of random audits; and coordination with Revenue, Law, and Purchasing.

F. Brown commented that the audit was excellent and he commended the Parks Division.

Akers commended the Division of Parks for immediately stopping concessions when they discovered problems.

Henson thanked Monica for her hard work in addressing these issues. Henson asked Commissioner Reed to comment on other programs that require cash handling. Reed responded that cash handling for larger events continues to function well.

CAO Hamilton spoke regarding cash handling in other divisions, and stated that the primary

issue is that cash or checks are held too long before deposit. She added that the administration is ensuring that more than one person is involved in transactions.

Lamb asked about two positions at the distribution center. Conrad said one position is vacant, but they have not determined if the position will be filled. Conrad stated that the other position remains filled, and that position is responsible for the storage and distribution of athletic equipment.

Lamb commented regarding cost savings related to contracting out food service and events, and spoke positively about concessions contracts. Conrad said they signed a new agreement that will come before Council in 2017.

No further comment or action was taken on this item.

#### **IV. Adult & Tenant Services Audit**

Lamb introduced Chris Ford, Commissioner of Social Services who presented the item. Ford gave an update on the Adult and Tenant Services Audit. The audit reviewed the period January 1, 2013 through November 1, 2015, and addressed some deficiencies in organizational infrastructure and programmatic accountability. Ford reviewed the corrective actions for accountability and infrastructure.

Kay asked about the organizational chart included in the presentation, and Ford explained the coordinator's primary roles. Kay asked for further clarification, and stated that the organizational chart is difficult to understand in its current form.

F. Brown asked if any changes were made to the organizational chart after the audit. Ford stated that changes were made, and he discussed reclassifications and a lateral transfer that took place with additional duties that had been assumed by these employees. F. Brown asked if there are cash activities involved, and Ford explained cash handling within the EFA program, which provides assistance for rental support and utilities. Ford stated that the repayment component of the program has been removed, and there is no longer a direct cash handling component of the program.

Henson asked if the majority of the audit addressed issues with efficiency. Ford stated that the audit did make recommendations regarding program efficiency, which was also reflected in the previous audit. Henson stated that the program staff are very reliable, and stated that they are the first people she calls when needed. She said they do excellent work and they care about the people they serve.

Akers asked if there will be additional follow up to the Committee or public regarding responses to recommendations in the audit. Ford responded that those responses are in the audit that was published in March.

Lamb expressed appreciation to the division for the work being done and for the positive changes. She asked if Ford was having regular meetings with staff to obtain feedback. Ford responded that the changes they have made have had input from staff, and he will continue to involve staff in implementation of the changes.

No further comment or action was taken on this item.

## **V. Security Cameras in Parks**

Fred Brown introduced Dean Marcum, who presented the item. Marcum discussed the current security cameras in place at Parks and Recreation locations. He reviewed the advantages and disadvantages of installing security cameras, and stated that the pilot project for Berry Hill Park will consist of four high resolution 5MP cameras and a DVR. Marcum reviewed the installation requirements and costs related to that project.

J. Brown stated that cameras will not address all issues and concerns, but will be a tool for law enforcement to use to help prevent incidences in parks. He asked if the camera resolution would be sufficient for the cameras to be useful to law enforcement. Marcum stated that the cameras will generate identifiable pictures. J. Brown asked if the cameras will be capable of night vision, and Marcum responded that he was not sure if enough ambient light would be present, but stated that there may be other options that would provide night vision. J. Brown also asked about protection for cameras. Marcum responded that the cameras are installed in a vandal proof enclosure. J Brown asked about the costs, and Marcum clarified that the \$30,000 includes cameras and installation.

Akers asked if \$30,000 was per camera and Marcum stated that the cost was for all four cameras, including installation. Akers asked if this park was chosen based on crime data. Marcum said Chief Barnard and the Parks Division chose the park as a pilot project based on data.

Evans stated that this may not be the most cost-effective way of dealing with kids in the park after dark, and brought up potential Constitutional issues with installing surveillance. She asked Council to reconsider for this reason. She stated that we need to identify the real issues before spending money on cameras. She added that she is not favor of this. She encouraged Council to get neighborhood buy-in before moving forward with this.

Bledsoe asked if they looked at displacement of crime, and Marcum responded that this is a possibility. Bledsoe asked if placing police officers in parks is a more effective solution. Chief Barnard said they put officers in Parks to create greater visibility and to engage the community. In response to a question from Bledsoe, Conrad stated that Berry Hill Park is not an opportunity park.

Moloney asked Conrad if most parks are closed after dark. Conrad said yes, except Woodland, Thoroughbred, and Phoenix parks unless there is a special event. Moloney said police presence has more of an effect than cameras. Moloney stated that the \$30,000 could be used for overtime, and that he does not support moving forward with this item.

Henson asked if there would be signs in the park stating that cameras have been installed. Marcum responded that signage can be installed, but that the cameras will not always be actively monitored. Henson asked if they looked into installing non-permanent, non-fixed cameras. Marcum said he did not look at that. He said that the infrastructure requirements for temporary cameras would not be cost effective.

Plomin said she feels like the cameras would deter crime and she supports this. She asked how many park related crimes happen in our community in a year and what percentage happen after the park is closed. Barnard responded that they did not bring this information with them, but it can be provided.

Lamb asked about private properties shown on the installation map, and stated her concern that the cameras may record beyond public property. Marcum stated that he has not looked into this. Lamb asked what distance the cameras record, and Marcum responded that the vendor provides basic coverage information. Lamb urged a comprehensive review of criminal activity pre and post camera install for comparison purposes.

A motion was made by F. Brown to move the Security Cameras in Parks item forward to the full Council for consideration, including a pilot program at Berry Hill Park (contingent on funding), seconded by Gibbs. The motion passed on an 8-1 vote (Lamb, F. Brown, J. Brown, Scutchfield, Akers, Gibbs, Bledsoe, Henson- Yes; Evans -No) (Moloney was absent for the vote).

A motion was made by Evans to amend the motion to remove Berry Hill Park as the location of the pilot program. The motion failed for lack of a second.

A motion was made by Moloney to amend the motion to provide for mobility of installed cameras, seconded by Henson. The motion failed by a vote of 3-7 (Lamb, Henson, Moloney – Yes; F. Brown, J. Brown, Scutchfield, Akers, Evans, Gibbs, Bledsoe - No).

## **VI. Items in Committee**

A motion was made by Evans to approve the Parks and Recreation Audit item from Committee, seconded by F Brown. The motion passed without dissent.

A motion was made by F Brown to remove the Security Cameras in Parks item from Committee, seconded by Akers. The motion passed without dissent.

A motion was made by Akers to remove the Autonomous Cars item from Committee, seconded by F. Brown. The motion passed without dissent.

A motion was made by Bledsoe to adjourn, seconded by Akers. The motion passed without dissent.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.