



AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 7, 2007

DEPARTMENT: CITY MANAGER
DIRECTOR: DOUGLAS A. SELBY

Consent Discussion

SUBJECT:
ADMINISTRATIVE:

Discussion and possible action on requesting the Nevada State Legislature to amend the City Charter to address issues related to the municipal court, affordable housing and other related matters.

Fiscal Impact

No Impact

Augmentation Required

Budget Funds Available

Amount:

Funding Source:

Dept./Division:

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND:

The suggested changes to the City Charter include:

- 1) An amendment to Article 4 of the City Charter to enable the Court to appoint and utilize Traffic Hearing Masters.
- 2) An amendment to Article 4 of the City Charter to enable the Court to appoint a master judge.
- 3) An amendment which allows for the creation of a salary commission to make recommendations to the Mayor and Council on appropriate salaries for the Mayor and Council.
- 4) An amendment allowing the City to acquire and construct affordable housing.
- 5) Additional amendments as needed.

The City Manager's office will be working with legislators to sponsor the requested changes.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve asking the Nevada State Legislature to amend the City Charter.

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

Agenda Memo

Motion made by GARY REESE to Approve

Passed For: 6; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 1; Excused: 0

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LOIS TARKANIAN, LAWRENCE WEEKLY, LARRY BROWN, OSCAR B. GOODMAN, GARY REESE, STEVEN D. ROSS; (Against-None); (Abstain-None); (Did Not Vote-STEVE WOLFSON); (Excused-None)

Minutes:

DEPUTY CITY MANAGER FRETWELL detailed the amendments being sought to the City Charter, as outlined under the Purpose/Background section. She remarked that the Charter has not been opened up for a long time. Moreover, staff would come back with briefings before any Bill Draft Request is drafted and a sponsor will have to be found.

COUNCILMAN ROSS asked if the addition of a traffic master would result in a revenue increase, to which DEPUTY CITY MANAGER FRETWELL indicated that it would allow for a more consistent revenue base and will create efficiencies in the court system.

COUNCILMAN WOLFSON confirmed with DEPUTY CITY MANAGER FRETWELL that this is only enabling legislation and then questioned the timeframe for the amendments to take effect. DEPUTY CITY MANAGER FRETWELL answered that the effective date would probably be October 1, 2007; however, staff could research an implementation date of July 1, 2007. COUNCILMAN WOLFSON stated he would like more information on what other jurisdictions are doing in this regard. DEPUTY CITY MANAGER FRETWELL said she would be happy to provide him with comparative data.

MAYOR GOODMAN requested DEPUTY CITY MANAGER FRETWELL work closely with CHIEF KAREN COYNE, Detention and Enforcement, regarding enabling legislation for the employment and training programs through the E.O. 13758 program, with special emphasis on being able to monitor the homeless in the system. Tracking them will better enable service providers to assist them in making a successful transition back into society. DEPUTY CITY MANAGER FRETWELL noted that there might be bills considered during this legislative session that will authorize home rule, which is something greatly needed in order to keep up with the difficulties and challenges of a growing community.