



AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF JANUARY 16, 2008

DEPARTMENT: CITY ATTORNEY
DIRECTOR: BRADFORD R. JERBIC

Consent Discussion

SUBJECT: **RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE: ELIGIBLE FOR ADOPTION AT THIS MEETING**

Bill No. 2007-77 Amplements Section 4.020 of the City Charter relative to the appointment of certain hearing commissioners. Sponsored by: Councilman Steve Wolfson

Fiscal Impact

- No Impact Augmentation Required
 Budget Funds Available

Amount:
Funding Source:
Dept./Division:

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND:

During the 2007 Session, the Nevada Legislature amended the City Charter to allow the City to appoint hearing commissioners to hear certain kinds of matters. This bill will implement the new provision by establishing the framework for the recruitment and appointment of one or more commissioners, who will be assigned to hear traffic matters. Items regarding the appointment of any commissioner and the approval of the related funding will come back to the Council for separate approval.

RECOMMENDATION:

ADOPTION at 2/6/2008 City Council meeting pursuant to the 1/15/2008 Recommending Committee

First Reading 12/19/2007; First Publication 1/4/2008

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

1. Bill No. 2007-77
2. Business Impact Statement

Motion made by LOIS TARKANIAN to Approve

Passed For: 7; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 0
RICKI Y. BARLOW, LOIS TARKANIAN, LARRY BROWN, OSCAR B. GOODMAN,
GARY REESE, STEVE WOLFSON, STEVEN D. ROSS; (Against-None); (Abstain-None);
(Did Not Vote-None); (Excused-None)

Minutes:

Second reading and bill adopted as recommended as Ordinance No. 5962. Clerk to proceed with second publication.

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MAYOR GOODMAN also read related Items 50 and 51.

JAMES CARMANY, Municipal Court Administrator, requested permission to implement the traffic commissioner program, which will result in an increase in fines and fees that will exceed the cost of the program by about \$300,000 a year. The additional monies will go to General Fund. Efficiencies in collection of fines and fees will result from having a traffic commissioner to focus exclusively on traffic related matters. There will also be an improvement of services to the citizens and an increased judicial focus on other criminal matters.

COUNCILMAN WOLFSON thanked MR. CARMANY and DEPUTY CITY MANAGER FRETWELL for their hard work in getting Legislative approval. This is an excellent bill, and he is looking forward in a year's time to see how the program's revenue has paid for itself.

He then asked for the percentage of people who come before the Municipal Courts that are minorities, to which MR. CARMANY replied that, of those that come to the counter, about 10 percent require assistance in Spanish per day. The Court is spending \$295,000 for interpreters in the court rooms and will be requesting a 20 percent increase for next year. It is expected that about \$45,000 will have to be added for interpreters in the traffic commissioner's court room.

COUNCILMAN BROWN asked if Municipal Court is responsible for the cost of interpreters and if this service is mandated by statute. MR. CARMANY answered that full-time interpreters are not hired, but Municipal Court contracts with and provides court interpreters that are certified through the State Supreme Court.

