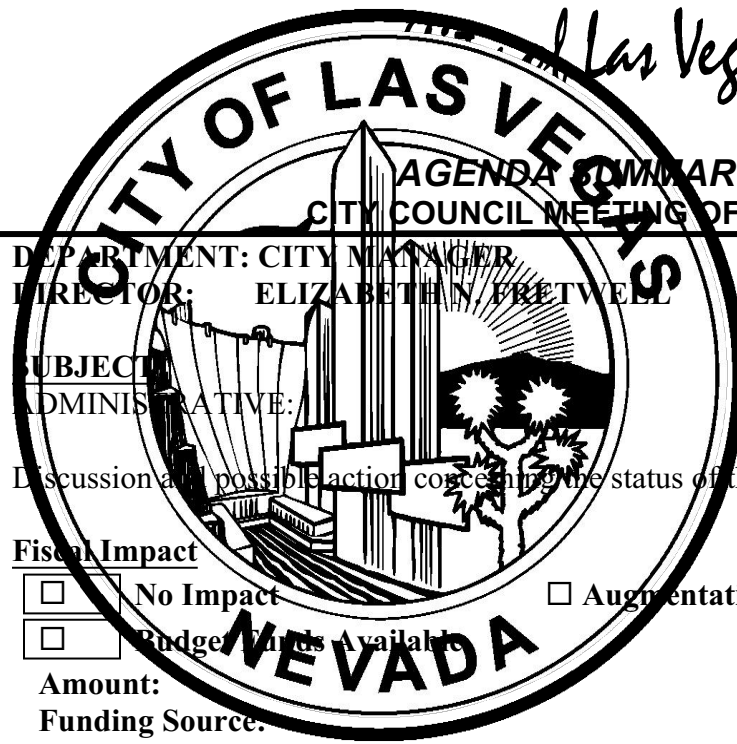




Agenda Item No.: 59.

DEPARTMENT: CITY MANAGER
DIRECTOR: ELIZABETH N. FRETWELL

☐ Consent ☒ Discussion

SUBJECT:
ADMINISTRATIVE:

Discussion and possible action concerning the status of the 2009 legislative issues

Fiscal Impact

☐

No Impact

☐ Augmentation Required

☐

Budget Funds Available

Amount:

Funding Source:

Dept./Division:

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND:

Staff will report on pending legislation of the 2009 Nevada State Legislature.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council accept the report and direct staff if necessary.

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

None

Motion made by GARY REESE to Approve to Accept the report

Passed For: 4; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 3

RICKI Y. BARLOW, STEVE WOLFSON, OSCAR B. GOODMAN, GARY REESE; (Against-None); (Abstain-None); (Did Not Vote-None); (Excused-LOIS TARKANIAN, STEVEN D. ROSS, DAVID W. STEINMAN)

Minutes:

CHRIS KNIGHT, Director of Building and Safety, stated the 2009 Legislative Session will end on June 1, 2009. Assembly Bill (AB) 48 which deals with settling construction contract disputes through means other than arbitration was signed by GOVERNOR JIM GIBBONS on May 19, 2009.

Budget issues are the focus for the remainder of the session with June 1 as the deadline for completion of the State budget. The City's legislative team would remain in Carson City over the Memorial Day weekend to protect the City's interests. Senate Tax Committee was currently working on a budget bill that included a payroll tax, a motor vehicle tax and a business license tax. Negotiations and discussion continues on several issues including reforms to the Public Employee Benefit (PEB), the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) and collective bargaining.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: MAY 20, 2009

Bills that would impact the City's revenue streams were also being monitored. AB 304 pertained to the funding and reopening of F Street. AB 458 would provide money for education from the City's Redevelopment Agency bill. AB 552 would increase the State's administrative fee for the Consolidated Tax, decreasing the City's share. AB 521 would reduce the eligibility period for workers compensation for police and firefighters from five years to two years. AB 173 also pertained to workers compensation and the presumptive benefit for police and firefighters.

Other bills of interest include AB 86, which addresses issues with sewer laterals, is moving forward. AB 478 would consolidate the housing authorities in Clark County and is moving forward. AB 130 would affect the Metropolitan Police Committee on Fiscal Affairs and included an amendment which would remove the City and Clark County from contract negotiations with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department. The City's team continues to work on removal of that amendment.

MAYOR GOODMAN expressed the Council's willingness to testify or appear in Carson City on behalf of the City's interests. CITY MANAGER ELIZABETH FRETWELL thanked the Council for their active participation, noting they had been instrumental in mitigating potentially damaging impacts from the Legislature's actions.

MR. KNIGHT stated that the City's team is very concerned about AB 130, but was confident the amendment could be defeated. He noted that SHERIFF DOUG GILLIESPIE supports the City's position. COUNCILMAN REESE stated that the current system for negotiation works and should remain unchanged. MAYOR GOODMAN noted that the bulk of the City's expenditures is on public safety and the City should have input on contract negotiations due to the amount of money contributed by the City.

COUNCILMAN WOLFSON requested a debriefing at the close of the Legislative Session, particularly a comparison of the results from paid and internal lobbyists. CITY MANAGER FRETWELL stated a detailed report and debriefing would be provided to the Council at the end of the session in an effort to share and record as much information as possible.

COUNCILMAN BARLOW thanked the Council and STATE SENATOR STEVEN HORSFORD for their involvement and support on AB 304, noting that reopening F Street is very important to the citizens of Ward 5.

MEETING RECESSED FROM 10:22 A.M. to 10:27 A.M.