

LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
February 24, 2011

The Local Option Sales Tax Oversight Committee met on February 24, 2011 in the north conference room of City Hall.

Members present: Gary Ficken, Beverly Dittmar, Linda Seger, Lisa Kuzela, Doug Wagner, Sandra Skelton
Jeff Palmer

Members absent: Steve Hammes, Elizabeth Hladky

City Staff Present: Chuck Wieneke, Brittany Berger, Casey Drew, Paula Mitchell, Sandi Fowler

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

Minutes from 2/3/11 Meeting: The minutes had been previously e-mailed to the members, but copies were handed out for review. A motion was made to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and carried. A comment was made to add information to future minutes on who voted for or against certain programs.

LOST for SFNC Gaps: Paula Mitchell described that the LOST for SFNC Program provides extra assistance to homeowners to close on houses. People in this program are signed up for both voluntary property acquisition and single family new construction. Six homeowners fall into this category and so far only 1 has closed. The committee voted as to whether LOST for SFNC Gaps meets the ballot language. All six members present at the time of the vote voted in favor of the program. The members included: Gary Ficken, Beverly Dittmar, Linda Seger, Lisa Kuzela, Jeff Palmer, and Sandra Skelton.

Interim Mortgage Assistance Extension: Paula Mitchell stated this program was implemented in fall 2008 through Jumpstart Housing to assist homeowners with mortgage payments in the interim until they close on their buy-out transaction. The homeowners need to be showing progress and taking steps towards property acquisition. The committee voted as to whether Interim Mortgage Assistance Extension meets the ballot language. All six members present at the time of the vote voted in favor of the program. The members included: Gary Ficken, Beverly Dittmar, Linda Seger, Lisa Kuzela, Jeff Palmer, and Sandra Skelton.

Council Update: Chuck stated Council had not taken any votes regarding LOST funds or has discussions regarding LOST since the last LOST Oversight Committee meeting. Sandi Fowler mentioned a Council flood recovery committee was formed that will preview LOST items before they go to Council. Council members on the committee include Don Karr, Chuck Wieneke, and Justin Shields.

LOST Matrix: Casey wanted to clarify how follow-ups to questions asked at meetings are handled. He stated that questions asked at a meeting are written down and responses are provided at the next meeting. The committee agreed with this process. Casey also clarified why the library property acquisition has not yet hit the LOST fund. He stated they are in the process of asking council to make changes to clarify the resolution passed and have other checks and balances to make before the money will be transferred from LOST to cover a portion of the library property acquisition. The expense goes to the flood fund and once reviewed, money gets transferred from the individual funds (i.e. LOST fund).

An updated LOST Matrix was handed out to members. Updates made to the matrix are as follows:

1. the anticipated FY11 expenditures column on the Matrix was updated
2. the estimated column under funding on the Matrix was updated
3. a column was added for Targeted End Dates for programs

Lisa asked that the specific acquisitions be identified under 3c on the Matrix (Land Acquisition for Flood Recovery Projects). Lisa also wondered if council votes to get excess funds deobligated when a program ends. Chuck stated that the targeted end dates for programs are when registration closes. People in the program may not be completely closed out so funds won't be deobligated until all people in the program are closed out.

Gary asked about what dislocation assistance is from the last month's financials. ProSource said it represents moving expenses that are offered as assistance to homeowners. An updated program descriptions document matching the most up-to-date Matrix was provided to the committee.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Thursday, March 24th in the usual meeting room at 6:00.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:

Brittany Berger, City liaison to LOST Committee