



Ways and Means Committee

Wednesday, October 4, 2017

4:00 P.M.

Council Chambers

Attendance:

Mayor, Sam Lee.

Councilman, John Mahony

City Administrator, Shawn Bell

Attorney, David Holmes

Finance Director, Naomi Reed

City Clerk, Sandra Woods

Visitors: 0

Councilman, John Mahony called the meeting to order.

Hospitality Tax Collection Process

John Mahony stated that he felt the Hospitality Tax collections should fall under the Finance Department. He felt that the Public Works Department was over loaded and it would take some of the burden off of them.

Mayor Lee agreed and also stated that he would like to also transfer business licenses and building permits collections to the finance department as well.

Shawn Bell commented that he would like to work with an outside firm to help identify businesses that are not paying a business license tax. He feels we can improve our revenue stream greatly.

The Committee asked City Administrator, Shawn Bell and Finance Director, Naomi Reed to review the collection process and report back to the committee Wednesday, November 8th at 4pm. The Committee would like to present a resolution to Council requesting the change of process at the November 9th Council meeting.

Additional Business License Revenue Allocation

Mayor Lee stated that we are expecting additional business license revenue around \$155K due to the business license rate increase. He mentioned several areas that could benefit from the increase...offset the Laurens County Fire Fee and the Woodside Park Project.

Naomi Reed explained that there have been additional expenses this budget year and that additional revenue will not be received until April 2018. She recommended waiting to see where the budget stands at the time and let the additional revenue go toward increasing our fund balance.

Shawn Bell also recommended to let the additional revenue increase fund balance.

Motion by Sam Lee, second by John Mahony to adjourn the meeting at 4:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
City Clerk, Sandra Woods