

MINUTES

**Eugene City Council
Harris Hall, 125 East 8th Avenue
Eugene, Oregon 97401**

**February 4, 2013
5:30 PM**

Councilors Present: George Brown, Betty Taylor, George Poling, Mike Clark, Greg Evans, Chris Pryor, Claire Syrett, Councilor Zelenka arrived at 6:43 p.m.

Her Honor, Mayor Piercy called the February 4, 2013, work session of the Eugene City Council to order.

WORK SESSION: Stormwater and Parks Service Fee Ordinance

City Manager presented a power point presentation recapping the Proposed Stormwater Fee and reviewed what's been done to date to close the budget gap. City Attorney spoke about the potential language elements of the Ordinance and reminded Councilors that any item placed on the May ballot must be voted on by Council no later than February 13, 2013. Councilor Poling, seconded by Councilor Pryor moved to adopt Council Bill No. 5088, an ordinance creating a mechanism for a monthly stormwater and parks service fee, and limiting Council's establishment of a specific fee amount until the FY 14 budget approval process. In discussion, Councilors struggled over several issues and concerns related to this topic.

Discussion Points/Concerns:

- The need to give voters the opportunity to vote their preference – to keep City services or say no and cut programs
- These are tough financial times, some can afford the fee while others cannot
- The service fee alone wouldn't close the whole funding gap, we'd need 2 funding sources – levy + fee
- A levy for the entire gap amount might be the better way to go
- What would we do if the levy was for the entire gap amount....and it failed?
- We shouldn't put all our eggs in one basket – 2 funding options is a better way to go
- The levy option will be competing on the May ballot with so many other measures – County jail, Schools, etc.
- Seek input from Budget Committee members before making any decisions

MOTION AND VOTE: George Brown, seconded by Chris Pryor moved to table stormwater and parks service fee conversation. PASSES 4:3, Councilors Poling, Clark and Evans opposed.

ADJOURNED: The meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Mortensen
Deputy City Recorder

