

## LEGAL, LEGISLATIVE AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

MAY 29, 2012

3:40 P.M.

Councilman Murphy, Chairman, called the meeting of the Legal, Legislative and Safety Committee to order with Councilpersons Ladd, Rico, Benson, Scott, Robinson, McGary, Gilbert and Berz present. City Attorney Phil Noblett; Management Analyst Randy Burns; and Shirley Crownover, Assistant Clerk to the Council, were also present.

Others present included Dan Johnson, Bryan Shults, David Johnson, Chief Parker, Johnny Feagans, Danny Thornton, Frank Hamilton, Larry Zehnder, Vickie Haley, Daisy Madison and Nina Ventra. Donna Kelley joined the meeting later.

**On motion of Councilman McGary, seconded by Councilman Gilbert, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.**

Chairman Murphy called on David Johnson to go over **Resolution (f)**, regarding a Justice Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program Competitive Grant to provide neighborhood revitalization programming for an amount not to exceed \$1 million dollars. Mr. Johnson stated that this was for a three year period and was a non-matching grant; that it would be used to deliver creative services, specifically neighborhoods targeted by the Gang Task Force. He noted that the assessment was to be completed in August of this year and a report to follow in September—that the goal was to use the evidence based on the Gang Task Force Assessment to plan—that this was a vehicle for neighborhood revitalization in three phases. The first was for ages 8-12 for tutoring and mentoring kids prior to gang involvement; the second was for ages 13-17 and would be vocational training for teens; and the third age group was 18+. It will take 36 months to plan and implement the program along with the Gang Task Force.

Councilwoman Scott wanted to know how this would be evaluated? Mr. Johnson responded that they would be using the Ochs Center and ask them to do a report.

Councilman McGary asked about the plans for sustainability? Mr. Johnson responded that he could not answer this; that he could only speak to what was within his knowledge—that he did not know the answer to this.

Chairman Murphy read **Resolution (o)** on next week's agenda that authorizes the Mayor to apply for a Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant from the Department of Justice to provide funds for a dedicated gang intelligence officer to work with the City and County law enforcement and prosecutors in the amount of \$300,000.00. Councilwoman Scott wanted to know if this would be an Intelligence Officer within the Police Department? Ms. Ventra responded that it would be a Certified Law Enforcement Officer.

Councilwoman Scott asked if it would be a brand new person? Ms. Ventra responded that it would not be in our area of Law Enforcement Agency; that this person would ensure that all have the same information every day with no lack of communication; that it would be a central person with responsibility.

Councilwoman Berz asked if this person would be housed in the Police Department? Ms. Ventra responded that this would be up to Mr. Patterson, the Sheriff, and the Chief of Police—that mostly likely they would be housed there.

Councilman McGary asked Ms. Ventra the goal of this department; that he thought the decision making would come after the assessment—that he was trying to piece the dots together. Ms. Ventra mentioned two cycles in the grant world—that one is in the spring time and the other October 1<sup>st</sup>; that if we don't do this now, it could be one to two years before the opportunity comes again—that we need to take advantage now, or it might be gone. Councilman McGary stated that his question, specifically, was how they looked at the need for this person—if the Gang Task Force already had data to show the need for this. He wanted to know what data was used to show we need this person? Ms. Ventra responded that that question would have to be answered by Boyd Patterson—that he would be better equipped to answer this question.

Chairman Murphy asked Donna Kelley if she would like to say anything?

Ms. Kelley spoke to **Resolution (f)** on next week's agenda that authorizes an agreement with Morris & McDaniel, Inc. for the development and administration of exams for promotional testing for positions within the Police Dept. for an amount not to exceed \$133,828.00. She stated that we do this periodically; that this company develops the process, and this firm has served us well; that RFP's were put out, and they were the only one who responded to this.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 P.M.