

#1-C0187-21

Government Operations, Public Safety & Public Service Committee
October 4, 2021

The Committee on Government Operations, Public Safety & Public Service met on Monday, October 4, 2021 at 6pm in the City Council Chambers.

The meeting was recorded by ECTV and can be viewed on the City of Everett website.

Members present were Councilor Stephanie Martins, presiding and Councilors Michael Mclaughlin, Jimmy Tri Le and Richard Dell Isola

The Committee considered a Resolution offered by Councilor Michael Mclaughlin: That under Section 9-14 of the City Charter, that the City Council recognizes that the Mayor violated Section 6-5 of the City Charter by not filing the CIP budget 120 days before next fiscal year.

Mayor's Chief of Staff Erin Deveney and City Solicitor Colleen Mejia were also present.

The Committee was informed that Chief Financial Officer Eric Demas was unable to attend due to illness. Councilor Mclaughlin requested further time until the November committee meeting.

The Committee voted: to grant further time.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley
Clerk of Committees

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CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
EVERETT, WA

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Members present were Councilor Stephanie Martins, presiding and Councilors Michael McLaughlin, Jimmy Tri Le and Richard Dell Isola

The Committee considered a Resolution offered by Councilor Fred Capone: That the Administration address what steps the city has taken since notices of the Attorney General's suit filed in Suffolk Superior Court against a city hired contractor for alleged illegal and unsafe asbestos work on Everett Streets and protocol for overseeing contractor work to ensure that proper safeguards are in place to protect the health and safety of our residents.

Mayor's Chief of Staff Erin Deveney, City Solicitor Colleen Mejia, Procurement Officer Rob Moreschi, Director of Health Sabrina Firicano and Councilor Fred Capone, the Sponsor were also present.

Councilor Capone asked the invited guests when was the first time the City was notified of the 2018 asbestos incident. Solicitor Mejia responded that an anonymous call was made to DEP and a DEP Inspector informed the former City DPW Director on May 17, 2018 of the incident. Councilor Capone asked what steps were taken by the City at that time and Solicitor Mejia replied that the DPW Director followed the directive of the DEP Inspector and issued a stop work order for that location, contaminated pipes were removed and an air quality measurement was taken. Councilor Capone asked when the test was taken and Ms. Firicano noted that the air quality test was taken on May 31, 2018 and that no further action was needed. Councilor Capone asked if the City knew that the pipes contained asbestos and Mr. Moreschi informed him that the city was aware that the work included the removal of 1000 feet of asbestos pipe. Councilor Capone referenced the Attorney General's document which stated that the appropriate removal of the asbestos was not followed by the contractor. Councilor Capone remarked that his focus was on the City involvement and who knew, what was the response and was there anyone overseeing this project. Solicitor Mejia explained that the City had a licensed site professional working with the contractor on this project and Mr. Moreschi confirmed. Councilor Capone asked if the City had any similar contracts for the removal of asbestos pipes and Mr. Moreschi noted that City has had none since that incident. Councilor Capone asked if the City has a formal plan for hazardous oversight and Solicitor Mejia responded that they rely on the Engineering firms expertise. Councilor Capone expressed concern about the asbestos debris being uncovered an airborne and that the air quality test was done 2 weeks afterward and wanted to know if any other study was done. Ms. Firicano referenced the testing done by DEP and based on results no further action was taken. Councilor Capone expressed further concerns that the allegations against the contractor were pretty significant and wondered why City government was involved or informed. Solicitor Mejia explained that the City relied on DEP to investigate and that Attorney General had mentioned not to speak of it. Councilor Capone asked if the AG's remark was verbal or written and Solicitor Mejia believed it was in writing. Councilor Capone asked if he could get a copy of the bid package and Mr. Moreschi noted that he had

already provided to the City Council Legislative Aide Mike Mangan but wanted everyone to know that it was more than 600 pages. Councilor Dell Isola concurred that the Ward Councilors should have been informed and noted that the AG complaint did not say that the contractor wasn't qualified to do the work. Mr. Moreschi acknowledged that the engineer would have noted qualifications. Chairperson Martins asked if the City would be held liable and Solicitor Mejia explained that the City was not named in complaint since the City hires a company to oversee the project and report to the DPW Director with daily updates and weekly meetings. Councilor Capone requested that he be provided with the bid package, copy of all emails between the Contractor and former DPW Director, copy of all communications from the Attorney General and any other documents related to this incident.

The Committee voted: to report back to the City Council with No recommendation pending Councilor Capone's receipt of the documents he requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley
Clerk of Committees

#3-C0289-21

Government Operations, Public Safety & Public Service Committee
October 4, 2021

The Committee on Government Operations, Public Safety & Public Service met on Monday, October 4, 2021 at 6pm in the City Council Chambers.

The meeting was recorded by ECTV and can be viewed on the City of Everett website.

Members present were Councilor Stephanie Martins, presiding and Councilors Michael Mclaughlin, Jimmy Tri Le and Richard Dell Isola

The Committee considered a Resolution offered by Councilor Michael Mclaughlin: That Sergeant Gaff appear at this meeting to discuss the possibility of changing parking to the opposite side of the street in which the fire hydrants are located.

Mayor's Chief of Staff Erin Deveney and City Solicitor Colleen Mejia were also present.

Sergeant Gaff was not present so Councilor Mclaughlin requested further time until the December committee meeting.

The Committee voted: to grant further time.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley
Clerk of Committees