

#1 - C0027-25

Ways and Means Committee
February 10, 2025

The Committee on Ways and Means met on Monday, February 10, 2025 at 6:00pm in the City Council Chambers at City Hall.

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

Members present were Councilor Stephanie Smith, presiding; Councilors Anthony DiPierro, John Hanlon and Pietrantonio.

The Committee met on a Resolution offered by Councilor Anthony DiPierro: That the CFO appear before the Committee to discuss the Hero Act; specifically the increased local flexibility for Veteran Tax Exemptions.

Chief Financial Officer Eric Demas was also present.

Councilor DiPierro asked Mr. Demas if this Act was something the City was interested in taking advantage of and Mr. Demas responded that it was noting that 64 Veterans in the City currently receive some type of exemption. Mr. Demas informed the Committee that this item would be on the next Board of Assessors agenda so that they can make a recommendation to the Mayor and City Council. Councilor Pietrantonio asked what the total abatement to date was for the 64 Veterans and Mr. Demas agreed to provide that information but noted that some receive as low as \$400 up to full benefits. Councilor Hanlon inquired to what would happen if these Veterans moved out of the City and Mr. Demas explained that they would have to apply in their new community. Councilor DiPierro asked if they had to be home owner occupied residents and Mr. Demas responded yes.

The Committee voted: to grant further time to the month of April or earlier upon the Board of Assessors action on the matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley
Clerk of Committees

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#2 - C0047-25

Ways and Means Committee
February 10, 2025

The Committee on Ways and Means met on Monday, February 10, 2025 at 6:00pm in the City Council Chambers at City Hall.

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

Members present were Councilor Stephanie Smith, presiding; Councilors Anthony DiPierro, John Hanlon and Pietrantonio.

The Committee met on an Order offered by Councilor Stephanie Martins, as President; An Order requesting approval to appropriate \$25,268.31 from General Fund Budgetary Fund balance to pay prior year departmental bills per the attached list.

Chief Financial Officer Eric Demas was also present.

Councilor Hanlon asked how many departments were involved in the late payment of prior year bills and Mr. Demas responded 2 departments. Mr. Demas explained that this was not a funding issue it was mostly for medical exams performed on new firefighters in which the purchase order process was not adhered to. Mr. Demas explained further that he wasn't sure why the invoices when received weren't paid but mentioned that there was a turnover in the Human Resources Department. Chairperson Smith mentioned that the account was budgeted for \$30,000 so that there should have been a red flag at the end of the fiscal year when the account only showed that \$7,600 had been spent and she remarked that the process is broken if \$150,000 in prior year bills have already been sent to the City Council with the knowledge that additional bills will be forthcoming. Mr. Demas informed the Committee that he has a new Budget Director who will be reinforcing the purchasing policies.

The Committee voted: to report back to the City Council with a recommendation for Favorable action.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley
Clerk of Committees