

APPROVED

Date 1/26/95

Minutes of the Metro Council Work Session
January 10, 1995
Council Chamber

Councilors Present: Ruth McFarland (Presiding Officer), Rod Monroe (Deputy Presiding Officer), Jon Kvistad, Patricia McCaig, Susan McLain, Don Morissette, Ed Washington

Councilors Absent: None

Presiding Officer McFarland called the work session to order at 2 p.m.

1. Introductions

None.

2. Citizen Communications

None.

3. Executive Officer Communications

None.

4. Other Business

4.1 Discussion of Council Procedures

Casey Short, Senior Council Analyst, distributed and summarized four memorandums summarizing several options for Council procedures, copies of which are included in the record of this meeting.

The Council held a work session to develop recommended Council procedures for the conduct of business.

Presiding Officer McFarland discussed process for Council review of MERC Resolutions. The consensus was that the MERC Resolutions would be reviewed at the Tuesday work session following the Wednesday MERC adoption.

In response to Councilor McCaig, Mr. Short discussed options for opportunities for public testimony. In response to Councilor Monroe, Mr. Short noted substantive legislation would be filed early and distributed to the lead and support Councilors to allow opportunity for additional discussion in work session. Councilor Monroe preferred having a regularly scheduled JPACT agenda review. He favored providing an opportunity for lead Councilor review of legislation prior to Council consideration to allow the lead Councilor an opportunity to provide some leadership. Councilor Washington concurred.

The Council discussed a cut-off time for new item consideration. Presiding Officer McFarland favored 5:00 p.m. Councilor Monroe concurred. Councilor McLain preferred 6:00 p.m. Councilor McCaig favored limiting meetings to adjourn at 4:00 p.m. Councilor Monroe noted items with significant interest should be scheduled for the monthly evening meeting. Councilor Morissette favored a goal of maintaining succinct meetings.

Councilor McCaig favored reducing the number of hours spent in meetings, limiting duplication presentations, and making for efficient use of time. Councilor McLain favored version "B" contained in Mr. Short's handouts, copies of which are included in the record of this meeting.

Presiding Officer announced she would support any Councilor's request to schedule any MERC Resolution for additional consideration. Councilor Monroe favored the version "B" including review of MERC Resolutions and Council Resolutions requiring JPACT approval.

Councilor McLain favored cable access coverage of the work sessions. She called for additional education for the public into the informational items if there was no cable coverage.

The Council agreed to a Monday scheduling deadline. The Council agreed to allow consent agenda be scheduled by the Presiding Officer with input from the lead Councilor. The Council agreed to allow substantive discussion of Ordinances at first readings.

Presiding Officer McFarland noted a resolution would be drafted to address the Council procedures further. She noted a memorandum would then be distributed to executive management staff.

In response to Councilor Kvistad and relating to the veto power of the Executive Officer, Dan Cooper, General Counsel, explained veto power had been limited by the Charter. Councilor Kvistad requested background information on Councilor expenses, numeration of the Ordinance pages, and further clarification regarding Boundary Commission appointment expiration dates.

Mr. Short reviewed his understanding: prepare a resolution, filing deadline will be the preceding Monday, ordinance first readings will include initial discussion, work sessions would include informational items, and Presiding Officer in consultation with lead and support Councilors will determine the consent agenda.

5. Councilor Communications

Councilor McCaig requested a briefing on the legislative package. Councilor McLain noted MCCI was discussing recording secretary requirements and communications with the Council. She noted the Future Vision Commission requested Council attendance at the Monday, January 30, 1995 Future Vision Commission meeting. Councilor Kvistad called for extended discussion on issues related to the MCCI. Councilor Morissette noted he was not a lead Councilor and expressed interest in finding solutions to areas with potential need of that interest. Councilors McLain and Washington invited Councilor Morissette to attend their meetings with staff. Mr. Cooper discussed public meeting law requirements.

With no further business before the Council, Presiding Officer adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Prepared by,



Susan Lee
Council Assistant