

URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL

Inter-Governmental Committee

April 14, 2009

CM James called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. All committee members were present. CM Stinnett attended as a non voting member.

I. Construction Apprenticeship Program- James

There were several people representing the building and construction industry who signed up to speak in opposition of the proposed construction apprenticeship program ordinance. Richard Vincent with a commercial construction association stressed opposition saying apprenticeship training programs should be volunteer and is opposed to government intervention. He also mentioned several other trade organizations that were also opposed. Each spoke about disadvantages the ordinance would put on small business and that local builders/contractors do not support 3% bid preference. This could not be leveraged into a competitive bid process. John Weddle, Attorney for a group of local builders talked about 25% provision in the ordinance, saying the majority of the labor force comes from outlying areas and do not live in Fayette Co. . He said these types of programs should not be legislated since it allows preference to businesses that participate.

Larry Hujo, an independent contractor and Jefferson County school board member also spoke to the committee about benefits of adopting this ordinance. He spoke in favor of maintaining training programs, referring to the federal government's recent stimulus bill and it's stance on apprenticeship training. He said this program certifies training has taken place and the community as a whole benefits over the long term. He said it would help to grow a home based workforce.

Myers asked each speaker for specifics on how the ordinance would either benefit or pose a disadvantage to the local construction industry or its workers and how it might effect doing business in other states.

Crosbie asked if anyone from the administration had a comment on the construction apprenticeship program. Brian Marcum, Director of Purchasing was on hand to say he could not comment for the Mayor's Office, but in his experience it would somewhat limit the bid environment.

Motion by Crosbie to disapprove of the proposed construction apprenticeship program ordinance, seconded by Myers, passed without dissent.

2. Oath for Commissions/Boards- Beard

CM Beard told the committee work on oaths for boards and commissions was still on-going. He and CM Feigel were working on details and should have something to present to the committee in a few weeks.

CM Myers made a recommendation to combine both oaths and a similar issue he is working on with the law department. CM Beard asked about legislation behind Myers recommendation and was not in favor of extending the progress of creating oaths for boards and commissions.

Logan Askew said the matter Myers is referring to should be handled separately and not combined as one issue. It is the ethics act financial disclosure committee.

CM James asked the committee for volunteers to serve either with CM Beard and Feigel on the oath committee or CM Myers who chairs the financial disclosure committee.

3. Grievance Procedures - James

CM referred to an email from Logan Askew related to issues surrounding the grievance process. She also talked about some ideas on how to proceed. She referred to the recommendations from the Management Audit suggesting a sub committee to look at Human Resources grievance process.

CM Blues said there is a need to identify problems and look only at the process but does not recommend involvement into specific issues.

CM Beard agreed the council does not need to "get in the middle" of individual employees grievance issues.

CM Feigel cautioned this is a very "slippery slope" and agrees if there is a problem it should certainly be looked at but still feels this issue is of an administrative nature and not council. She said the council should be careful to insure looking at this from a policy level only.

Motion by CM Myers to establish a sub committee to deal with how the grievance process works and its effectiveness, seconded by CM Lawless, who also accepted chair of the sub committee passed without dissent.

4. Update on Committee Items

There was a review of pending items referred to the Intergovernmental Committee and there were no changes to the existing list.

Motion to adjourn by Beard, seconded by Blues, meeting adjourned at 2:10 pm