CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Law called the meeting of the Renton City Council to order at 7:00 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

_Councilmembers Present:
- Ed Prince, Council President
- Randy Corman
- Armondo Pavone
- Ruth Pérez
- Don Persson
- Marcie Palmer
- Greg Taylor

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT

- Denis Law, Mayor
- Jay Covington, Chief Administrative Officer
- Alex Tuttle, Assistant City Attorney
- Megan Gregor, Deputy City Clerk
- Preeti Shridhar, Deputy Public Affairs Administrator
- Iwen Wang, Administrative Services Administrator
- Nancy Carlson, Human Resources / Risk Management Administrator
- Gregg Zimmerman, Public Works Administrator
- Jennifer Henning, Planning Director
- Gary Lamb, Risk Services Manager
- Chaplin Allen Folmar, Police/Fire Chaplin
- Chief Mark Peterson, Fire & Emergency Services Administrator
- Deputy Chief Erik Wallgren, Fire & Emergency Services
- Deputy Chief Chad Michael, Fire & Emergency Services
- Deborah Needham, Emergency Management Director
- Chief Kevin Milosevich, Police Department
- Commander Dave Leibman, Police Department
SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Recognition of Chaplain Allan Folmar - Chief Peterson and Chief Milosevich recognized the Fire and Police Chaplain Allan Folmar for his contributions to the community by being a Chaplain at times of need within the City. Chaplain Folmar will be retiring in January.

PUBLIC HEARING

Ballot Measure Regarding a Proposed Regional Fire Authority - This being the date set and proper notices having been posted and published in accordance with local and State Laws, Mayor Law opened the public hearing to consider adopting a resolution to place a proposition before the voters at the April 2016 election seeking authorization for creating a Regional Fire Authority (RFA) to serve the City of Renton and Fire District No. 25 (FD #25).

Chief Peterson reported on why the City of Renton Fire & Emergency Services Department and FD #25 believe establishing an RFA would be the best course of action to improve fire and emergency services for residents within the service area. He further explained that due to increasing demands, if both entities do not receive additional funding their ability to provide timely emergency services will be compromised.

Administrative Services Administrator Iwen Wang further explained the basic funding mechanism for the RFA by reviewing the history of the City's cost reduction during the recession and the limited resources the City was faced during a time of substantial City growth. She proposed the following actions to bridge the gap in funding:

- Further cut General Fund services to preserve as much public safety service as possible.
- Implement a Citywide property tax increase (requires a lid-lift levy).
- Implement a special levy to fund a new fire station.
- Ask voters to implement a “Fire Benefit Charge.”
- Place a joint RFA ballot measure at the April 2016 election.
- Take no action.

Chief Peterson explained that the Renton Fire & Emergency Services Department sustained funding services through the recession by reducing staffing, consolidating training functions, reducing the number of annual inspections, and eliminating public outreach and preventive programs. He further outlined the widening gap in Fire and Emergency Service delivery.

Following this summary, Chief Peterson described how implementing an RFA would benefit the residents in Renton and the FD #25 area. Some benefits include the addition of a new fire station in the Kennydale neighborhood, ensuring funding could meet population growth, restoring and enhancing service levels, improving response times, and removing financial stressors on other City services. He further relayed that if the RFA is not passed response times will continue to degrade, there will not be a new fire station in the Kennydale area, there will be no proactive programs, frequency of annual fire inspections will diminish, and the department will face an increasingly difficult time meeting the needs of the community.

Ms. Wang concluded the presentation with a detailed explanation of what the costs will look like for voters if the RFA is approved. She also noted that cost impacts can be calculated by using the cost calculator on the proposed RFA website at rentonrfa.org.
Correspondence was received by Council from Bernard Kande expressing opposition to the proposed implementation of an RFA.

Public comment was invited. The following individuals addressed Council:

- Charles Seil, Renton, expressed his concerns with reduced response times within the Kennydale area and his support for the proposed RFA.

- Kerry Abercrombie, Renton, Fire Commissioner in FD #25 spoke about the increased growth and decreased resources within the Fire District and voiced his support for the proposed RFA to be put before the voters.

- Tom Tasa, Renton, expressed his support for placing the proposed RFA on the ballot in April and requested a dedicated aid car at station 16.

- Greg Markley, Auburn, Batallion Chief in Kent, explained what the Kent RFA went through in 2009 when it decided to pass a proposal to implement an RFA. He recommended that Council support this measure and place it before the voters.

There being no further public comment, it was

MOVED BY PERSSON, SECONDED BY PRINCE, COUNCIL CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. CARRIED.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Chief Administrative Officer Jay Covington reviewed a written administrative report summarizing the City's recent progress towards goals and work programs adopted as part of its business plan for 2015 and beyond. Items noted were:

- Preventative street maintenance will continue to impact traffic and result in occasional street closures.

- Inclement weather response reminder was provided by the Public Works Department to remind residents to help prevent local residential street flooding by monitoring catch basins and keep them clear of leaves and other debris. Street sweepers are dispatched daily to clean up debris along major arterials. Also, during snow and ice events, the department sanders and snow plows are dispatched to keep major arterials drivable. It is imperative that motorists do not park or abandon their vehicles within any portion of the traffic lanes. Abandoned vehicles impair snow and ice removal and impact response of emergency vehicles.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed on the consent agenda were adopted with one motion, following the listing. At the request of Councilmembers Persson and Prince, Consent Agenda items 7.b. and 7.d. were pulled for separate consideration.

a) Approval of 12/1/2015 Council meeting minutes. Council concur.

c) Fire & Emergency Services Department recommended approval of Attachment A, to the contract with Fire District #40, covering the details of the financial responsibilities of Fire District #40 and the City of Renton. Council concur. (See below for resolution.)
e) Transportation Systems Division requested authorization to increase Fund 317 by $4,668,894 to include Duvall Ave. NE Project, and recommended approval to enter into the Fuel Tax Grant Distribution Agreement with the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board for the obligation of grant funding in the amount of $3,468,289, and all subsequent agreements necessary to accomplish this project. **Council concur.**

f) Transportation Systems Division requested authorization to transfer $40,000 from the Arterial Rehabilitation Program Fund to the Street Overlay Program Fund for expenses that have exceeded the 2015 Street Patch and Overlay with Curb Ramps contract budget. **Council concur.**

**MOVED BY CORMAN, SECONDED BY PALMER, COUNCIL CONCUR TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA MINUS ITEM 7.B & 7.D. CARRIED.**

**SEPERATE CONSIDERATION - ITEMS 7.B. & 7.D.**

b) Executive Department recommended adopting the 2016 State Legislative Priorities.

**MOVED BY PERSSON, SECONDED BY CORMAN, COUNCIL CONCUR IN CONSENT AGENDA ITEM 7.B. CARRIED.**

d) Human Resources / Risk Management Department recommended approval to withdraw from WCIA (Washington Cities Insurance Authority), and that the City self-insures property and casualty losses within the approved self-insured retention limits; procures proposed excess insurance coverage; and increases the property self-insured retention level to $100,000 per occurrence. Following a brief overview from Risk Manager Gary Lamb and Human Resources and Risk Management Administrator Nancy Carlson, it was

**MOVED BY PRINCE, SECONDED BY CORMAN, COUNCIL CONCUR IN CONSENT AGENDA ITEM 7.D. CARRIED.**

**RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES**

**Resolutions:**

a) **Resolution No. 4271:** A joint resolution of the City of Renton, Washington, and the Board of Commissioners of King County Fire Protection District No. 25, providing for the submission to qualified electors of the City and the District, a special election to be held on April 26, 2016, pursuant to Chapter 52.26 of the Revised Code of Washington, of a proposition that approves a plan to form a Regional Fire Protection Service Authority within the boundaries of the City and the District, effective July 1, 2016, to be funded by a Property Tax Levy and a new six-year benefit charge.

**MOVED BY PRINCE, SECONDED BY PAVONE, COUNCIL ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AS READ. CARRIED.**

b) **Resolution No. 4272:** A resolution was read authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into an amended Attachment A to CAG-08-015, the Fire and Emergency Services Operating Agreement between the City of Renton and King County Fire Protection District #40.

**MOVED BY PRINCE, SECONDED BY PAVONE, COUNCIL ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AS READ. CARRIED.**
NEW BUSINESS

See attached Council committee meeting calendar.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY PERSSON, SECONDED BY PRINCE, COUNCIL ADJOURN. CARRIED. TIME 8:27 P.M.

Jason A. Seth, CMC, City Clerk

Megan Gregor, Recorder
Monday, December 14, 2015
Council Committee Meeting Calendar
December 14, 2015

December 21, 2015
Monday

NO MEETINGS  Council Holiday, Chair Prince

December 24 & 25, 2015 and January 1, 2016
Thursday & Friday and Friday

NO MEETINGS  City Holidays, Chair Prince

December 28, 2015
Monday

NO MEETINGS  Council Holiday, Chair Prince

January 4, 2016
Monday

CANCELED  Utilities Committee, Chair Taylor

CANCELED  Transportation Committee, Chair Palmer

6:00 PM  Committee of the Whole, Chair Prince - Conferencing Center
Reception for Incoming Elected Officials