

City of Los Alamitos

Agenda Report Discussion Items

July 21, 2015
Item No: 9D

To: Mayor Richard D. Murphy & Members of the City Council
Via: Bret M. Plumlee, City Manager
From: Jason Al-Imam, Administrative Services Director
Subject: Role of the Budget Standing Committee

Summary: Discuss and define the role of the Budget Standing Committee.

Recommendation: Discuss and define the role of the Budget Standing Committee.

Background

At the City Council meeting on June 15, 2015, a Councilmember requested that an item be placed on a future agenda to discuss and define the role of the Budget Standing Committee.

Discussion

Over the past two years, the Budget Standing Committee has discussed matters that generally fit into the following three categories:

- Annual operating budget and 7-year capital improvement program (including discussion of the mid-year financial results, vehicle & equipment replacements, etc.)
- Personnel related items such as succession planning, minimum wage increases, etc.
- Other fiscal matters such as refinancing of Laurel Park, CalPERS actuarial matters, the City's Investment Policy, Fund Balance Reserve Policy, etc.

The Budget Standing Committee has been an extremely valuable tool for the past two years, which has provided outstanding feedback to both strengthen and streamline the budget process. However, the City Council can redefine the role of the Budget Standing Committee as it desires.

City Staff inquired with several neighboring cities to determine whether the City had a Budget Committee and, if so, to determine the role of the Committee. The cities of La Palma, Seal Beach, Cypress and Garden Grove do not have Budget Committees. However, the City of Long Beach has a Budget Oversight Committee. The Long Beach Budget Oversight Committee does not have a formally defined role. The Committee generally meets during the budget season and reviews "big picture" items such as

However, the Committee tends to avoid topics that fall under the purview of other committees (such as the Public Safety Committee which may hold hearings in the budget season on department-specific topics).

Fiscal Impact

None.

Submitted By:
By:



Jason Al-Imam
Administrative Services Director

Approved



Bret M. Plumlee
City Manager