

Santa Rosa Pension Reform Task Force
Thursday, April 21, 2011
7:30
Finley Community Center

Summary Minutes

Chair Scott Bartley called the meeting to order at 7:30 am. Introductions were made.

John Noble sat in for Alan Schellerup who was absent. Stan Lindsay was also absent.

City Manager Kathy Millison reviewed the handouts:

1. Graph: FY 05/06 – FY 14/15 General Fund and Non-General Fund Pension Costs as a % of Salary
2. The Watchful Eye -An Analysis from Sonoma County Taxpayers' Association
3. 2011 City Manager Pension Survey
4. The City Options List
5. Report to the City Council - Outline
6. Legislative Bills Related to Pensions (2011-2012 Session)
7. The Impact of Closing the Defined Benefit Plan at Cal PERS (sent via email)

Chair Bartley gave direction to the Task Force members: important to give the Council options along with the pros and cons.

City Manager Millison reviewed the outline and stated that all handouts will be available online. Tony Alvernaz requested that John Bartel's options are included in the report to the Council. Greg Hurd suggested that it be added as a "subset" since the Task Force did not review those options.

The subject of mandatory compensation pay and benefit requirements for Police and Fire as stated in the City Charter and the impact on pension costs was discussed by Bob Andrews.

All Task Force members can give their own message to the Council – as long as it fits on a 3x5 card.

Tony Alvernaz noted that these options were not voted on by the Task Force. John Noble read the original directive to the Task Force on pension reform, and cautioned them to follow the directive from the Mayor.

The Task Force discussed and clarified all the options, along with the pros and cons of each.

Minutes for March 24 and April 7, 2011 were approved.

Next Steps: Staff will work on getting all the information into the outline format and it will go out to the Task Force before the next meeting – which has been moved from May 5 to May 12, 2011.

Public Comments:

Rich Scheblik thanked the task force members and stated that the employees fund almost all the Pension Obligation Bonds. He also stated that John Bartel noted that the revenues are the problem, not the pensions.

Carl (?) noted that with what the employees pay and social security taxes it almost equals 10%.

Bob Williamson handed out a graph that he made entitled, "Santa Rosa City Employees Average Pensionable Salaries, Source and CalPERS Actuarial Reports".

Chair Bartley adjourned the meeting at 9:50 am.

Next meeting: May 12, 2011 at 7:30 am in the Willows Room at Finley Community Center.