

BASWA MEETING

February 13, 2008

Present: Chris Jones, David Cahill, John White, David Halter, Cheryl Stevens, Mitchell Dannenburg, Rose O'Keefe, Karrie Laughton, Steve Chatwin, Philip Duquette.

Agenda Items: Guest Speaker – Steve Chatwin
City Budget Discussion – Neighborhood Input

1. Steve Chatwin

- Southwedge HUD Renewal Area – wage tax credits
- Tax credits up to 300% of wages. 10-20% typical
- New employees do not have to live in the area
- Employees who qualify; summer help, felons, welfare to work
- Can amend two years back
- Current employees must live in the area
- E-chx, Inc. is an alternative payroll service to Paychex. Specialize in small business's. 48 hour turn over. In business 7 years, 8,000 clients.

2. City Budget Discussion.

The mayor has asked for input from neighborhoods regarding following topics.

1. What are the most important services to you and your neighbors?
 - Bring back Adopt A Block
 - Provide Net with larger budget for Sector 6&7
 - More zoning and code enforcement
 - Better street lighting with pedestrian street lighting
2. What services are nice to have, but you and your neighbors could live without if cuts are made?
 - Leaf pickup
 - Renaissance Square
3. What are the city services that you and your neighbors believe you do not need?
 - Leaf pickup
 - Renaissance Square
4. Would you advocate for increasing fees and taxes, or would you prefer a combination of tax/fee increases.
 - Stop light cameras
 - Increase traffic and parking violations
 - Administrative salary cuts
 - Control overtime
 - More enforcement for debt collection of taxes
5. Which tax/fee increases would be most acceptable?

Comments:

- Services that need improving
 - recycling
 - more trash bins
 - combine festival events – reduce number of events
 - look for more private money
 - restructure police and retirement programs for new hires
 - Cap Not for Profit Agencies in given geographic area.
Primary building tax free, subsequent buildings taxed.