



MINUTES

Budget Committee Meeting

6:00 PM - Thursday, April 27, 2023

PRESENT: Councilor Chris Mayton, Council President Laurie Smallwood, Councilor Richard Sheldon, Councilor Kathleen Walker, Councilor Carl Exner, Councilor Don Hokanson, Mayor Stan Pulliam, Budget Committee Chair Linda Malone, Budget Committee Member Timothy Huber, Budget Committee Member Jan Lee, Budget Committee Member Jeremy Pietzold, Budget Committee Member Noah Myhrum, and Budget Committee Member Greg Becker

ABSENT: (none)

1. ROLL CALL

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2.1. April 20, 2023

Stan Pulliam made a motion Amend the minutes to reflect accurate roll call, and approve the minutes as amended. **Carl Exner seconded the motion. CARRIED. unanimously.**

Ayes: Chris Mayton, Laurie Smallwood, Richard Sheldon, Kathleen Walker, Carl Exner, Don Hokanson, Stan Pulliam, Linda Malone, Timothy Huber, Budget Committee Member Jan Lee, Budget Committee Member Jeremy Pietzold, Budget Committee Member Noah Myhrum, and Greg Becker

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1. Biennium 2023-2025 Proposed Budget

GENERAL FUND REVIEW (continued)

Bullet points below reflect Budget Committee discussion pertaining to each listed division within the General Fund.

Police

- Discussion of whether 'fully staffed' refers to filling all the budgeted positions, or meeting the true police staffing needs of the community

- Suggestion that more police staffing would be useful, with increased calls for service and community growth
- Risk of burnout among personnel
- Possibilities for raising the public safety fee
- Discussion of the average cost of an officer position over a biennium
- Need for an independent staffing study
- Note of the City's intention to implement a sustainable staffing plan
- Note that ARPA funds are better directed toward one-time expenses
- Need to gather public input on perceptions of safety
- Possibilities for studying staffing needs across the city
- Public safety is the most important function of the City
- Need to get ahead of vehicle replacement needs
- Discussion on the prioritization of patrol vs traffic functions
- Maintenance needs for the Police Department building, including paint and roof repair
 - Flat roof had possible installation issues; deferred maintenance leads to expensive consequences
- A genuine need exists for a dedicated traffic officer
- Plans to deploy a new radar speed trailer; discussion on the possibility of speed cameras
- Note that PERS increases are lower than the previous biennium
- Discussion on the usage of training funding in the previous budget
- Discussion on whether enough funding is allocated for vehicles
- Notes on the officer to population ratio
- The new code enforcement position will free more time for the current code officer
- Discussion on the need to address social services and behavioral health in a holistic approach to addressing homelessness
- Possibilities for regional partnerships on social service provision
- Possible inefficiencies with code enforcement personnel in multiple departments
- Salary allocations of code enforcement personnel in the budget
- Discussion on the interfund loan
- Discussion on the need to clearly allocate funds to accomplish the Council's goals

Parks and Recreation

Recreation

- Fireworks, as well as Winterfest and Longest Day Parkway are now housed in this department
- Opportunities to boost and revitalize the City's volunteer program
- Discussion of whether electrification of Meinig Park is sufficient; opportunities for even more investment to make Winterfest 'Zoo Lights East'
- Further discussion on the need to clearly allocate funds to accomplish the Council's goals; discussion on the importance of allocating specific funding for connecting residents with aquatic opportunities

- Possibilities for partnering with PGE on park electrification improvements
- Concerns regarding usage of electrical outlets in parks by homeless individuals
- Discussion on the importance of working with the school district to secure recreational usage of school facilities for the community

Seniors

- 60% of service deliveries occur outside city limits; discussion on the importance of securing more County financial support for service provision to residents outside city limits
- Sandy's service area was established many years ago
- Savings from a smaller service area would be relatively minimal

Parks

- Discussion of needed reinvestment at Meinig and Tupper parks in the following biennium
- Details of lease payments
- Suggestion to separate facilities and grounds from the parks budget
- Discussion on the ultimate need for a separate facility management department, to ensure the City can sustainably maintain its capital assets
- Request for staff to provide data regarding total Parks and Recreation budget and FTEs for comparison with the last budget
- Possible opportunity to use ARPA funds for cameras in Meinig Park
- Suggestion to provide arts funding

Economic Development

- Discussion on development opportunities in the 362nd / Bell area
- Discussion on establishing a director level urban renewal / economic development position, to focus on higher level strategic initiatives and projects, as opposed to grant management. Funding opportunities exist in the Urban Renewal fund

Development Services

Planning

- Discussion on the feasibility of adding another planner
- Possibilities for pursuing Safe Routes to School grant funding; a 40% match would need to be provided by the school district and City
- Discussion on the need to hold a joint work session with the School Board on Safe Routes to School and community access to district facilities
- Discussion on staff capacity related to planning, and the need for more support
- Logistics for establishing the new code enforcement position
- Discussion on future effects of the moratorium on fee revenue
- Discussion on amending the zoning map once the updated comprehensive plan is complete
 - Need to adopt zone map changes separately for legal reasons

- Note that the proposed budget does not include funding to expedite zoning map changes
- Suggestion to begin the zoning map amendment process in this next biennium
- Discussion on the increased allocation of General Revenue for this department
- Questions on whether staffing levels will be adequate when development activity increases

Building

- Discussion on electronic plan review implementation
- Suggestion to continue community outreach / explanation videos

Full Faith and Credit

(no discussion)

Ops Center IS

(no discussion)

Facilities Maintenance IS

- Only \$150,000 in immediate maintenance needs identified currently; the facility analysis completed several years ago identified more than \$1 million in total needs
- Discussion on the need invest regularly to get ahead of needs, rather than address acute problems on a ad hoc basis
- Regular transfers into this fund need to be increased

5. ADJOURN

5.1. Adjourn

Stan Pulliam made a motion Adjourn the meeting **Laurie Smallwood seconded the motion. CARRIED. unanimously.**

Ayes: Chris Mayton, Laurie Smallwood, Richard Sheldon, Kathleen Walker, Carl Exner, Don Hokanson, Stan Pulliam, Linda Malone, Timothy Huber, Budget Committee Member Jan Lee, Budget Committee Member Jeremy Pietzold, Budget Committee Member Noah Myhrum, and Greg Becker