



MINUTES

Budget Committee Meeting

6:00 PM - Thursday, May 4, 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. Approval of Minutes
April 27, 2023

Budget Committee Member Jan Lee made a motion Approve the minutes **Stan Pulliam 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

3.1. General Public Comments

(none)

3.2. Public Hearing on Utilization of State Shared Revenue

(no members of the public offered testimony)

Kathleen Walker made a motion Close the public hearing **Richard Sheldon 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

4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1. Biennium 2023-2025 Proposed Budget

Bullet points below reflect Budget Committee discussion pertaining to each listed fund.

Aquatic / Recreation

- Savings on insurance costs after demolition of derelict buildings occurs (approximately \$36,000 for the biennium)
- Insurance premium calculations based on square footage of buildings
- Possibilities for separating costs of bunker building insurance only, and dropping coverage for other buildings
- Suggestion to rename this fund for the next budget
- Discussion on payment for utilities by SandyNet
- Note that the Urban Renewal fund will pay for building demolition

It was the consensus of the Budget Committee to reduce allocations for insurance in this fund by \$36,000.

Parks Capital

- Distinctions between properties that could be acquired as natural open space and properties that could potentially be used for sport facilities in the future
- Discussion on the importance of developing sports fields
- Discussion on the importance of negotiating an agreement with the school district on public access to fields
- Discussion on system development charge revenue and impacts of the development moratorium
- Improvement and repair needs at Meinig Park; discussion of past volunteer efforts and fundraising for Fantasy Forest
- Discussion on the importance of sufficient funds for parks maintenance
- Electrification infrastructure needs at Meinig Park
- Funding needs for Community Campus Park project; Phase 1 funding is likely sufficient if OPRD grant is secured; discussion on finding split between this fund and the Urban Renewal fund
- Suggestion to focus on project delivery rather than land banking; however these funds are restricted
- Note that these funds cannot be used on the front portion of the Community Campus

Transit

- Discussion on electrification of the fleet

- Discussion on whether fees will need to increase for electrification (they will not)
- Needs to better advertise Dial a Ride services
- Saturday service of the Shopper Shuttle will begin soon
- Staff are working on options to connect residents with aquatic programming opportunities
- Marketing efforts will focus on: new design concept for wrapping of electric buses, signs on new route, and more advertising for Mt Hood Express in communities west of Sandy
- Discussions are underway with ODOT for a new park and ride location
- Suggestion to break this fund into separate divisions in future budgets
- Operations Center planning must accommodate needs of departments other than Transit

Telecommunications

- Discussion on source of Miscellaneous Revenue
- Details on remaining interfund loan payments
- Contractual Services for SandyNet Business Plan and other support costs
- Discussion on whether enough funding has been allocated for connecting unserved residents
- Discussion on how close the City is to being done laying fiber at our own expense (rather than at developer expense)
- Concern over possible overinvestment into fiber
- Discussion on the need for more fiber in the future, not less
- Suggestion to rename this officially as the SandyNet fund
- Recognition of the lack of General Revenue needed in this budget

Streets

- Discussion on prioritization of street maintenance projects through a regular 5-year analysis
- Plans to research opportunities for alternative revenue streams as gas tax revenue continues to decrease
- Opportunities for grant funding for pavement management assistance
- Needs for reimbursement mechanisms for investments the City has already made
- Discussion on the possibility of purchasing a street sweeping vehicle
- Explanations for decrease in allocations for sidewalk and bike paths, and major repairs and maintenance
- Note on the final estimated cost of the 362nd / Bell extension at \$12.3 million; discussion on finalization of right-of-way issues

Water

- Discussion on increased staffing needs to help manage the historic reinvestment projects currently underway
- Recognition that the rate increases proposed are conservative and do not account for possible grant awards
- Need for a big picture discussion on rates at the City Council level

Sewer

- Timing of project cash flow affecting beginning balances
- Discussion on disposition of treatment plant solid
- Additional discussion on increased staffing needs to help manage the historic reinvestment projects currently underway
- Urgency of finalizing update to wastewater facilities plans
- Discussion on increasing interest payments
- Discussion on space needs for additional employees at the Operations Center; discussion of utilization of the bunker building
- Need for a larger City-wide facilities discussion

Stormwater

- Discussion on whether enough funding is being allocated for stormwater needs
- References to the City Council's goal to increase fund balances in this fund, after which a stormwater master plan can be developed
- Importance of CCTV infrastructure investigations

Initial Budget Committee Deliberations

- Discussion on the importance of allocating excess General Fund resources to one-time expenses only
- Desire to complete the approval process for the city budget expeditiously
- Direction to staff to distribute a list of allocation suggestions thus far
- Discussion on allocation of funds to support Phase 2 of the Community Campus Park project
- Suggestion to retain some of the excess funds in savings
- Suggestions to allocate funding for Meinig Park electrification, zoning map updates, library outreach vehicle, and connecting residents with aquatic program opportunities

Staff committed to providing a list of excess resource allocation suggestions to the Budget Committee for their review by end of day on Monday May 8th.

5. ADJOURN