



Finance & Budget Committee

April 12, 2022 @ 6:00 PM

Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, Room 2404

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Shari Reiches, Committee Member, David Livingston, Committee Member, Leslie McMillan, Committee Member, Melissa Wynne, Councilmember, Devon Reid, Councilmember, Clare Kelly, Councilmember, and Jonathan Nieuwsma, Councilmember

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Councilmember, Bobby Burns

STAFF PRESENT:

Hitesh Desai, CFO, Jessica Tapia, Financial Analyst

1. CALL TO ORDER/DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

Councilmember Wynne called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

A Evanston resident commented on how future memos should include both revenues and expenditures to better comprehend City finances.

A Evanston resident questioned why the City was over budget on school guards.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of the March 8, 2022 Budget & Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Staff recommends approval of the Minutes of the Regular Budget & Finance Committee meeting held March 8, 2022.

Moved by Councilmember Nieuwsma

Seconded by Councilmember Kelly

Vote of 7 aye, 0 nay

4. DISCUSSION

A. Discussion of Property Taxes by CFO Hitesh Desai

Hitesh Desai, CFO presented an overview of the Property Tax process. Property Tax levies are set by local taxing bodies. CFO Desai also talked about assessed values, equalization factor, equalized assessed values, and property tax rate. He mentioned the total Equalized

Assessed Value of properties in Evanston. The total tax levy is distributed amongst several government agencies, with City share (including Library) at around 20% of total levy. CFO Desai also talked about significantly higher assessed valuation three years ago which caused many to file appeals with the county. There was a discussion about Police and Fire pension levies, which are based on the recommended contributions in the actuarial reports.

B. Approval of Ordinance 26-O-22

The budget amendment ordinance/memo to City Council was presented to the committee by CFO Hitesh Desai. The purpose of the budget amendment is to amend the budget for funds which exceeded the budgeted expenses at the fund level. There were questions by several committee members as to why some funds exceeded expenses. Staff explained some of the overages and assured to have a more detailed presentation during the City Council meeting. Committee members agreed that there could be an improvement in the presentation of the monthly financial reports. Committee member Livingston provided several recommendations to enhance monthly financial reports

Motion to table recommendation of "Approval of Ordinance 26-0-22" until the May 10, 2022
Finance & Budget Committee

Moved by Councilmember Kelly

Seconded by Committee member McMillan

Ayes: Councilmember Kelly, Councilmember Reid, Committee Member McMillan

Nays: Councilmember Wynne, Councilmember Nieuwsma, Committee member Livingston,
Committee member Reiches

Motion to recommend "Approval of Ordinance 26-0-22" to City Council meeting on April 25,
2022

Moved by Councilmember Wynne

Ayes: Councilmember Wynne, Councilmember Nieuwsma, Committee member Livingston,
Committee member Reiches

Nays: Councilmember Kelly, Councilmember Reid, Committee Member McMillan

5. **ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Wynne adjourned the meeting at 8:24 PM