



Finance and Budget Committee
Monday, June 17, 2024 @ 5:00 PM
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center

COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESENT:

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

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

Bobby Burns, Councilmember and Devon Reid, Councilmember

STAFF PRESENT:

Hitesh Desai, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer, Michael Van Dorpe, Financial Analyst, Clayton Black, Budget Manager, Cara Pratt, Sustainability and Resilience Coordinator, and Lara Biggs, City Engineer

1. CALL TO ORDER/DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

John Kennedy commented on the City's Climate Action Resilience Plan (CARP) and CIP projects related to meeting those goals.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M1. Approval of the May 14, 2024 Finance & Budget Committee Meeting minutes.

4. CONSIDERATION

FB1. Recommendation on the Policy for Unbudgeted Expenses

Clayton Black, Budget Manager, and Lara Biggs, City Engineer, facilitated the discussion of this item.

Members of the committee asked clarifying questions and made recommendations to adjust the policy before drafting a resolution to go to City Council. Namely, 1) the policy should apply to all funds, 2) staff will report on any unbudgeted increases over \$100,000, and 3) when an emergency meeting is called it can consist of the F&B Chair and a Councilmember on F&B of the Chair's choosing.

Councilmember Nieuwsma moved to direct staff to craft a resolution for this policy for City Council with the aforementioned edits.

Moved by Councilmember Nieuwsma
Seconded by Councilmember Wynne

Ayes: Livingston, Kelly, Nieuwsma, McMillan, Wynne, and Reiches

Motion Passed 6-0 on a recorded vote

Motion passed.

5. DISCUSSION

D1. Discussion Regarding Direct Pay refunds for Sustainability Projects

Ian Goldsmith, a representative from the World Research Institute, presented materials on Direct Pay.

Cara Pratt, Sustainability and Resilience Manager, provided an update on the City's status in applying for Direct Pay with the IRS and what projects are eligible for the program. Members of the Committee asked questions about eligible projects, when/if this program will sunset, and the length of time to get reimbursed by the IRS.

D2. Discussion Regarding the Liquor Tax

Clayton Black, Budget Manager, presented on research and ongoing discussions related to the Liquor Tax.

Members of the committee discussed the merits of repealing the Liquor Tax, how to replace or offset the revenue that would be lost from repealing the Liquor Tax, and the desire to see more information before providing a recommendation to City Council.

D3. Discussion Regarding Pickleball Court Cost Increase

Lara Biggs, City Engineer, presented on the increased costs for installing pickleball courts at James Park.

Members of the committee discussed the costs of installing 4 or 6 courts at James Park, how this project should be prioritized amidst the entirety of CIP projects, and the feasibility of a more comprehensive analysis of all parks to determine other locations for future pickleball courts.

Councilmember Nieuwsma moved that the Finance & Budget Committee recommend to City Council that this project move forward with installing four pickleball courts at James Park.

Moved by Councilmember Nieuwsma
Seconded by Councilmember Wynne

Ayes: Kelly, Nieuwsma, McMillan, Wynne, and Reiches
Nays: Livingston

Motion Passed 5-1 on a recorded vote

Motion passed.

D4. Discussion Regarding Comparable Community Benchmarking Data

Michael Van Dorpe, Financial Analyst, presented on comparable community data.

Members of the committee asked clarifying questions about the data.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 PM.