

MINUTES

**Eugene Budget Committee
Bascom-Tykeson Room, 100 West 10th Avenue
Eugene, Oregon 97401**

**November 25, 2013
5:30 p.m.**

Committee Members Present: City Council Members George Brown, Mike Clark, Claire Syrett, Chris Pryor, Alan Zelenka, George Poling, Betty Taylor, Greg Evans; Budget Committee Citizen Members Laura Illig (Chair), Ken Beeson, Robert Clarke, Chelsea Clinton, Will Shaver, Jill Fetherstonhaugh

Committee Members Absent: Budget Committee Citizen Members Mark Rust (Vice-Chair), Marshall Wilde

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Illig called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

I. AGENDA REVIEW

Chair Illig reviewed the agenda with the Committee.

II. GENERAL FUND FORECAST UPDATE

Sue Cutsogeorge, Finance Director, presented a brief PowerPoint presentation on the General Fund Forecast to the Budget Committee. The updated forecast shows that the projected budget gap is now \$3 million, which is less than the gap projected in the spring of \$5.3 million. The main differences are lower PERS costs resulting from legislative changes (\$1.7 million) and higher property tax revenues (\$0.5 million).

Budget Committee Discussion:

- Budget Committee members asked general questions about the General Fund Forecast and shared their thoughts about the current projection.

III. PROCESS UPDATE

Chair Illig provided the Budget Committee with an update on the process that has occurred, and what remains to be accomplished, through the December 9, 2013 meeting. Chair Illig informed the Budget Committee that last week, a sub-committee, composed of Budget Committee Citizen Members Ken Beeson, Chelsea Clinton, Marshall Wilde, and Chair Illig met to evaluate items listed on the FIT report and potential reductions. Items were screened to locate options that were possible to implement for the FY15 budget, and have been provided to the Committee.

IV. GENERAL FUND STRATEGIES LIST

Chair Illig provided the Budget Committee with a General Fund Strategies List, which was recommended by the ad-hoc Budget Subcommittee meeting, which occurred November 19, 2013.

City Manager Jon Ruiz lead the Committee through a process to narrow down the list to be used in developing the budget strategy packages, which will be used for discussion at the December 3, 2013 Budget Committee meeting.

Budget Committee Discussion:

- After numerous rounds of voting, the following items will move into the pool of developing a budget strategy package for further considering by the Committee: Human Services Commission Funding; Equity, Human Rights, Neighborhoods and Sustainability; Fire Company at Station 2; Parks Maintenance; Downtown Library Closure 1 Day Per Week; Police Investigations; Sheldon Branch Library; Recreation Programs and Services; Bethel Library; Lane Council of Government (LCOG) Dues; Metro Partnership Dues and Southern Willamette Angel Network (SWAN); Community Events and Partnerships; Council Travel and Sister Cities; Reduce Reserve for Revenue Shortfall; Increase Recreation User Fees; Stormwater Fund.

V. SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

Budget Committee Discussion:

- Committee members broke into small groups to debrief the General Fund Strategies List process, and to discuss next steps.

VI. WRAP UP

Chair Illig asked staff to bring back a few scenarios, using the information gathered this evening, on potential ways to close the budget gap for FY15 and present that information to the Committee at their next meeting on December 3, 2013.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Mumme,
Program Coordinator, Finance Division