

MINUTES

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

**May 23, 2018
5:30 p.m.**

Committee Members Present: City Council Members Mike Clark, Greg Evans, Chris Pryor, Emily Semple, Claire Syrett, Betty Taylor, Jennifer Yeh, Alan Zelenka; Budget Committee Citizen Members Jill Fetherstonhaugh, Emily Fiocco, Jon Jasper (Vice Chair), Eliza Kashinsky, Shaun Londahl, Scott Nowicki (Chair), Josh Skov

Committee Members Absent: None

Guest: Mayor Lucy Vinis (*via conference phone*)

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Nowicki called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. *Paula Stout* – Volunteer on the Human Rights Commission work group on poverty and homelessness. Spoke in support of funding a homelessness coordinator position.

Councilor Clark and Councilor Semple arrived at 5:32 p.m.

2. *Ron Breaden* – Advocated on behalf of himself and others who live on a fixed income and see their disposable income shrinking as costs increase.
3. *Wayne Martin* – Member of the Human Rights Commission work group on poverty and homelessness. Wants to see Budget Committee make a commitment to homelessness issues and requested greater clarity on the City's current funding for such initiatives.

Councilor Zelenka arrived at 5:39 p.m.

4. *Joe Richards* – Thinks homelessness issue needs more visibility related to its funding and how it is allocated.
5. *Bob Cassidy* – Suggested the City look into merging the Police department with the City of Springfield's, similar to the current structure of the Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department.
6. *Laurie Hauber* – Spoke in support of funding a homelessness coordinator position.
7. *Eric Jackson* – Noted the growing issue of homelessness and the need for greater transparency in the budget document around homelessness funding.
8. *Dorothy Dougher* – Wants the City to coordinate with the County around funding for substandard roads, specifically speaking for the conditions on North Gilham Road.

Budget Committee members briefly responded to some of the comments made by the public.

II. MINUTES APPROVAL

The Budget Committee received past meeting minutes for review and approval. The minutes pending approval were for the following meeting: May 16, 2018.

MOTION AND VOTE: Mr. Londahl, seconded by Councilor Clark, moved to approve the minutes as described above. PASSED 15:0.

III. URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY BUDGET

Amanda Nobel Flannery, Economic Prosperity Programs Manager, provided an update on Urban Renewal Agency (URA) projects. The overview for the Downtown District projects included high-speed fiber internet, park blocks and open space, farmers' market and the 1059 Willamette redevelopment. The Riverfront District projects include the downtown riverfront redevelopment with a park, residential and retail space; the Willamette to Willamette initiative; fiber internet in the Riverfront District; and the railroad quiet zone.

Maurizio Bottalico, Senior Financial Analyst, summarized the FY19 Proposed Urban Renewal Agency Budget. The net expenditures for both districts is \$13.0M excluding reserve balances. The Downtown General Fund expenditures total \$5.3M with nearly \$3M transferred from the Downtown Debt Service Fund in support of the projects Ms. Nobel Flannery discussed. The remaining expenditures in the Downtown General Fund are allotted for the Downtown Revitalization Loan Program. The Riverfront General Fund expenditures total nearly \$4.5M with \$800K to support district projects and a \$3.7M interfund transfer to the Riverfront Capital Projects Fund. The \$3.7M transfer will cover costs for the three easternmost crossings of the railroad quiet zone. The Riverfront Program Revenue Fund includes a \$3.2M loan pool for the Riverfront Renewal Loan Program.

Ms. Nobel Flannery concluded the presentation by highlighting the anticipated steam plan redevelopment. Requests for Qualifications (RFQs) are due June 11th with a Request for Proposal (RFP) phase to follow.

Chair Nowicki gave each Committee member three minutes to provide comments and ask questions related to the URA presentation. He then opened up the queue for further comments and questions.

IV. INFRASTRUCTURE

Jeff Perry, Facility Management Division Manager, discussed the Capital Improvement Program for public buildings, the current condition of General Fund facilities and related Unfunded Needs Assessment (UNA) requests. Mr. Perry described the ongoing annual capital preservation funding gap and recommended that a sustainable, long-term approach is needed to close the gap.

Mark Schoening, City Engineer, provided an overview of the deferred maintenance on public infrastructure including transportation, stormwater, wastewater and parks and open spaces. Mr. Schoening highlighted the related assets and unfunded needs for each area.

Chair Nowicki gave each Committee member three minutes to provide comments and ask questions related to the infrastructure presentation. He then opened up the queue for further comments and questions.

Councilor Clark left at 7:20 p.m. and returned at 7:26 p.m.

Councilor Pryor and Ms. Fetherstonhaugh left at 7:32 p.m.

Councilor Taylor left at 7:33 pm.

Councilor Pryor returned at 7:35 p.m.

V. BREAK

Chair Nowicki called for the Committee to be in recess for a break at 7:38 p.m.

Chair Nowicki called the meeting back to order at 7:45 p.m. with all Committee members present.

VI. PUBLIC SAFETY/COMMUNITY JUSTICE

Kristie Hammitt, Assistant City Manager, gave an overview of the Community Justice initiative, some of the critical gaps within the system, the benefits of investing in various public safety efforts, the goals of the initiative and a high-level timeline of justice system reform efforts.

Pavel Gubanikhin, Central Services Finance and Administrative Manager, detailed the Community Justice system investments so far and recapped what is included in the FY19 Proposed Budget, as well as long-term unfunded needs. Investments have been made to fund alternatives to the traditional criminal justice model (e.g. Community Court and CAHOOTS), critical operational needs (e.g. Police bike patrol and Communications Center staffing) and Police and public safety infrastructure (e.g. Police radios and body worn camera implementation).

Chris Skinner, Police Chief, outlined a range of short-term solutions to improve public safety in FY19 should the Budget Committee choose to recommend additional one-time spending.

Chair Nowicki gave each Committee member three minutes to provide comments and ask questions related to the public safety and community justice presentation. He then opened up the queue for further comments and questions.

Councilor Zelenka left at 8:13 p.m.

MOTION AND VOTE: Mr. Jasper, seconded by Councilor Clark, moved to extend the meeting by five minutes. PASSED 14:0.

VII. NEXT STEPS

Chair Nowicki reminded Budget Committee members of their next meeting on Wednesday, May 30th. The meeting will include further deliberation on the budget, votes on motions and a recommendation to the City Council. He advised the Committee to direct any additional questions or intended motions to Jamie Garner, Budget and Analysis Manager (AIC).

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenna Boyd
Program Coordinator, Finance Division