

**MINUTES
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING**

**CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER
313 COURT STREET, THE DALLES, OREGON**

**MAY 4, 2015
5:30 P.M.**

Presiding: Chair Gary Grossman

Committee
Members Present: Daniel Bonham, Russ Brown, Taner Elliott, Corliss Marsh, Rich Mays,
Tim McGlothlin, Linda Miller, Barbara Pashek, Dan Spatz

Committee
Members Absent: None

Staff Present: City Manager Nolan Young, City Attorney Gene Parker, City Clerk Julie
Krueger, Finance Director Kate Mast, Public Works Director Dave
Anderson, Librarian Jeff Wavrunek, Police Chief Jay Waterbury,
Administrative Fellow Daniel Hunter, Senior Planner Dawn Hert

Also Present: Mayor Steve Lawrence

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Election of a Chair

It was moved by Pashek and seconded by Miller to elect Gary Grossman as Chair. Hearing no further nominations, Grossman was unanimously elected to serve as Chair.

Election of a Secretary

It was moved by Pashek and seconded by Miller to elect Corliss Marsh as Secretary. Hearing no further nominations, Marsh was unanimously elected to serve as Secretary.

MINUTES (Continued)
Budget Committee Meeting
May 4, 2015
Page 2

BUDGET OFFICER'S MESSAGE FISCAL YEAR 2015-16

City Manager Young provided the Budget Message, noting there were 15 City Council Objectives which were tied to the proposed budget. Items mentioned included the total budget by category, General Fund Resources and Revenues, category differences and operating activities. Young highlighted significant changes, including additions to the City Council contractual line item, addition of one position in Economic Development; addition of a RARE position, and a \$150,000 transfer to the Street Department. He explained the new Street Funding Guidelines and maintenance program.

CERTIFY THE TAX RATE

It was moved by Marsh and seconded by Brown to certify the City of The Dalles tax rate of \$3.0155 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public Hearing to Receive Testimony Regarding the Proposed Budget

Chair Grossman opened the hearing and invited public testimony.

Keef Morgan, Cynthia Kortge, and Nolan Hare, representing the Fort Dalles Fourth Committee, addressed the Budget Committee, requesting their funding request of \$35,000 be funded in full, instead of at the \$20,000 level that was proposed in the budget. They provided a handout, explaining the importance of the event for the community, economic impact, and additional value, such as a free Veteran's Day fireworks display, and the fireworks company planning to move their annual employee picnic event to The Dalles. They provided a list of the community sponsors and the community promotions. It was noted they had raised approximately \$19,000 through their Spirit of 76 mail campaign. Kortge said the entire contribution from the City would be used toward the fireworks display portion of the two-day event.

Miller asked if the Chamber of Commerce had provided any funding. Morgan said they had not yet requested funding, but hoped to receive a small grant and believed the Chamber would help with some of the activities, such as the parade.

Elliott asked whether the event would go on without the additional financial support from the City. Kortge said the contract had already been signed with the fireworks display company, but the funding would be very helpful, so they would have enough funds for the other portions of the community celebration.

MINUTES (Continued)
Budget Committee Meeting
May 4, 2015
Page 3

City Manager Young said if the Budget Committee wished to increase the funding, some of the Enterprise Funds could be used.

Municipal Court Judge Tom Peachey addressed the Committee regarding concerns about the Budget Issue Paper (15-010) regarding the transition of the Municipal Court to a traffic court. He said he had spoken with the District Attorney who said he would not prosecute the City's misdemeanors. Peachey said there were over 800 misdemeanor cases per year that would not be prosecuted if the court transitioned to a traffic court. He said there were approximately eight participants in the mental health court and he was currently exploring the possibility of a veteran's court. Peachey said the importance of the court was not about dollars, but about the service provided to the community. He said when the matter came to the City Council he would bring in many people to testify about its importance. He said much more study was needed on the subject and said this should not be a hasty decision.

Mayor Lawrence asked if Peachey had said the District Attorney had refused to prosecute misdemeanors. Peachey said he didn't have enough resources to prosecute them and would need money to hire more staff.

Lawrence asked if the Hood River model had been looked into because they had changed their court to a traffic court very successfully.

Pashek said this was not a new idea, noting the Budget Committee had been discussing the matter for at least three years.

Hearing no further testimony, the public hearing was closed.

Public Hearing to Receive Testimony Regarding Uses of State Revenue Sharing

Chair Grossman opened the public hearing.

Finance Director Mast explained this hearing was to consider possible uses of State revenue. She said the City had historically used State revenues to support General Fund activities.

No testimony was offered and the public hearing was closed.

It was moved by Pashek and seconded by Spatz to recommend use of State shared revenue be to support the General Fund. The motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES (Continued)
Budget Committee Meeting
May 4, 2015
Page 4

SET FUTURE MEETING DATES

It was the consensus of the Committee to schedule the next meeting for Tuesday, May 5, 5:30 p.m.; and to schedule another meeting for Wednesday, May 6, 5:30 p.m., if necessary.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Marsh and seconded by Brown to approve the January 9, 2015 and February 18, 2015 Budget Committee work session minutes, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

BUDGET PRESENTATIONS BY FUND

General Fund

General Fund Revenues

Miller asked what Electric Lightwave was, listed under General Fund Revenues. City Manager Young said it was a telecom business and the revenue was from franchise fees.

Spatz asked why the transient room tax revenue to the Parks and Recreation District had increased. City Manager Young said more room tax revenues had been collected, and with the Union Street Underpass loan being paid, that revenue now went to the Parks District.

In response to a question, City Manager Young noted the Northwest Natural Gas franchise revenue was now included as revenue to the Street Department, instead of in the General Fund.

Miller asked for an explanation of the building permit revenues. Senior Planner Hert said the Planning Department fees for building permit reviews were \$30 for a minor permit, such as a remodel, and \$105 for a new use, such as a single family dwelling.

Miller asked what items were included in the miscellaneous revenues line item. City Manager Young said that line item included items such as the Greyhound lease, lien search fees, and dividends.

City Council

City Manager Young said the Youth Empowerment Shelter had requested financial support but it was not included in this budget because they didn't ask for a specific amount.

McGlothlin asked staff to follow up with them and find out what their specific request was.

MINUTES (Continued)
Budget Committee Meeting
May 4, 2015
Page 5

Mayor Lawrence noted the Fort Dalles Museum had requested and Council had approved an additional \$2,500 in funding, but it was not included on the list. City Manager Young said he would add that item.

Mays asked what EOC meant. City Manager Young said that was funding for staffing of the Emergency Operations Center.

Mayor Lawrence noted there was \$2,000 budgeted for Pioneer Cemetery maintenance, and an additional \$3,000 for the same thing in the Planning Department budget. He asked if they were for separate things. Senior Planner Hert said the funds were used for maintenance, restoration projects and grant match.

Elliott asked what the Wasco County Juvenile Work Crew funding supported. Police Chief Waterbury said this was now a NORCOR program, and the funding was used for staffing of their graffiti removal projects.

Brown said he recalled the Veterans Memorial group had asked for a reduced amount, but it wasn't reflected in the budget. City Manager Young said the Council had agreed to keep the contribution at \$2,000.

Marsh said the Fort Dalles Fourth group had discussed a challenge grant in an attachment to their request. She said the attachment had not been included. City Manager Young said he would provide that information at the next meeting.

City Clerk

No questions.

City Manager

Elliott asked what salaries were included in this budget. City Manager Young said that line item included the salaries of the City Manager and Secretary.

Economic Development

In response to a question, City Manager Young explained the proposed budget included funding for a new position of Project Coordinator and funding for a RARE position. He reviewed the proposed job duties, as outlined in Budget Issue Paper 15-015.

Pashek said she was opposed to funding a new position and the RARE position, saying everyone seemed to be assigned to do the same work.

Elliott asked if the contract with Mr. Durow was proposed to be extended to the end of the year. City Manager Young said the contract would be extended through the end of the next fiscal year, but at a reduced amount because he would only be working on Riverfront Trail issues, and the hours would be about 50% less. McGlothlin asked when the Riverfront Trail project would be completed. Young said he hoped to make significant progress, but there were uncertainties about the new alignment and funding.

Spatz asked how many jobs had been created through the work of the Business Recruiter. Young said it was too soon to provide that information, but he would provide progress reports in the future.

Following discussion, City Manager Young said the RARE application could be withdrawn if the Committee desired.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 7:10 p.m., to reconvene on Tuesday, May 5, 2015, at 5:30 p.m.

Submitted by/
Julie Krueger, MMC
City Clerk

SIGNED:



Corliss Marsh, Secretary