

## **DRAFT - Missoula City Council Administration and Finance Committee Minutes**

**October 27, 2021**

**12:20 PM**

**ZOOM Webinar**

**Members present:** Stacie Anderson, Mirtha Becerra, John P. Contos, Heather Harp, Jordan Hess, Gwen Jones (chair), Julie Merritt, Amber Sherrill, Sandra Vasecka, Heidi West

**Members absent:** Jesse Ramos, Bryan von Lossberg

### **1. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**

#### **1.1 Roll Call**

#### **1.2 Approval of the Minutes**

##### **1.2.1 Minutes from the 10/20/21 Meeting**

The minutes were approved as submitted, other than one change of word from complete to compete.

### **2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public comment called for and there was none.

### **3. COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

#### **3.1 Funding Recommendation for Affordable Housing Trust Fund Innovation Funding Round & Tri-Annual Affordable Housing Trust Fund Update**

Emily Harris-Shears shared a PowerPoint Presentation regarding the funding recommendations and update. Please see attached presentation for details.

Julie Merritt - I am excited to see this get off the ground and appreciate all the hard work.

Sam Hilliard - Works with Reaching Home. This fund is super flexible and it enables us to help many people.

Mirtha Becerra - Thank you to Emily and everyone who helped work on developing this process. It was well thought out, inclusive and fair. All three projects that applied for this funding are good projects and can have a positive impact in the community. I really appreciated all the thoughtful discussion that got us to where we are today.

Heather Harp - Speaking regarding City Council only (not Habitat for Humanity), why can't we get more projects underway so we can continue to acquire, preserve or construct the affordable housing that we need?

Emily Harris-Shears - We wanted to ultimately wait and encourage applicants to come back because it is right around the corner. We did not get a lot of applications. The balance will go into the unified round.

Mirtha Becerra - The scoring committee shares concerns about the situation we have in Missoula. The two projects that didn't get funded were good projects, but this just wasn't the time for it, as we had to balance all the needs and funds available and vision of the oversight committee.

Amber Sherrill - I do understand the desire to get this money out and spend it and get housing going, as it is a problem in our community. How do we know this affordability continues in perpetuity? As we partner with organizations, how do we ensure they will continue to do their part?

Emily Harris-Shears - I think those questions go back to the oversight committee and the policy manual. They are both addressed in the manual and named in the application.

Montana James - In addition, in the scoring criteria and all the policies, etc., we have been working with the City Attorney's Office to make sure we have everything set correctly in our contracts, etc., to make sure we have the protections in place to secure the funds.

Heidi West - I wanted to thank everyone who worked really hard on this.

Stacie Anderson - Made the motion.

Public Comment was called for -

Andrea Davis - The Executive Director of Homeword. I have tried repeatedly to register on Engage Missoula and it has not been verified. If you are submitting an application this way, it may not be getting delivered. I would have appreciated seeing the scoring rubric with the decline notice. This seems useful to the applicants. One of the reasons we were declined was due to readiness of the project. Two of the homes could have been placed immediately. Couldn't a 'partial' approval be funded, for those that are ready to go? This happens in many application processes. We want to be innovative. If there is more information that is needed, we would love to hear that. We are always willing to test out application processes. We support the recommendation that was made, but if I didn't speak forward about these concerns, I wouldn't be doing my job.

Gwen Jones - Appreciate the feedback as this process is evolving. Your words have been heard.

Mirtha Becerra - I can say with 100% confidence that the scoring committee tried to make a balanced decision. I believe all staff contact information is readily available, if Engage Missoula is not functioning properly.

Onto Consent Agenda.

**Moved by:** Stacie Anderson

Set a public hearing for Monday, November 8, 2021, to consider the funding recommendations made by the staff scoring committee.

AYES: (9): Stacie Anderson, Mirtha Becerra, John Contos, Jordan Hess, Gwen Jones, Julie Merritt, Amber Sherrill, Sandra Vasecka, and Heidi West

ABSTAIN: (1): Heather Harp

ABSENT: (2): Jesse Ramos, and Bryan von Lossberg

**Vote results: Approved (9 to 0)**

**3.2 Resolution for 1st Quarter FY 2022 budget amendments. This resolution amends the fiscal year 2022 budget to recognize revenues, and appropriate expenditures and budget transfers not identified in the original budget.**

Leigh Griffing - These amendments are standard, as the budget is a living and breathing document. A public hearing must be set for these.

Julie Merritt - Thanks to Leigh for making this understandable and would like to make the recommended motion.

Jordan Hess - I am very excited about the climate action item and know we will be hearing more of this. I am fully supportive of this.

Public comment called for and there was none.

Leigh Ratterman - Showed a presentation regarding climate action plan.

Gwen Jones - There was a lot of time spent this summer to get that \$100,000 into the climate action budget. We were unable at that time to get that FTE worked in. I appreciate the effort on finalizing this now.

Onto consent agenda.

**Moved by:** Julie Merritt

Motion for November 1, 2021:

Set a public hearing for November 15, 2021 with final consideration on November 29, 2021 for a resolution amending the annual appropriations for the City of Missoula, Montana as set forth in the fiscal year 2022 budget and capital improvement program.

Motion for November 15, 2021 & November 29, 2021

Adopt/deny a resolution amending the annual appropriations for the City of Missoula, Montana as set forth in the fiscal year 2021 budget and capital improvement program.

AYES: (10): Stacie Anderson, Mirtha Becerra, John Contos, Heather Harp, Jordan Hess, Gwen Jones, Julie Merritt, Amber Sherrill, Sandra Vasecka, and Heidi West

ABSENT: (2): Jesse Ramos, and Bryan von Lossberg

**Vote results: Approved (10 to 0)**

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourned at 1:25 pm