

Journal of Proceedings

Missoula City Council

August 22, 2022, 6:00 pm

Council Chambers (in person) or TEAMS (virtually)

Attend in person: City Council Chambers, 140 W Pine, Missoula MT

Members Present: Stacie Anderson, Mirtha Becerra, Daniel Carlino, John P. Contos, Jordan Hess, Gwen Jones, Kristen Jordan, Mike Nugent, Jennifer Savage, Amber Sherrill, Sandra Vasecka, Heidi West

Administration Present: Marty Rehbein

Administration Absent: Jim Nugent, City Attorney

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The virtual meeting of the Missoula City Council was called to order by Acting Mayor Gwen Jones at 6:00 PM.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

2.1 Minutes from the August 8, 2022 Meeting

3. PUBLIC COMMENT - NON-AGENDA ITEMS

The first almost 20 minutes of audio was muted/unavailable. [audio started at 019:55.2]

Bob Moore many, many other amounts, the hotels, banks, you name it, somebody's giving it to you, and I suspect, that all due respect to our departed Mayor, he was the leader of this although, he wasn't on the MRA committee himself. Third item, blighted areas need help. So, how do we get the shopping center to get this 10 plus million dollars? Ten plus million dollars.... they took the, as I understood it, they took the Mayor and the City Council members and others and rode around the shopping center and determined that that shopping center was blighted because it's got to be blighted it shall consider it's not blighted, it's never been blighted, never will be blighted and should have never been put in there because it wasn't blighted number one and number two it wasn't in an urban renewal district.

Acting Mayor Jones Mr. Moore, we're pushing 4 minutes here, so, if you could wrap it up.

Bob Moore Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Any other public comment from anyone in the chambers? Okay great, come on up and just state your name.

Travis Mateer Hi, my name is Travis Mateer and I wanted to speak to the Rogers International contracts. I became acutely aware of Roger's behavior last December when one of their paid staff was acting in a pretty threatening and dangerous manner in the Northside neighborhood. At the time, I didn't realize that these rent a cops and I use that derogatory term because they've earned it I didn't realize these rented cops were policing the entire like Northside neighborhood. Since then, I've come to find out that they used a fake address for their Secretary of State license, their business license. It didn't take a whole lot for me to find

that out, so I don't understand what really what the due diligence was when these people were given \$600,000.00. You can ask the Pritchard's that and I think you really need to end the contract and stop using private security because that's a mistake and I am still kind of weirdly hopeful you guys are capable of acknowledging mistakes and changing course I had a good conversation with the County Commissioner who acknowledged mistakes have been made and I was encouraged by that. So, do better. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Anyone else in the room for public comment?

Joe Just getting up here to say that there are some people that have texted me saying that they can't hear the audio from home and wondering if.....

Acting Mayor Jones Okay.

Marty Rehbein I have just fixed it. Thanks.

Acting Mayor Jones All right. Let us know if you get another communication that they cannot hear the audio. Thank you.

Joe My name is Joe. I haven't been here in a couple months. Seeing, seeing the Council decide to continue its failed experiment with Rogers in June was so repulsive and disgusting, I couldn't stand to be in this room anymore. I decided I better not waste my breath on appeals to logic and decency, but in light of the recent events, it seems like there's some regret in the room. Who could have predicted that the budget blackwater operation would do budget blackwater crap to our poorest neighbors? I want to make one final statement, more for the public record than for the Council, the matter of Missoula's treatment of the poor and unhoused is a bellwether and important of things to come. Are they interested in solving the problem of poverty and homelessness in this community? It sure doesn't look like it, it looks like they're interested in criminalizing poverty and driving the evidence of their policy failures to camps, or out of the community entirely. It's shameful. If they aren't serious about dealing with poverty, can we rely on them for the harder tasks that are going to come in the next couple decades? There are authoritarians in Helena right now who are going to come for Blue Mountain Clinic. Do you have the political courage to stand up to Greg Gianforte? What about when they come after a kid at Sentinel High School who is just trying to live his life, his or her life or theirs? Do you have the courage to stand up to MPD or MCSD and tell them that they have to refuse to enforce these laws? Are you going to be able to do anything about the coming floods and heat waves and freezes that kill people, kill community members? Do you have any willingness in your hearts to do something, now while we still have a chance? As it stands, the majority of the City Council refuses to summon the political courage to make hard decisions on morally clear problems. We can throw tens of millions of dollars at a Californian for chil-ology lessons and freaking insane drug policies, but god forbid the social workers be able to make the rent. They have to come in and grovel to you and to the Commissioners every year so that they can barely make 30K. I encourage the people who live here to not be fooled by their handwringing and their political babbling. There are a handful of people here on this Council who are serious about keeping Missoula a good place to work and live for regular working people and the rest seem to be interested in stripping this community for parts and selling it to the highest bidder. We are on a track to become the next Aspen, Vale, Steamboat Springs or Crested Butte, none of which

are inhabitable unless you're a millionaire. Later in this meeting, you're going to see the youngest Councilor fight like hell for this community and you're going to watch the others undercut them. I encourage you all to remember the faces and names on this Council, that when you see them at the farmers market you can tell them what you really think about them cutting your fucking mic.

Acting Mayor Jones So, we do have rules of decorum and I would ask that everyone respect that tonight, so that all who come down here feel welcome to speak and that's why we have rules of decorum. Any other one, anyone else in the, in the room tonight who wants to give public comment on items not on the agenda? All right, seeing none, we've got some people who are queued up. We will go to Matt first for public comment. Matt.

Matt Larson Yes, this is Matt Larson, Ward 3. I'd like to echo some of the comments made earlier by Mr. Hunt and Joe, minus the profanity. I'd only imagine what would happen to me if I was in person and swore in the Council chambers, but much gusto to Joe and everything else he said I think was spot on. And, and yeah, it is very interesting to see the private security contracts continue in the City and how basically useless they are including the security at City Council or at the City, City Hall chambers, as well as the, the county courthouse. I've had my own interactions with them and found them to be basically completely useless and used to intimidate, more so than anything else. Hi Wade. Hi, everyone, else. I, I think that we could do better as a community, especially when we spend 35% of our budget on the police and I think that we need to use austerity and common sense, especially coming into what looks like, you know, some pretty hard financial times for the rest of the country and the community. I think that City Council is not really receptive to a lot of the community's needs and wants and what, what we're really all talking about here as a community and again we, we plead from below, to your ivory towers to please cut these contracts for this, this needless security because it hasn't helped anyone and it's only bringing you more problems. So, let's move on to the budget stuff.

Acting Mayor Jones Next up, we have Sara McLean, your hand is raised, and you should be able to talk. Uh oh, I think she hung up. Sara call back in if you're able to. I'm not sure what happened there. Okay, Chester Sipes. Are you able to unmute yourself Chester? There you go.

Chester Sipes And this is going to be about the jedi program, a question. Where can I find that? Well, where can I access that for FY 2023 budget easily and quickly with the breakdown of the increases? Why it's needed and how it's going to improve things in a simplistic terms that even a person with severe lack of understanding, such as myself, can understand it and access it 24/7. If video was accompanying it, it was unspeakable. As for the budget, I'm going to talk about that in 9.1 and that's going to be all.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you for your comments. Diane Stensland-Bickers....see...Okay, you should be able to unmute yourself Diane. Marty, can you help unmute Diane Stensland-Bickers so she can provide public comment?

[inaudible talking by several speakers]

Acting Mayor Jones There we go.

Diane Stensland-Bickers Can you hear me now?

Marty Rehbein There we go Diane, thanks.

Diane Stensland-Bickers Hi, this is Diane Stensland-Bickers, I'm in Ward 5. On the security issue, I think we really need to take another look at that because everybody's really concerned, and I think it bears re-looking at that contract. On the other issue, I don't think anybody should stand there in front of you and tell you that you're not trying to do a good job. I believe you all accept these jobs with a good heart and that you're trying to do the best you can.... hang on, deep breath.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you Ms. Bickers. Okay, next we have Sara McLean.

Sara McLean Are you able to unmute yourself Sara? And Marty, I'm going to ask for your help again, it just says disable mic and I don't want to do that.... I think Sara hung up again. Okay, we're going to Hailey. Hailey are you able to unmute yourself and speak? Marty can you unmute Hailey please so she can speak? Thank you. Oh, try it one more time. If you can unmute Hailey to speak? Okay, Hailey, can you speak now? All right, Marty are there any special instructions so people can unmute themselves at home?

Marty Rehbein Yeah, I think there, there might be. Let me see if I can share my screen for a second and walk folks through this.... just a minute, that's not the screen I wanted to show.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, we're still working out the kinks in this technology with TEAMS instead of zoom, so appreciate everyone's patience.

Marty Rehbein Okay, hang on just a second. All right, so everybody can see my screen? Usually, when you join a meeting, you have device settings up here and you'll need to make sure that the microphone that you have listed is the microphone for your computer and allow audio and TEAMS to access that microphone in order for your thing to work. When we first started zoom, this was a common thing that we had with zoom as well. So, I'm using a headset right now and so, I have a headset and I had some other options here to choose from. So...

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Hailey, if you're able to unmute yourself, we'd love to hear your public comment. We can't hear you, so....Okay, we're gonna have to move on here. I am sorry to not be able to get a couple of people through here including Sara.

Marty Rehbein Sara McLean is still here, as well. I'm gonna allow mic and see if she can access that. Sara?

Acting Mayor Jones Sara, are you able to unmute yourself?

Marty Rehbein I'm going to also temporarily show the instructions for folks to call into the meeting, if they don't have audio controls.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, let's do that. Thanks.

Marty Rehbein Okay folks if you want to call into the meeting that phone number again is (406) 384-6960. The phone conference ID is 387736445 and the # sign. That's phone conference ID 387736445 and the # sign. In order to raise your hand, if you've joined by phone, you can press *5 and *6 to mute and unmute. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Great, thank you. I'm going to give it a minute to see if someone can call in or not. I appreciate all the comment tonight on the security that is used at the authorized camping shelter, the TSOS,

also at the emergency winter shelter and around the Pov. I don't have a statement prepared for this tonight because we're focusing on the budget tonight, but I appreciate that it's an issue and I can tell you that staff has been talking a lot about how to address this. They, my understanding, is with the behavior that was seen recently that is out of compliance with the contract and our staff is addressing that with Roger's Security. In the meantime, we're also in a situation where we also cannot not have security at these locations and if we stop security, these locations have to get shut down and that's also something that I don't want to see happen. So, we're working with the situation and in the meantime, we're also working on what is a longer term plan and how should we approach this constructively to have a better situation for everybody. So, I want you to know that it is being discussed and part of this is, will there be money in the long run also and that affects how we go about these staffing decisions because with the crisis services levy that will potentially be on the ballot in this November, if that doesn't pass then it's a whole different conversation. So, there's a lot of different moving pieces and I can assure you the City wants to have safe security but also securities necessarily, is necessary so that the inhabitants of these different encampments are safe and in a safe situation. All right, we're going to see if we had anyone else call in so that we can get through public comment because we got a long meeting tonight. Sara, I see you also. Are you able to unmute yourself? All right, I'm sorry, we're not going to be able to take your public comment because I can't get you through. Please email Council and let us know your thoughts. Okay we are going to go on with the agenda.

Marty Rehbein Gwen, we have one more Menlo L or Meno L is.....also got the hand raised, has their hand raised in the audience.....

Acting Mayor Jones Ah, okay, that was interesting....OK, Meno L, are you? Can you unmute yourself and talk? You should be able to talk.

Meno L Yes, can you hear me?

Acting Mayor Jones Go ahead...

Meno L In regards to the security contract, how is 11 million dollars for the Police Department not enough to cover the security that you want? But that's, just my comment is, I don't understand why we're giving the Police Department so much money if you're then going to say that they can't perform the tasks that you pay them for. That's all.

Acting Mayor Jones Great, thank you. Okay, we're going to move on with the agenda.

4. ANNOUNCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS, COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP APPOINTMENTS AND CHANGES TO COMMITTEE AGENDAS

Acting Mayor Jones Marty could you go through the committee meetings for this week please?

Marty Rehbein Yes, just a moment. Okay let's talk about City Council committees coming up for this coming Wednesday, August 24,2022. This committee schedule is available on our public meeting portal. All of the instructions to join all of our committee meetings is right here at the top, clicking here to join, we have the link to join the meeting here. The link is the same for every committee, every single week. It

never changes, the same with City Council meeting actually. We have the same call-in number that we're using this evening. We have a different phone conference ID; those are all available up here.

Public Works and Mobility Committee, August 24, 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.

Committee of the Whole, August 24, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Land Use and Planning Committee, August 24, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Public Safety, Health, and Operations Committee, August 24, 1:15 – 1:30 p.m.

Housing, Redevelopment, and Community Programs Committee, August 24, 1:45 – 1:55 p.m.

Acting Mayor Jones Great, thank you Marty.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Acting Mayor Jones Next is our consent agenda. Items on the consent agenda were approved in City Council committees to be placed on the consent agenda to save time at Council meetings by voting on them as a package. The City Clerk will read the list aloud so citizens watching on MCAT will know what is on the consent agenda. We'll invite community comment on these items before we vote. Marty if you could go through the consent agenda please.

AYES: (11): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Jordan, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, Alderperson Vasecka, and Alderperson West

ABSENT: (1): Alderperson Hess

Vote result: Approved (11 to 0)

5.1 Accounts Payable (claims) for checks dated August 16, 2022

Ratify accounts payable in the amount of \$2,567,363.27 for checks dated August 16, 2022.

Vote result: Approved

5.2 Wastewater Primary Effluent Pump Upgrade

Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign a Purchase Agreement with Cascade Pump Company for the Wastewater Primary Effluent 75 HP pump upgrade not to exceed \$78,000.00

Vote result: Approved

5.3 Accounts Payable (claims) for checks dated August 23, 2022

Approve accounts payable in the amount of \$1,302,730.72 for checks dated August 23, 2022.

Vote result: Approved

- 5.4 Purchase Agreement with Process Water Technologies, LLC for the Volute Press Upgrade**
Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign a Purchase Agreement with Process Wastewater Technologies, LLC for the volute press upgrade not to exceed \$112,750.00.
Vote result: Approved
- 5.5 Service Agreement with 2G Energy for Co-Gen Maintenance**
Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign a Service Agreement with 2G Energy for Co-Gen maintenance at a cost not to exceed \$85,031.65.
Vote result: Approved
- 5.6 Appointment to the Public Art Committee**
Confirm the Mayor's appointment of Erika Hickey to the Public Art Committee for a term beginning immediately and expiring on June 30, 2026.
Vote result: Approved
- 5.7 Hazardous Vegetation Assessments for Fiscal Year 2022**
A resolution levying a special assessment and tax upon property for annual weed assessments to reimburse the city for hazardous vegetation and nuisance weed cut orders performed in 2021 totaling \$797.50 pursuant to section 7-22-4101 Montana Code Annotated and section 8.40.040 Missoula Municipal Code.
AYES: (10): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Jordan, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, and Alderperson West
NAYS: (1): Alderperson Vasecka
ABSENT: (1): Alderperson Hess
Vote result: Approved (10 to 1)

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you Marty. Is there any public comment on the consent agenda? Okay, any Council want to divide the question? Ms. Vasecka.

Alderperson Vasecka Yes, I would like to separate 5.7 and vote on that separately please.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay thank you. Any other Councilors? Seeing no hands raised, okay, Marty could you do a roll call vote and divide out 5.7?

Marty Rehbein Okay, let's just do items 5.1 through 5.6 first. So, this is most of the items on the consent agenda.

Marty Rehbein And now let's move on to consent agenda 5.7, which is the hazardous vegetation resolution.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you.

6. COMMENTS FROM CITY STAFF, CITY AGENCIES, COMMUNITY FORUM, NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, OR AUTHORITIES – None.

7. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

Acting Mayor Jones We do have one special proclamation today that I'll read; this is for James K. Caras Day.

7.1 Proclamation - James K. Caras Day

WHEREAS, James K. Caras immigrated from Greece to the United States in 1908 and chose to make Missoula, Montana his home; and WHEREAS, James K. Caras applied hard work and dedication to the conduct of his business and became a successful partner in the local business industry and generously contributed his time, energy and resources to the betterment of Missoula community; and WHEREAS, the Missoula Park Board voted in 1977 to rename Island Park in Missoula as Caras Park in honor of James K. Caras; and, WHEREAS, the history of James K. Caras' contributions to the community is not widely known, which prompted a group of Missoula's citizens to cause to be prepared a bronze plaque summarizing his life to be placed in Caras Park; and WHEREAS, on May 10, 2022, the Missoula Parks and Recreation Board voted to permit the placement of this plaque and further voted to rededicate Caras Park to honor James K. Caras. Now, therefore, I, John Engen, Mayor of the City of Missoula in the State of Montana hereby recognize the 24th day of August 2022 as James K. Caras Day.

Acting Mayor Jones And I encourage all Missoulian's to emulate his example of civic participation in efforts to improve our community and it is signed by John Engen and the people who created this plaque reached out to me to ask if we should put John's name or my name and I said to keep John's name because John was very involved with the Downtown Association and Caras Park, and it was his last proclamation that he signed. Is anyone here to speak on this item? Or Ms. Anderson, I see your hand is raised. Oh okay, I guess not, it was a mistake. All right then, we will move forward with our agenda today.

8. FINAL CONSIDERATION – None.

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Acting Mayor Jones We are doing the public hearing tonight on the fiscal year 2023 executive budget. So, we will have a staff presentation on this first. We'll take public comment in general on the budget and we'll take questions from Council and then we will take a motion made by one of the Councilors and go forward with moving the whole hearing forward and take public comment on items at that point. So, for now, staff I will turn it over to you. Dale are you our presenter tonight? Great.

Dale Bickell Good evening Council members, Dale Bickell, Chief Administrative Officer. Can you hear me okay?

Acting Mayor Jones Yes.

Dale Bickell All right, so I'm going to kick off this budget hearing. First, I'd like to acknowledge that most of the senior leadership team is available as presenters on this for any questions that may come up during the process.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you.

Dale Bickell And with that, I will kick off this presentation. First off, I'd like to review the Mayor's priorities when this budget was first established. First it was it to [no audio] invest vibrant staff. Second, it was to ensure long-term financial sustainability and that means to make sure our ongoing needs match our revenues, and then also we're continuing successful programs so this budget focuses on maintaining the current level of service rather than expansion or, or creation of new programs. Okay, maybe I'll step a little closer. So, I'm going to go through some highlights of the new requests and initiatives that are funded in this budget, and they are organized in the pillars of the City's Strategic Plan. So, this first slide is for items that are in our organizational excellence pillar. First is invest in our people like I mentioned a top priority in this budget and the highlight here is the implementation of a non-union market-based compensation plan to keep our talented staff and avoid cost of recruiting and training. Secondly, we have their justice, equity, diversity and inclusion initiative. This includes maintaining a coordinator position and providing a hundred thousand dollars in implementation funding, this is through ARPA dollars. And we're going to continue our technology investments, we need to improve our collaboration software and, and create the tools we need to enhance our GISs system and, and our new job applicant tracking system. Next pillar is the access to quality housing, we are continuing our land banking program in this fiscal year, you'll see us move forward with the redevelopment of the Sleepy Inn site, we'll provide the tools necessary to develop the riverfront triangle and a plan for the development of the Payne block, which is the former public library building. We've invested \$250,000.00 in ARPA funds to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, and we are allocating \$547,00.00 for a massive comprehensive code reform program for the City. The next pillar is community safety and wellness; this budget continues to fund the Mobile Support Team that is run out of the Fire Department with partners from partnership health center. We are continuing investments in childcare with Parks and Rec operating their base camp program out of the old library building and, and providing significant investments in crisis services where we are continuing to operate the programs that were started under, in the pandemic, such as the emergency winter shelter, temporary safe outdoor space, and a crisis intervention training, excuse me. And then we're investing in our built-in natural environment, this is largely investments that are made in our capital improvement program, our water infrastructure that we are investing 19 million dollars in our water infrastructure with municipal ownership. We committed to making significant investments in a system that when we acquired it leaked more water than it delivered and largely thanks to ARPA dollars, we are able to make significant investments in there. As you know, we are working on the, the BUILD Grant in the Mullan Road or Sxwtpqyen area, that's a 23 million dollar infrastructure project that's going to improve that transportation network and provide for housing opportunities. In wastewater, we have 10.3 million dollars in our CIP which includes is under construction now the largest non-export solar project in the state and

we are, we'll continue on this our Scott Street housing project which is the largest affordable home ownership project in state history and, and we've supplied a \$479,000.00 loan for design to be able to facilitate that project. So, talking about the sources of funding, I mentioned ARPA. This chart shows are our where the FY23 ARPA dollars are going, specifically for this budget. I've talked about many of those things I do want to draw your attention to the largest line item on here which is the revenue loss item at 2.3 million dollars and just that revenue loss item is that that's the category of ARPA we are using. This, that that funding is being invested directly into the General Fund in order to maintain our budget policies and our cash reserve requirements. Without that, we'd either have to you know raise, find more revenues or reduce expenses to maintain our budget policies. As part of the budget process, the Council is also asked to adopt new fees and permit increases, so this is a list of the fees that are subject to the public hearing tonight. So, and the first one is wastewater industrial interceptor various permit fee; that's not wastewater rates, this is simple permit fee at all and that's what all of these are there. None of our utility rate increases or anything; these are the specific fees and permits that you see listed on that screen and that's a 7% increase proposed for this year. So, the results of those new requests and the and our baseline figures increases is, is a significant tax increase that we've talked about it's an 11.69%. What this chart shows is where those funds are coming from and you can see that, that the changes came in the baseline from a, the transfer of expenses that were previously funded by the General Fund that supported parks and road to those districts and that allowed the capacity for the City to fund the items in the General Fund. What that means for property tax implications on a taxpayer is that total City taxes for FY23 per \$100,000.00 of assessed value is \$431.00. That change equates to approximately \$44.99 per year per \$100,000.00 or 375 cents per month and that is on assessed value. I want to make sure that we make it distinguish between assessed value that the Department of Revenue provides versus true market value and that but here, here is an example of a of a residence that is on Zillow is estimated at \$635,000.00 but the current market value is \$430,000.00 and you know, we tested several properties you know, and we believe that the assessed value is behind true market value by about 50%. So, that is something to, to consider, as you try to calculate this on your tax bill the best resource for this is the Missoula County's website they have an excellent property tax website, and you can look up your specific tax bill and, and see what your assessed value is for this fiscal year. Shifting here's a little bit of talk about tax increment financing and some highlights there. This chart shows the percentage of tax increment financing that is a percentage of the total budget. You can see that it has increased since 2020 but, but since then has been relatively flat and it is, continues to that at 8.9%. In a little more context on where all of the taxes go. This is a chart that shows the split of, of property tax dollars in Missoula County through for all just jurisdictions. So, you can see in the lower right corner that the City tax bill approximates 30% of a tax bill. This is this chart shows specifically our allocation of dollars for the City's operating budget. This is the budget for property taxes and our special district and road and park and this shows the, the, the total dollars rounded to the, to the, to in the in millions and the percentage of that. So, you can see all those various categories there and, and where the General Fund and Road and Park

District assessments go. We spend a lot of time talking about the operating budget. I think it's a slide to move. We do make significant investments in our infrastructure every year and this year is no exception. In fact, this year is a bigger year because of the support we're getting from the federal government in terms of ARPA and in the BUILD Grant that you see there. Interesting, the property tax dollars are in our operating funds, there we do very little infrastructure investment with those operating dollars. Those are really for maintenance and those type of thing, exceptions to that would be things like the core vehicle replacement that our property tax supported but this is where you go. And we are making we're and we're making substantial investments in infrastructure 18.5 million dollars in water, 18.6 million is the BUILD Grant project, et cetera. To puts this in a little context with what our other our peer cities are doing. This is a chart that shows property taxes and assessments districts for this fiscal year. You can see there's Missoula there and the blue bar that is 11.65%, some of our peer cities, Bozeman and Billings, for example are in that in the same range as us, and you see some of our other peers, Great Falls, Kalispell, and Helena are much more. And this this all varies by City, every year obviously, but it is a, but this this property tax issue is not a Missoula problem, it's a statewide problem and, and you know in order to fix that we need we need some we need so we need different tools. And this slide is revenue per capita; this is, this is our attempt to put all of the cities on a apples to apples comparison and it's simply you take all of the revenues, and you divide by the number of people, and you get a revenue per capita estimate. And you can see we are we reasonably compare with our peers, we're in the middle of the of these this is FY23, and you can see where Missoula sits on all this and that stands to reason because we're all using the same type of tool here to you know we all have the same property tax and special district tools, so this accounts for all of that. So, we are, so this does show that we are you know reasonably even maybe on the low side on a per capita basis of our peers. And finally, this is the list of all of the motions that City Council would consider tonight as part of this process. So, the budget itself, the annual appropriation which includes the permissive medical levy that is their ability to assess increases in health insurance costs outside of our traditional mill levy cap, there's a fee increases I talked about. This also adopts the budget and work plans for the Road District, Park District, Business Improvement District, and that Tourism and Business Improvement District and so it fixes the appropriations, the budget and for the capital improvement program, and all of those items listed there and then a resolution levying the taxes for, for those purposes as well. So, it is a lot of motions related to adopting the budget that are listed there and with that, that ends my presentation, and I'd be happy to answer any questions.

Acting Mayor Jones Great, thank you. So, I'm going to follow our format in our rules and Dale if you want to have a seat, we're going to take public comment next in general on the, on the budget. So, if anyone has public comment that they want to provide on the budget, in general. We will have, I think, amendments that are made later on and we'll deal with those individually. Just a moment, Ms. Anderson.
Alderson Anderson I'm sorry, have we made the motion to move the budget?

Acting Mayor Jones Nope, not yet. We're following our rules. We take public comment after the presentation. Yep I'm sorry, go ahead stand up sorry.

Travis Mateer Yeah, I just wanted to address a piece of I think misinformation you guys just received the Mobile Crisis Unit is no longer under the oversight of the Fire Department, it's now the police. So, I just want to make sure you guys are getting accurate information. I just looked that up and read that at the Missoula Current, so I got some accurate information from Martin Kissel and I'm very excited about that. So, Police Department as of February 4, 2022 has oversight for the Mobile Crisis Unit. Thanks.

Acting Mayor Jones Could you provide your name on the record please? Sorry.

Travis Mateer Travis Mateer and this is my second comment of the evening for those keeping score.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Anyone else wanting to provide public comment on the presentation, on the budget in general?

Kevin Hunt Thank you. Good evening, my name is Kevin Hunt. I live in a recently property tax lien home at 308 Parkside Lane here in Missoula. You're about to consider a budget and you have been laid before you a list of quote-unquote the motions you're going to consider, but I believe that you're going to have some other motions brought up tonight by the youngest member of the Council. And I would like to note that at a recent meeting when the resolution adopted by this Council to support the county's referendum for a 20 mil property tax levy was under consideration, Council, Councilman Hess suggested that the budget was very creative and that those who were saying it wasn't creative that this was a disingenuous euphemism for make budget cuts. Well, I think tonight you're going to find that a couple of people have done that very hard work to find the money to fund these programs to invest in the people of Missoula without asking for new revenue and shifting money from inefficient and inappropriate expenditures and vague expenditures to expenditures that will continue the funding of the programs that are working such as the mobile crisis response unit, which is actually saving money to the people of Missoula. I'd just like to add this that Tolstoy, who I'm sure you all know who Leo Tolstoy was spent time in the slums of Moscow because he was trying to understand how to end poverty and, and homelessness and when he emerged, he had an epiphany and he said I finally understood if I want there to be no more poor people, I must stop producing them. This continuation of these property tax increases is going to produce more poor people. I am on a fixed income, as are many and displacing, displacing the property taxpayers out of their homes is adding, it's adding to the number of poverty stricken people in this community, it's adding to the number of homeless people. So, you can you can do it on this end and you can do it on this end but you got to stop producing them and it produces them when the homeowners who are renting to people have to pass those increases on to the already struggling 51% of Missoulian's who are renters in this community, two-thirds of whom are cost burdened and barely making it and two-thirds of that two-thirds are living on less than 23K a year, while 40% of this community is relatively recent transplants who are speculators and who are, who make all of their income 100% from collecting rents and dividends. This reality has not been, it's not been accepted and recognized by the liberals on this Council. I am not a liberal I am from the left and as a member of the left, I can tell you that we have

something in common with conservatives. We believe, we believe in very meticulous oversight, efficient spending, and not wasting dollars on feel-good things. We want to actually get results, more than anyone, we on the left have to adhere to that and it's about time that the liberals did the same. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Any other comments on our budget in general tonight?

Nina Benjamin My name is Nina Benjamin. I am in the district 3 area, and I just wanted to express my objection to this increase in taxes. I have been a homeowner in the area for over 35 years. I just spoke to an individual who just sold their place who had been a resident here for 42 years and had decided that with an additional tax increase on top of what she's already paid that she would not be able to afford to live here any longer. Forty-two years, 35 for me, and I have come to the point where I just say this is enough. We cannot keep doing this to our people and this inflationary aspect that is talked about so often in terms of why we have to raise budgets et cetera. You know this 11% that a homeowner is, is incurring is going to be passed directly to a renter. They are not going to stop for a second and the cost of rents in this, in this City right now, you know are on par with San Francisco and, and Bozeman, which are some of the highest, you know Seattle. I mean and we don't have the types of incomes here that those cities have. So, I just want to emphasize that I feel there has got to be another solution to this budget issue. I believe that with some creative thinking and some additional information that there was, there will be a way to balance our budget and, and provide the services that we all want to provide. You know, in our budgets if I can't budget for a you know \$15,000.00 vacation to Maui, I don't go. You know, and it's no different with any budget. So, you know, the other aspect of this increase is our businesses, our small businesses. They're already just recovering somewhat, some of them from the COVID issue and the business shutdowns et cetera, and so now we're going to come back in and just as there may be getting on their feet, many haven't made it, many didn't make it through, but the ones that we've got here, we need to support them. Our small businesses are the backbone of America, you know, and I see all the time we've got these tax, tax cuts for Verizon, to the railroad, to off the top of my head, all of you could name the big businesses that we have in this City that receive so many tax cuts, tax benefits that we're not offering to the individuals here in this City. We're not offering to the businesses, the small businesses and that's who we have to back, that's what this City is about, has always been about in my opinion, you know. And you know, we can't keep balancing budgets on the backs of the small people, you know at the expense of the small people in order to benefit these large companies. You know, NorthWestern Energy is an example, [inaudible] is an example of businesses in this City that get huge tax breaks and then we sock it to our small business guys. You know, I mean I have I have a son who has commercial property and it's doubled in less than seven years. You know and you can't keep doing that to these guys. You know they can't afford it, nor can people on fixed incomes afford this type of tax increase on top of the tax increase and frankly I don't feel we're getting a lot for the money, that's just my opinion.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you.

Nina Benjamin That's it.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you for your comments. Anyone else that wants to provide comment in general on the budget? Mr. Moore.

Bob Moore Bob Moore again on the budget situation. I throw out a couple of articles in the newspaper so that people know that it's not just people who attend these meetings, but others have questions about the budget also. This hand is, give taxpayers a break, another one affordable housing, I have to admit I'm so sick of hearing about affordable houses, I, I don't know what to do. Missoula, of course, is ground zero for wasteful spending. Since 2014, the City of Missoula's budget has grown from 119 million to 244 million, 70% over the population growth. Absolute numbers in a budget is going to go up as the population goes up. This one is eating your live at 70%. The primary thing I would like to see in the budget is that the MRA agency be completely terminated, all the employees transfer to other good jobs, have no objection to them having a good job, but they do their jobs who will? We're spending millions and millions of dollars. Now see, we want to spend or issue a bond for 19 million dollars for the fair. I was at the fair, I just wanted to see what it was like and there's been some improvements in the fair. So, that's not all dirt now, so forth; however, I don't think we need another 19 million. If you want to look at your job sometimes, it's not how to spend every dime that you can get your hands on, but how to get the things you need reduced, reduced. I taught a course at the University one-time, a graduate course, and I swear I think it was called budgeting profit planning and control. Now, having been here, I wish I'd never done it because I have to admit I learned a great deal about how to run a company and including the budgeting process of it. Nineteen million dollars for a new ice rink or improved ice rink, we don't need all that. You need to figure out how to reduce the problem, I mean the expenditures that people are asking for, begging for, or hoping for.

Acting Mayor Jones We're at 4 minutes. Okay, thank you. Anyone else in the room? Come on up and say your name and we try and keep it 3 minutes.

Jackson Crawford Hi, my name is Jackson Crawford. I'm from Bozeman originally, lived in Missoula about 8 years now. This is my first City Council meeting and I'm here to voice support for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. I am lucky enough to be a homeowner at this age, which is pretty ridiculous honestly. My dad helped me buy a house here and I'm lucky to be able to use that as a way to support friends and I have about at least a dozen people who have stayed with me for free for a day up to three months to try to find a place to rent here and it's just a huge problem and I've seen it over and over again. I have three people at my house right now and all I can say is you have a really difficult job. I don't know how to create a budget like this, but I do know that the City staff recommended \$850,000.00 go to this trust fund and that Scott Street project is a great example of you know affordable housing being built here. I brag about it to my family and Bozeman all the time and I think the more we can invest in affordable housing, the better. I am really lucky to have a high-paying job and a house, and I don't think nearly enough people have that privilege in our community and I just want to voice my support for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. That's all.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Anyone else in the room that wants to provide public comment in general on the budget? Come on up, just state your name please. Thank you.

Robert Dunlop My name is Robert Dunlop, I live at 2316 West Kent. For those of you on the Council that choose to subject yourself to this kind of treatment for another term, I want to remind you that some of the doors you're going to knock on are the people that had to go to their bank account and to put money in that bank account they weren't making the 16, 17, 20, \$25.00 an hour that you're paying some of your park staff or any other staff. So, you have to know that we're digging deep. I hate to see anybody's taxes increase, but you've heard that before, nobody wants to raise taxes including probably all of you. So, your question to somebody like me is, well what do we do? And I say you've got to get the most bang for your buck out of the dollars you already have. From what I read in the paper, which by and large I accept in the Missoulian, you probably can't safely cut the Police, Fire protection, health and safety, there's very little you can do there but there's one department you might look at and that's Parks and Recreation. I'm not against parks. I'm not against recreation, but I wonder if you know what your Director of Parks and Recreation, what programs they have. I say there's no need for us to have programs where we send kids off on overnight camping trips. We might be better off utilizing our own City parks here. I say, I don't know if it's buried in the budget or not, but we don't need a new facility over at McCormick Park for 40, 44, 40, or 44 million dollars. Is my 4 minutes, 3 minutes up?

Acting Mayor Jones Take a couple more minutes.

Robert Dunlop Okay. The other issue is it's only 100 or 130,000.00 but you don't need to spend that kind of money on a study, on that Kiwanis Park over there. That's a beautiful green grass and an urban area, it's utilized now. So, I'm just here, look at what you got, use what you got, get the most bang out of your buck. That 11.5% is ridiculous. Good luck if you face that person when you knock on their door. Okay, thank you very much.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you for your comments. Anyone else in the room? Okay I do have a few people who are....oh okay and I got a couple people online. So, come on up.

Dylan Albans Hey, Dylan Albans, Ward 3. I would just like to ask that future budgets, if not this one, could be more detailed. I got to look at the general budget and I did get to see a more detailed police budget. It was like a data range of the past 10 years and budget items for like pens and paper were all blank and it all went into general topic fields and I'm sure it's probably boring to get those numbers, but I would like to just ask that someone do it. Maybe someone go in and audit and make sure people are actually spending money on what they say they're spending money on. If this budget could be postponed just until some more detail could be added, it'd be nice to know that when someone says they need a hundred thousand dollars more that it is actually gonna go towards what they say it's gonna go towards. Sorry and I wanted to say looking at the police budget, I saw that there was about \$900,000.00 left over. I'm just wondering where does the money go? Does it add to their next year's budget? Does it go back into our funds? Just for any, just a clarification there. And then also the ARPA fund is just a special opportunity to perform, to improve systematically wrong issues, especially related to housing and I would

ask that any of those funds not to go to anything that is maintenance or just keeping the flow of how things are fixing current issues. I would like to see that money go to add things to improve in the future. That's all.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Okay, I'm gonna go to people who are online to provide just public comment on the budget in general. Chester are you able to unmute yourself and speak Chester?

Chester Sipes Yes and well without wanting each and every one of you to exist on less than 10K a year excluding internet, excluding healthcare, excluding everything. Well without that I think they say for the another change the way that you have the budget, including ARPA funds to deal with housing, climate action, and the Mobile Support Team. Yeah, yeah in my mind....

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you Chester. Menlo L are you able to unmute yourself and provide public comment too? There you go. Can you unmute yourself?

Menlo L Can you hear me?

Acting Mayor Jones Yes, go ahead.

Menlo L Can you hear me?

Acting Mayor Jones Yes, go ahead.

Menlo L Okay. I have to ask and forgive me if this is off topic or it has already been answered, but is there money allocated in the budget for increasing the wages of City Council members? Does anyone know that?

Acting Mayor Jones I'm sorry, I can't understand you. Can you just speak a little bit slower?

Menlo L Sorry, sorry. I wanted to ask is there money in the budget for increasing the wages of City Council members?

Acting Mayor Jones Right. So, we don't do a back and forth during these public comments, but I....

Menlo L Okay....

Acting Mayor Jones But thanks though.

Menlo L Sorry....I just wanted to argue that I think there should be an increase in the wages for City Council members because the current \$1,200.00 or thereabouts range prevents anyone except the independently wealthy from being on the City Council and it is a form of discrimination and prevents us from having the types of voices that we need in our local government. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Okay. Next in our order of business, any questions from Council for Dale before we go to a motion? Anyone having any questions to go over with Dale? Yes, Ms. Anderson.

Alderson Anderson Thanks so much. I, just a couple things that the public brought up, so I figured I'd help kind of answer some questions. From Mr. Dale Bickell, the City Council increases wages is just what the cost of increase for all staff is correct?

Dale Bickell Correct, we matched that increase to the quality increase, which is about 3% this year.

Alderson Anderson So the 3% cost of living increase for City Council members? May I have a followup madam chair?

Acting Mayor Jones Go ahead.

Alderson Anderson We are not funding the 44 million dollar building out at Currents in this particular budget? That is something that is an item that would be nice at some point in the future, but that is not a part of the City Council budget for this year? Correct?

Dale Bickell Yes, that's correct.

Alderson Anderson I will let other Council members ask public comment questions.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Vasecka.

Alderson Vasecka Oh yea, a member of the public brought up what happens with a certain department's budget if they don't use up all the money, I was hoping Mr. Bickell could expand upon if they lose that money or what happens with any extra dollars that they don't spend?

Dale Bickell Sure. So, I'll contrast a little bit between General Fund departments like the Police Department and special district budgets like Road or Park District. So, for budgets in the General Fund that all of the all the savings in a budget actually gives returned to the General Fund as part of our, it becomes part of our cash reserve requirements and that we move forward to the extent we have excess cash reserves, we would use those to fund one-time items such as capital but in Road and Park District, to the extent that they are, there's budgetary savings and those, those, those savings stay in there and, and in this budget Parks is a good example where you'll see that many of their capital improvement items are actually funded by past years budgetary savings.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Anderson...Ms. West raise your hand higher...

Alderson West Sorry, so many screens...So, I also heard a question about audits. Could you maybe explain how often the City gets audited?

Dale Bickell City audits come in lots of different ways. We get an annual financial audit that touches all aspects of the City. Those audit reports are available on the City's website through the Finance Department. We are also subject to performance audits and other financial audits from our granting agencies, state compliance auditors, and those types of things. So, we, we are audited several times per year in various programs.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Anderson.

Alderson Anderson Thanks so much. There was comment on regards to certain offsets for taxes for centrally assessed properties such as NorthWestern Energy, Verizon, and various large businesses. Those are not under the purview of the City of Missoula to be able to give those out. That is under the purview of the State Legislature and the Department of Revenue, I'm just wanting to make sure that's correct that we can't give special tax breaks to various entities through our governing authority here on City Council.

Dale Bickell Yes, that's correct, the Department of Revenue is responsible for establishing values and there's two tracks that a lot of changes in the property tax code can get done through the legislature and also these businesses have the same protest opportunities that are available to all taxpayers. And so, they you know have the ability to protest taxes as well.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Vasecka.

Alderson Vasecka Regarding ARPA funding, it is given to us from the federal government. So, what happens if we do not use all of our ARPA funding? What happens to that? Does it go back into the federal tax base? Or we don't use it, we lose it, or how does that work?

Dale Bickell Yes, there is a use it or lose it provision in it. We are carrying over approximately \$907,000.00 of our ARPA resources that we received, that we, were, want to save for FY24, in case of you know particularly for items related to our operation shelter programs that are facing running out of money and also just being able to make sure our, we have tools to help balance next year's budget like we had to with this year. ARPA expires and we have to have it all committed by the in a calendar, calendar year 24, so there is time in order to deal with that that piece.

Alderson Vasecka May I have a quick followup?

Acting Mayor Jones Go ahead.

Alderson Vasecka We have to have it committed by fiscal year 24? When do we have to have it spent by?

Dale Bickell If I recall right by the end of the calendar year 2026.

Alderson Vasecka Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Danny.

Alderson Carlino Yeah, I see here on the budget summary it says the coronavirus state and local fiscal recovery funds program a part of the American Rescue Plan Act delivered 350 billion dollars to state, local and tribal governments across the country to support their response to and recovery from the COVID-19 public health emergency. So, I'm wondering why we're spending \$2,369,815.00 of our ARPA funds towards revenue loss. I could definitely understand targeting people that are struggling to pay their property taxes and using that as a relief, but I think to see these as you know once in a lifetime funds that are meant to get to the underlying problems that we put band-aids on with our budgets each year and I'm just wondering why are we spending over 2 million on revenue loss from ARPA funds?

Dale Bickell Good question. So, that part of that American Rescue Plan Act is for those recovery aspects and that's exactly what the City is using those dollars for so and we, we, we manage our budget around two basic parameters in the General Fund and that is that we want to match our ongoing expenses to our ongoing revenues, and we want to maintain and maintain a certain cash reserve. Our state calls it their rainy day fund and we have those minimum requirements in our budget policies. Without that, that two plus million dollar ARPA investment means we are meeting our cash reserve requirements. In absence of that, we are we are below it, below those requirements and that, and that goes to our ability to maintain our budget throughout the year for cash flow purposes. It, it, it is money we need in case of anticipated expenses, if there is an emergency or other anticipated expenses and it's also an important aspect of our, our ongoing credit rating, so our ability to borrow and ability to [inaudible] rates is all predicated on us following those budget policies. So, in absence of using that money, we will, we are budgeted by City Missoula definition would be out of balance.

Acting Mayor Jones Thanks Dale and I've got a few followup questions also. Oh, we got some more over here, alright I'll wait.

[unannounced Alderperson] Thanks Dale. I'm just wondering how did our cash reserves get below the required amount in the first place?

Dale Bickell So, over the past few years you know we, we were below our cash use requirements. We took, we, we made concerted efforts to get there and pre-pandemic we were able to, to get to those things. What happened during the pandemic, our previous budgets, we, we were holding the line. In fact, our levies have decreased since, since the, the since the bet budget. So, if you look at, if you look at our levies, we're actually, they're actually lower today than they were in 2019 and that and we were using those funds in order to balance our budget. So, we get to the end of this year and we that that continued to happen. Our, our ongoing expenses exceeded our ongoing revenues, we need to make that catch up somewhere, and that's where this is coming from.

Acting Mayor Jones Sandra.

Alderperson Vasecka I have two questions. The first one is in response to something that Daniel said. Is it possible to use ARPA funding too instead of what, what we're currently doing is for revenue lost using it for that but is it possible to use it as I guess put a certain amount of dollars into the General Fund to help alleviate the burden onto property tax dollars being spent? Does that make sense or is that an inappropriate use of ARPA funds?

Dale Bickell Yes that is and in fact that's what we did those past couple of years and now which led to when you're when you and that's essentially we're using you know one-time revenue. So, these ARPA funds that are declining over time to fund our ongoing operations. We use that money to not increase the General Fund. We, we had this federal support Mayor and Council chose to let's, let's hold the line on our levees and, and, and not increase and we'll use these use these funds to do that, but that time is ending, and this is... what, what this budget is proposing to do is to get, get us back to being able to fund our ongoing expenses through our property taxes.

Alderperson Vasecka Okay that makes sense. Thank you. And then I had a, a procedure question. On the agenda tonight a lot of the motions are very specific, is it the last motion that is the actual adoption of the budget?

Acting Mayor Jones So, it will...let me go through that in a minute.

Alderperson Vasecka Okay.

Acting Mayor Jones I want to finish up questions and then we're going to move forward with our motions, and I'll explain the motions, but I did want to cover a couple of topics with Dale because I feel like people are asking some specific questions, but frankly missing the big picture and that's what I want to talk about a little bit with you Dale and ask a few questions. And that is for years now, we have been talking about the fact that our taxation system needs to be reformed and changed and I appreciate people who are homeowners and renters coming down because the residential property taxes go up exponentially and frankly that's the only tool we have to fund this government and the fire and the police and the housing

and all of the, all of the services that we need to provide. So, Dale you and I have talked about it for years now and have not seen any changes in our taxation system because that's up to the legislature, so we have to use the tools that we have. And Dale, if you could talk a little bit, first of all, I know one factor is the fact that there used to be very different industries, that were the core industries in Missoula, that our taxation system was based on natural resources basically and that we no longer have those, instead we have technology and tourism which are not taxed. Could you address that just briefly and I've got a couple other topics to just briefly address?

Dale Bickell Sure, you know our, our, our property tax system that Montana operates on today was largely created in the 70s when, when a lot of the tax base was born by big industrial payers that had a lot of assets that were taxable and that has really shifted over the past number of years for, for various reasons. One is that our economy has changed and we don't have the we as the United States has shifted towards a service economy that has changed our property tax and has shifted property tax burden to residential payers and there's been for the last 30 years, there's been a substantial shift in tax base to residential payers and the other is just a policy setting by the State Legislature, business equipment tax cuts, and those types of things have also shifted burdens and those things are when, when those are reduced it is a direct shift to residential payers. So, those are the kind of the pop the, the, the things that have happened in, in Montana that our property tax system hasn't followed. Getting a tool such as a, a, a local option tourist tax or even some cities have local option income taxes is, is a, it just gives us more tools to deal with rather than just going to the same well over and over again and, and that's a big part of the problem and I think any time we want to get another tool it's not just about getting more revenue, it's about, it's, it's about tax reform meaningful property tax form and a bunch of that has to go to, to reducing property taxes.

Acting Mayor Jones Yeah, thank you for that and it's I think it's really important to talk about the core problem because you just can't keep up divvying the same amount of money it doesn't every year our labor costs go up and it gets more and more expensive. The other component of that Dale, I just wanted you to briefly address is the fact that local government is being asked to do more and more on this at this level, that state and federal used to do and as they balance their budgets, they push the need down to us. So, things like the Mobile Support Team, crisis intervention team, housing, mental health, all sorts of issues. Is it correct, we didn't really do that 25 years ago and now the, the need is here and we're having to address more needs while we're at the same time pulling more from residential property tax? So, there is a, a perfect storm brewing and I've been talking about it for years and frankly it's frustrating being in this situation and I wish we had more tools, but would you comment on that Dale?

Dale Bickell Yeah, I think that's exactly right. We're being asked to get into asked or I mean because there is no other alternative pressured into these new lines of business like we have an operation shelter and Mobile Support Team, those types of things but there's also smaller things too. Just the fact that we now have three municipal court judges instead of one. In the last budget is something that was a state legislative change, we had to do it by law. We remodeled a courtroom, and we added the payroll related

to new judges and that's the those are the types of things that we're dealing with without you know without additional revenues these unfounded unfunded mandates.

Acting Mayor Jones Thanks. All right, I'm going to go forward here. We've got a couple more questions and then I'd like to get a motion on the floor, and we start some forward momentum. Ms. Jordan.

Aldersperson Jordan Thanks. I just wanted to clarify the, the state did not require us to have three municipal court judges, it just required us to make sure that what we had were elected. Our previous municipal court judge told City Council that we needed three judges and that's why we have them and because we have three they all had to be elected. I just wanted to clarify that the state did not require us to have three municipal court judges.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Any other questions? I've got a raised hand, Mr. Jordan, Mr. Hess, sorry.

Aldersperson Hess Thanks. My understanding Dale as well is that our property tax system is very regressive in the State of Montana and disproportionately impacts low-income homeowners and renters alike. Can you? And, and, I guess, first of all, we don't just, to confirm we don't have any control over that and, and second is that is that your understanding as well and can you speak to that?

Marty Rehbein Dale, can you please use the mic?

Dale Bickell Oh yep, sorry. Yes, I, we are in, in, in the State of Montana in all of the income taxes, excise taxes, and property taxes that exist, property taxes are the most regressive. I wish I could, I have a chart that actually shows the regressivity of this and I don't have that at my fingertips here, but I think that would be a great discussion in a future Council meeting to talk about the but how, how regressive Montana's property tax system is.

Acting Mayor Jones Great, thank you. Okay, seeing no other questions, Mr. Hess, well let me spell it out for everyone. We have numerous motions tonight. The first four motions, I think, can be bundled together and they're basically fee increases and basically on the same topic. The second is the recommended motion for the annual appropriations and capital improvement program and I anticipate that's where amendments will be proposed, that's the substance. And then the third motion that we'll do, or last motion is levying taxes. So, we need to do the second motion first so that we have that queued up for the final motion. So, Mr. Hess, if you would make the first four motions and just bundle them together and then we will have discussion on that.

Aldersperson Hess Sure, first I move adoption of a resolution of the Missoula City Council increasing the wastewater industrial interceptor variance permit fee set forth in 13.07.410 Missoula Municipal Code (MMC) and the waste hauler permit fee set forth in 13.17.210 MMC by 7% beginning on January 1, 2023. That we adopt a resolution of the Missoula City Council increasing fire inspection, plan checking, pyrotechnic display and police and special event fees increasing fees by 7% effective January 1, 2023 as shown in Exhibits E & F. Third, that we adopt a resolution of the Missoula City Council increasing fees by 7% for Business Licensing and Land Use and Planning and Engineering services performed by Community Planning, Development and Innovation effective January 1, 2023. And lastly, that we adopt a resolution of the Missoula City Council generally amending current Missoula City Cemetery fees as

proposed by Missoula City Cemetery and Missoula City Cemetery Board of Trustees effective January 1, 2023.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. We will take public comment on these motions for fee increases. If anyone has any public comment, now's the time. Okay, let me check our online people, not seeing any raised hands. Are there any amendments on these four bundled motions? All right, I'm not seeing any amendments. Any discussion by Council? Ms. Vasecka.

Aldersperson Vasecka Yeah, I'm not going to be supporting the, the 7% increases to any of these honestly. Everyone has been really hurt by COVID in the past few years and has been as, as one commenter in the audience said all these small businesses are struggling to get back on their feet if they haven't already closed down and I think that increasing these fees is just another hurdle that the local government is doing to prevent life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness in our local municipality. So, I will respectfully not be supporting any of these increases. So, I will be voting on all the motions, of these four motions.

Acting Mayor Jones Any other comments? Okay, we will take a roll called vote on this item.

Marty Rehbein Mr. Hess has his hand up.

Acting Mayor Jones Mr. Hess.

Aldersperson Hess Apologies. You know, user, these are fees for services and, and fees for services are, are a conservative ideology. I think it's, it's fair, it's, it's, it's a direct fee for a service paid. I mean it's a direct, it's, it's a fee paid for a service provided and, and it's it only impacts the, the people who pay those fees. The inflation for this year is at this point is, is over 7% and this is essentially a slightly less than inflationary increase for given, given the pace of inflation this year for services provided. So, I am supportive. I don't like it but I'm supportive.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Vasecka.

Aldersperson Vasecka Thank you. I respectfully, I have to, I guess you are, you are correct. They are fees for a direct service provided but when you live and have your business in a City and you pay those property taxes, you expect those property taxes to go towards services provided by the local government. So, I, I don't think that these, I don't think that all these applications for all these the permits and the business licenses and whatnot, I, I think that our tax dollars go to those, and I don't think that our staff stays over, over time after five and is up at night processing these fees for the additional 7% increase, fee increase. So, I am, I have to respectfully disagree with you Mr. Hess, but I, I, I do respect what, what you said.

Acting Mayor Jones Mr. Hess, your hand is still up. Did you want to speak again?

Aldersperson Hess I put it, I put it back up. I, I appreciate the difference of opinion and I'm, I'm grateful for the ongoing dialogue. I just wanted to point out that our building permit staff are largely working voluntary overtime right now to cover the, the huge backlog of building permits and I think that's something that I just wanted to mention that. Thanks.

Acting Mayor Jones Thanks and if we use property taxes to pay for people who are having permits inspected by planning and things like that, basically we're all through our property taxes paying on and on and on for all of the future growth in Missoula as opposed to people who are doing the future growth paying at the time when they need that service. Ms. Vasecka.

Aldersperson Vasecka I, I did not know that. I have all the respect for the staff and I, I honestly didn't know that they were working the overtime for this. At this moment, I still will be voting no on it, but I am open to changing my mind possibly for next year. This did open up my brain a little bit. I'll have to do a lot more research on it but at this moment, I still will be voting no.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Ms. West.

Aldersperson West I am going to support these motions. I think having fees for services is actually an equitable way of doing business. I don't think it would be equitable, for example, for all of us to bear the cost of checking pyrotechnic displays for example, which obviously very few people in our community would actually go through the process of applying for those. So, I think this having fees for service is actually a way that we can, I suppose, maybe add some balance to what is a very regressive system that we're operating under, and I think they're entirely appropriate. Seven percent isn't great, I'm not happy about it but the reality is that I think overall we're seeing I think our inflation rate right now is 8.5% and that doesn't mean that the City is exempt from feeling those pressures and the cost of doing business goes up as well.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, thank you. Any other comments from Council? Let me check online. Okay seeing no other raised hands and no other comments, we will have a roll call vote on these four bundled motions, Marty. If that's acceptable? Do we need to do them separately or can we do them all together?

Marty Rehbein We can do them all together, just as long as everybody is clear. So, this is all of the fees, all the resolutions pertaining to fees that aldersperson Jordan read off at the outset.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you, that passes. Mr. Hess would you make the next motion please?

Aldersperson Hess Thanks. Do you want just the, the next one or do you want both of the remaining ones?

Acting Mayor Jones Correct, just the long one that is on the next page, yes.

Aldersperson Hess I move that we adopt a resolution fixing the annual appropriations and the Capital Improvement Program for the City of Missoula as set forth in the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget and Capital Improvement Program including: The Tourism Business Improvement District work plan and budget for Fiscal Year 2023 The Business Improvement District work plan and budget for Fiscal Year 2023. The Park District Number 1 work plan and budget for Fiscal Year 2023. The Road District Number 1 work plan and budget for Fiscal Year 2023.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. So, following our format, we can take public comment on this now. I understand we have amendments that will be proposed so those will always, we also take public comment on the amendments. So, is there anyone that wants to provide public comment right now on

this motion? Okay, let me check online. I'm not seeing any, so the motion is on the floor and are there any Councilors that want to propose any amendments? Mr. Carlino.

Aldersperson Carlino Yea, this is the appropriate time for budget amendments?

Acting Mayor Jones Correct.

Aldersperson Carlino I move to amend adding the staff requested amount of \$600,000.00 additional dollars towards the Affordable Housing Trust Fund coming from our surplus ARPA funds to help meet Missoula's housing needs. Can I speak to that?

Acting Mayor Jones Let's take public comment actually, questions first, and then public comment, and then discussion. All right, so I'm following our format from our new rules. I keep getting looks from people. It may be clunky, but it's what we're doing. All right, questions regarding the amendment first of all to staff. Any questions from Council? Ms. Vasecka.

Aldersperson Vasecka If this amendment were to pass, where would those funds come from?

Aldersperson Carlino Yep, my amendment was, I move to amend adding the staff requested amount of \$600,000.00 towards the Affordable Housing Trust Fund from our surplus ARPA funds to help meet Missoula's housing needs, so it would come from the surplus ARPA funds.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, Ms. West.

Aldersperson West So, I have, I think, two questions for Dale. One is just to tell us what the remaining balance in the fund of ARPA funds would be and then my second question is whether or not there are any implications on our I guess our City standing and ability to bond if we use this many of our ARPA funds in this way?

Dale Bickell We have approximately and \$907,000.00 of, of ARPA funds that were recommended to carry over until the next fiscal year. I'd. this would be a legal use of the ARPA funds and so there would not be any, any eligibility or other issues with that issue is that. This is, this money just wouldn't be available for uses such as Operation Shelter next year.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. West.

Aldersperson West I was also wondering if you could maybe expand on some of the other funds that we are expecting to see be put into the Housing Trust Fund in the near future, that are not ARPA funds.

Dale Bickell Yeah sure. So, two main sources of funds that will be put towards Affordable Housing Trust Fund and then housing in general. First is we have some properties that are going to be redeveloped in partnership with the private sector, so and under Council ordinance many of those lands are required to, the proceeds from those sales are required to be placed in the Affordable Housing Trust Fund so Sleepy Inn, Payne block, MRL Triangle, all of those properties that are slated for redevelopment in the future those the proceeds from those do go into the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. The other place that we make substantial investments in housing is in the Missoula Redevelopment Agency and they have their board passed a requirement that they spend at least one million dollars per year on affordable housing and, and, and it's, they've been investing much more than that in recent years, and I expect that trend to continue.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Vasecka.

Alderman Vasecka I was hoping that staff could expand upon what these funds would specifically go towards for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. Folks have been asking me that and I think that staff would do a lot better job of explaining it than I could.

Acting Mayor Jones Dale, are you able to address that? Or Eran.

Dale Bickell Yeah, I would ask Eran to weigh in on that.

Eran Pehan Eran Pehan with Community Planning, Development & Innovation. We have a variety of funding sources that come into the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and those funding sources are all available for competitive application by organizations in the community who are helping us achieve our goals around housing and so essentially what an increase in allocation into the fund next year would mean is we would just have more funds to disperse through that competitive application process. I can't say exactly what those would be because it would be based on the applications coming into us in the types of projects that apply.

Acting Mayor Jones Mr. Nugent.

Alderman Mike Nugent Dale, I just had a, a question for you. You say we're; we're setting this aside for Operation Shelter for next year. So, if we were to spend it this year and the levy that's on the ballot doesn't pass, what, what are we looking at next year? Like, what are we looking at having to face funding decisions on and potentially cutting?

Acting Mayor Jones Dale, can you please use the microphone?

Dale Bickell Sorry, my microphone it keeps, it's off. So, Operation Shelter is funded this year through the full fiscal year, though it assumes Operation Shelter closes all right that excuse me it assumes the authorized campsite closes on November first, that's how much funding we have available now, but it runs the temporary safe outdoor space, Emergency Winter Shelter through those funds' things like ARPA funds, funds thing funds things like the Mobile Support Team and our crisis innovation programs. To the extent that say the crisis services levy does not pass, all of those programs are, are facing funding shortfalls and they are essentially those, those funds would have to essentially compete with current resources for our ability to raise levy. So, that's and so being able to have some funding left over to help phase in some things like keeping funding Emergency Winter Shelter or something like that in absence of another funding tool is, is why that recommended carry forward was there.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Anderson and then Ms. Becerra.

Alderman Anderson Thanks so much. I would like to ask Ms. Pehan to kind of talk a little bit about the holistic picture around affordable housing. I mean the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and the money that we're allocating in that particular line item and line item in the budget is not at all the only thing that we're doing around affordable housing and I think that in we had this discussion last Wednesday in our budget and she kind of talked a little bit about it but I think it would be important on the record now to kind of give a more holistic picture. If you will please?

Eran Pehan Yeah, absolutely. So, a General Fund allocation or allocation from ARPA or another funding source is one contribution into the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. We are working hard to diversify contributions across many different areas because we, we don't want our affordable housing trust not relying on a single source, especially on the General Fund which is taxpayer generated dollars. We would like to see that across many categories and right now we're capturing that through the sale of City-owned property. We're also looking at contributions of land and land disbursement into the trust fund. We have many contributions of large land disbursements at both the City and the County that were captured prior to the establishment of the trust fund and then of course as Dale mentioned contributions from the Missoula Redevelopment Agency, which in the past several years have exceeded several million dollars. And so, so we're looking at all of these funding sources and how we can bring them together through the trust fund mechanism, but really focusing on diversifying that and capturing things like land disbursement that aren't captured through that neat definition of the trust fund that we have today. One thing that we talked about in committee last week as well was the long-term picture around the Affordable Housing Trust Fund versus the short-term, year-by-year, funding that we're talking about through the [inaudible] fund allocation which by a resolution is a minimum of a hundred thousand dollars annually and we do have a confident longer term mid to longer term forecast for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. We have the sale of two very large City-owned parcels the Payne block and Scott Street, as well as potential redevelopment of the Sleepy Inn, all of those dollars will funnel into the trust fund in addition to other sources that we're always actively pursuing.

Alderson Anderson May I have a followup? While I really appreciated that answer and I, I could do very well I did not word my question appropriately. Outside of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, what is the City of Missoula doing in regards to affordable housing? What are the other tools we utilize not including just the Affordable Housing Trust Fund?

Eran Pehan Yes, thank you. I'm sorry if I misunderstood. So, the Affordable Housing Trust Fund is just one tool, especially one tool in looking at how we subsidize or address affordable home ownership and rentals in our community. We're really looking to spur the market and to help the market self-regulate. We're doing that through code reform and other changes and then we look at how we address segments of the market that, that won't be impacted by that that aren't quite deep enough and those are typically fee restricted, permanently affordable rentals and homes like community land trust homes that remain affordable in perpetuity. And we have several different tools for that as well at the federal level the low-income housing tax credit is the most powerful tool we have to develop affordable housing and you see that deployed through the Bellagio and the Trinity developments, which will bring over 400 deed restricted homes to our community. We're pushing at the statewide level for a state housing trust as well that could match and leverage those federal tax credits. We, of course, also have entitlement funds through CDBG and Home, and other sources and then we are looking as well at how regulation paired with a subsidy could help us further our goals and get more of those deed restricted units on the market.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Ms. Becerra.

Alderson Becerra Thank you. My question is for Dale. Can you remind us Dale how much it cost to run the winter shelter?

Dale Bickell I would defer Eran on that specific. There are, our total Operation Shelter programs, which includes the Emergency Winter Shelter, temporary safe open space, ACS, the care team at Partnership Health Center, all of those is about three million dollars annually. Eran, I don't know the specific cost of Emergency Winter Shelter off the top of my head....

Eran Pehan Yeah, Emergency Winter Shelter is running around \$700,000.00 for the season right now. That was an increase from the prior year because like the rest of the community, they had to provide some bonuses and increase salaries to be competitive with the current employment market and so it was a bit of an increase last year from the prior year but we're looking at around that benchmark. Things are a bit fluid, as Dale mentioned, we're sharing these costs with the county and so the county is also undergoing their own budget process, but we're earmarking I think around that that dollar amount for this season.

Alderson Becerra Thanks. May I have a quick follow-up? And Dale, I think you said we have about \$960,000.00 left in ARPA funds?

Dale Bickell \$907,000.00 left in our ARPA funds.

Alderson Becerra Okay. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, we've got Mr. Carlino and then Ms. Vasecka.

Alderson Carlino Well we do have the crisis levy coming up that would start for fiscal, fiscal year 2024 and I mean we also have a big City budget that we I'm sure we can find operation funds, but my question is when we're talking about Operation Shelter funds is it correct to say that that includes all the funds for the private security force, Rogers International and other security forces? Because I believe that's under the Operation Shelter funds, is that private security force is that correct?

Dale Bickell Yes, that's correct.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Vasecka.

Alderson Vasecka Thanks, I'm kind of a late follow-up to my original question now to Eran. I guess, I, I know that there's going to be a competitive bidding process but for in in layman's terms and to help out our constituents and me honestly, what would our specific dollars go to? Would it go to purchasing land, go to purchasing properties, go to further subsidized housing? What, what, I guess how is this, how is the Affordable Housing Trust Fund going to be implemented with actual tangible items?

Eran Pehan Yeah, that's a great question. The Affordable Housing Trust Fund has an array of eligible expenditures for projects that apply and are competitively awarded funding. It can be used for land acquisition, it can be used for construction costs, it can be used for fees and other associate costs, things like architectural or engineering fees to pay the City's impact fees and permit fees, any costs associated with the project is typically deemed eligible, both for deed restricted, permanent rental home ownership opportunities and long-term affordable home ownership opportunities like a community land trust model. The policies and procedures for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund were set in collaboration with the

Resident Oversight or the Affordable Housing Oversight Committee and those can be found on our website, if you want to dig in further and read through every eligible expenditure there.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, questions on the amendment, Ms. Sherrill. We can't hear you yet, Amber, if you can unmute yourself. There you go.

Alderson Sherrill All right, let's do that. I take my hand down instead of unmuting myself, sorry. Anyway, thank you. Eran, this is a little delayed, I didn't get my hand up fast enough but how many affordable units did you say you anticipate being on the market and I, I guess like the next 18 months?

Eran Pehan We anticipate that both the Bellagio and Trinity will be coming on the market within the next 12 to 16 months and that is over 400 units, I think 404 to be, to be specific that will be coming on the market. We also have other projects in development so that includes what we're working on at the Scott Street parcel and other smaller affordable housing projects across the community and so we think that that will inch up closer to that 500 mark in the next probably 18 to 24 months, but we have those 400 coming online within the next year to year and a half.

Alderson Sherrill That's great. May I have a follow-up?

Acting Mayor Jones Go ahead.

Alderson Sherrill Or a part two? I'm curious how many total units in the City do we anticipate coming online, new units in the next 18 to 24 months? In addition to the, in addition to those not, necessarily affordable because that that's gonna help as well obviously.

Eran Pehan Absolutely. And so, we last year, in the last calendar year, we permitted just shy of 1,400 dwelling units and that includes rental units and home ownership units. The vast majority of those were rental units about 1,100 and so those numbers alone show you that we will over double from what we are anticipating with Bellagio and Trinity. And so, we should see about 1,100 rental units come online I would say within the next 18 months if all of those projects move ahead at the pace that that they anticipated when they pulled those building permits.

Alderson Sherrill And one more questions, if you don't mind Gwen?

Acting Mayor Jones Go ahead.

Alderson Sherrill And, and the, the, the Sleepy Inn, the Payne block, you said one more and it's escaping me, what is, do we have a timeline for that? I mean those would obviously be very, very large influxes of money in the Housing Trust Fund, you know a fund we, we haven't had up for that long, going for that long really, but one that is you know has been important and I'm just...Is there any timeline for those? I mean that's going to be a huge influx of money and into that fund.

Eran Pehan Absolutely, and I, I might defer to Dale or Ellen Buchanan on timing around those because MRA is driving those initial conversations.

Ellen Buchanan Can you hear me? So, this is Ellen Buchanan, Director of the Missoula Redevelopment Agency. We're simply waiting on the ability to get contractors involved with the Sleepy Inn project to do some asbestos and lead-based paint abatement before we deconstruct, if that building is still able to be deconstructed but before we remove the structures and, and we're probably looking at mid to late fall

before we can get those buildings down and at which time that property will be actively marketed. We anticipate beginning public process selection of a of a development partner on the, the Payne block later well we're already almost in later summer but this fall sometime, that's really capacity issues. So, MRA has engaged the assistance of Missoula Economic Partnership to help vet potential development partners and, and try to identify those that have the same goals that share the City's goals for redevelopment in our urban core, after which there'll be a very public process and we'll move forward with the development project.

Acting Mayor Jones Great, thank you. Okay and Dale, one last quick question.... well okay Ms. West, we're going to have to move forward here though....

Alderperson West Yeah, I just had a timeline question because I know property taxes are level levied retroactively. When would we actually get our first payments, our first bucket of revenue if the, the mental health care levy passes?

Acting Mayor Jones Dale.

Dale Bickell That would be FY24, you know it would be.... it would be placed on the November 23 tax bills, should it, should it pass.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay and Dale, I had a quick question. Our Affordable Housing Trust Fund ordinance that we set up a couple years ago calls for the City to put a hundred thousand dollars into it every year and that was in the Mayor's initial proposal for the budget, but that was increased to \$250,000.00 when you did the final budget that came out in the last two weeks. Is that correct?

Dale Bickell Yes. You know, we take a conservative approach to budgeting. As we went through the process, we did have some more resources available so that so that the Mayor wanted to increase that that allocation from that minimum to \$250,000.00.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, thank you. All right, we'll go to public comment on this amendment. If anyone has public comment, please come up, state your name, and provide public comment.

Kevin Hunt Thank you, my name is Kevin Hunt. I own a recently property tax lien home at 308 Parkside Lane. I know I can't ask questions directly and get answers, but I think it would be really useful if when these discussions of affordable housing occur if a, if the definition of affordable would be provided so the public can understand what's really going on with the expenditures because it seems that that definition has changed and when I hear Ms. Pehan talk about 455 affordable units come on I, I have to just wonder about that because I recall with regard to the Rivera project, Ms., Ms. Pehan indicated this was going to be a game changer because there were 70 affordable units and on you know then one of the partners in the multi-state development consortium that made out like bandits from their project kind of corrected her and she and, and gave the actual figure for what these were going to cost people and when I looked at the demographics of Missoula, it appeared to me that there were very few people who needed the help we're going to be able to afford those supposedly affordable units. So, let, can we have a definition of what, what about these 455? It'll be wonderful if they truly are affordable, I'm all for it but I think the public needs to know because people don't know what that means anymore. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. More public comment?

Travis Mateer Travis Mateer, my third public comment. I think if, if there's interest in building more trust in the general public about how public money is being directed to your private sector partners, I would suggest some ideas about the private sector partners being more forthright about what kind of boards they're sitting on, what kind of LLC's they hold, their wives or other partners hold, their kids hold, so when something like BlueLine Development one of the very popular affordable housing developers regionally. You know when there's other LLC's that might be held and other ideas to develop things like the Larchmont Golf Course and potential conflicts of interest, I think if you want to build more trust in the general public to these public schemes to give more profit to the private sector partners, you need to institute some better, better oversight. So, maybe the Resident Oversight Affordable Housing Committee can take a look at some of these ideas because currently as a citizen that doesn't like seeing my public money go to private sector benefactors that aren't necessarily forthright with all of their financial interests like Nate Richmond and the 19 million dollar skating rink whatever bond is going to be going into the, the fairgrounds, some of these connections need to be made more publicly. We don't actually have media that's like telling some of these stories in terms of what's actually happening, who actually benefits. Thank you so much.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Any other public comment on this amendment? Oh, come on up.

Julian Costantini Hello Council, my name is Julian Costantini. I'm a renter here in Missoula. I just wanted to express my support for that amendment for six hundred thousand of the surplus ARPA funds to be moved to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. I worked this past winter at the Emergency Winter Shelter, as direct care, and I'd like to just speak a little bit to that. During that time, I got to intimately know a lot of the clients who utilize the services at the Johnson Street Emergency Shelter and I'm not going to pretend that I can represent any of them; however, I will speak on behalf of a friend of mine who was a client there who is no longer with us. Her name was her name was April Schmidt and her death was entirely preventable. She was a person who, she was a homeless individual who had a lot of mental health issues and unfortunately the services that the emergency shelter were providing were not enough to help her, what she needed was outside of the scope of what we were able to offer and also due to, due to that and as well as some behavioral issues, she was banned from the shelter. I advocated for her and appealed for her to get back into the shelter to no avail and then about a month following that, she did die. I have no idea who to talk to about the details of her death, but from what I have heard, she did jump in front of a car, and I wholeheartedly believe that if there are more resources available for her in this community that she would have not passed in that way. These are the people who fall through the cracks and who are directly impacted by the lack of these resources here in our community, the lack of mental health resources, the lack of crisis response. As an employee at the winter shelter, I did not receive training for de-escalation or crisis intervention and was not equipped at all to help April Schmidt, and so our system failed her and fails countless others and so I implore you, please that you make your

decisions based on compassion and humanity for individuals like April who could still be here today if our City did not fail her. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Any other public comment on this amendment?

Robbie Lieben My name is Robbie Lieben. I live in Ward 1 at 1372 Dickinson Street. I just wanted to speak in support of this amendment. I am a renter. I personally am doing okay, but I know so many people who are increasingly housing insecure and we need to do everything we can to keep, to protect them. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you.

Hannah Kose Hi there, my name is Hannah Kosel. I'm a member of Ward 3, a resident of Ward 3, and a member of the Missoula Tenants Union. I'm here to share my support for the funding, full funding of requested \$850,000.00 for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. Last week, I took the home buyers education course through Homeword. It was a fantastic class and I learned so many essential pieces to the home buying process. I also learned the reality of a home purchase price that would be affordable to me. I've known for a while that it likely wouldn't be available for me to stay in Missoula if I wasn't renting and while even those opportunities are dwindling for me, it's now been confirmed that only a handful of manufactured homes and mostly just empty lots with no shelter are the only thing that are available for me to own in this town. I recognize that my wage at a local nonprofit may be lower than most, yet I still make above minimum wage and I looked with the same filters on Zillow back in my hometown and my options were multiplied. There was multiple single-family homes with multiple bedrooms, yards, and brand new kitchen appliances that were available within the same budget. Despite the grim search findings, I still left this class with hope after learning that they plan to host a class on co-op home ownership come this fall. Not only will this be available for prospective home buyers but for financiers and developers, as well. Concern or I've heard concern of what developers might see as obstacles from City Council through our funding measures and these public comment processes and it has prompted a number of you to vote against supporting current tenants. I bring this up as a reminder of how developers may see this budget and see little to no incentive to prioritize building affordable units as well. We are fortunate enough that there has been funding from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to support NMCDC to secure a community land trust for an eight plex now known as the Wolf Avenue Housing co-op. Funding from that trust fund was made much more accessible and readily available than federal funding would have been, and this was essential to the former tenants securing ownership in the rapid timelines of our current housing market. By fully funding the budget the requested budget of the how Affordable Housing Trust Fund we can start to normalize these creative and possible options for home ownership to those in our community when other options simply are not possible. We can support the local organizations like NMCDC and Homeword, they're actively seeking out funding to support services they can provide for possible home ownership for many tenants. I've been here to speak with before many of you and I always leave thinking how I do not envy your job one bit. It by no means can be easy to want more for this community amidst a housing crisis, to run for platforms, to promote affordable housing and

then to find yourself in these seats amongst these sea of comments having the roadblocks of state legislation blocking you from requiring affordable housing in zones or inclusionary zoning or private property rights coming up against you and not making you feel able to advocate for tenants that are currently being displaced due to redevelopment. Tonight though, we have the exciting opportunity, this is another chance where we can say yes. We can prioritize clearly in our budget funding for affordable housing for our community. I want to thank you for putting in the work to be here tonight, especially at a really long meeting and in a really intense week and to ensure a future where Missoulian's can call this place home and a home that they can have as long as they please. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Okay next we have; I'm going to go to the....Is there anyone else? All right, come on up. Come on up. There you go.

Liam Seymour Good evening. My name is Liam Seymour. I'm a resident of Ward 3 and I'm here tonight to show my support for housing programs, programs in Missoula, specifically tonight the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. The requested \$850,000.00 asked for, the budget, as it stands only gives \$250,000.00, less than 1/3 of what was originally asked for. I'm here and a lot of us are here to ask and to urge you to put more funding into this program, not just over the next few years but now tonight. It seems almost a weekly thing that to bring up in this Council that we're in a housing crisis here in Missoula and I'm worried that it's just becoming normalized and part of life in the City, but housing insecurity and homelessness aren't just headlines or topics for an agenda. They're an incredible amount of stress and trauma and hopelessness that more and more people are experiencing every day in Missoula. It's not just enough to acknowledge the housing crisis and its effects on people, we need to be doing more and we need to be doing more creatively. Building units is a really good start, but as a community we need to be able to enact more creative and more permanent solutions to deal with the growing issues. The Affordable Housing Trust Fund is a flexible community driven fund that's already been used for concrete housing solutions in Missoula, everything from diverting Missoulian's from homelessness with the centralized housing solutions fund to building modular tiny homes with Habitat for Humanity, to helping tenants turn two apartment buildings and an adjacent home into a permanently affordable cooperative along with NMCDC. As has been brought up already, this is not the only program for affordable housing in Missoula, but it is the most flexible. Concretely it's able to serve more people and more Missoulian's, CDBG and home credits only serve people up to 80% area median income while the Affordable Housing Trust Fund is able to serve Missoulian's up to 120% of the area median income, which is still a population in Missoula that we know needs the support for affordable housing and affordable home ownership. So, all of these and more exactly the kind of forward thinking and transformative efforts we need to ensure that the working people of Missoula have a place to call home in Missoula and that we can ensure that it's safe, affordable, and decent well into the future. We need to be creative now before this crisis gets any worse. We should, we should have been investing into these kinds of funds and projects years ago but the second best time to start is right now. I urge you to look at the budget tonight and to invest in the Affordable Housing Trust Fund more completely and to please, please do what needs to be done to

protect the people in the City. Everyone deserves a decent place to live and a place to call home and we're counting on you to do everything you can to ensure that. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. And anyone else in the room? Come on up.

Maggie Bornstein Thanks so much again. For the record, my name is Maggie. Part of the reason I'm wearing a mask tonight is because I hit my two front teeth and I need to get two root canals and my first thought was like oh my gosh how am I going to afford this, and Hannah is a dear friend and a co-worker and similarly captured part of what I would like to share about feeling like home ownership is so unattainable and so out of reach and to echo the sentiments of Liam around, right, that there's a really big gap of folks that are missing. I think I know I can't ask Dale questions even though I would love to ask lots of questions of you, I'm really curious so it seems that perhaps we knew that we would sell the Sleepy Inn and perhaps we knew the library would be the old library building would be sold. I've heard lots of chatter about all these things and I'm kind of curious. I know you can't answer, but I'm assuming that staff could have anticipated or predicted those upcoming sales and taken a good gander or maybe about how much this might cost. So, I'm really curious I guess if this request from staff really excludes knowing the properties coming down the line or if they were like independent of those and, and wanting these and these funds in addition to the expectation that those funds would be coming down the line. And as we have all acknowledged, like this housing solution cannot, our housing situation could not be solved alone and so I think the opportunity to add more funds to this area to be more competitive with development partners is something I think most of us could agree on and I'm not someone who really believes and like capitalism is always the answer. And so, to hear that from me takes it from a really, really serious place and so again I know Dale can't answer that, but I think that's something to consider is or I would prompt the Council to maybe find out more about if, if those funds were requested independently outside of anticipated funds from future sales. Thanks so much.

Acting Mayor Jones Come on up.

Zeke Canfield Gonna good evening. My name is Zeke, I live in Ward 4, Zeke Canfield. I don't think I'm nearly as well-spoken as the last three people that were up here and I wasn't necessarily planning to speak; however, there's some things that have happened recently with my job. I work at Missoula Interfaith Collaborative. I'm the Director of the Housing Advocate Network and I've been there for three and a half years, and over the past year the number of people who have walked through my door has more than tripled. We had 220 people in the last fiscal year who showed up that were just looking for someone to support them with their housing. I think we all know about the housing crisis, but I think what's more important is that the folks who are showing up to today are not the same people that were showing up three years ago. This past Friday, I had a woman who moved here for a job and is working full-time, 8:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m., and she makes an incredible income and she's sleeping in her car. I had another woman who's working full-time who has a has a pit-bull; she's also in her car while she's undergoing chemotherapy and radiation treatment. The point is, is that we're less equipped and able to support the folks we used to support who meet that definition of houselessness because we have people

who frankly are just like me, who are renters, who are working, who are just trying to survive, and who also aren't able to access housing. And so, when I think about the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and I think about the other affordable housing moves that the City is trying to make, I feel like that's creating doors and opportunities for people like me and these two women that I'm speaking about to be able to access housing so that those of our neighbors who currently have no place to live, they're able to take over places like my rental for example and it just feels like a no-brainer that we would want to invest in that for the long term. Thank you for your time.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Anyone else in the room? Come on up.

Henry Curtis Hi, my name is Henry Curtis. I live in Ward 6 now, I believe, having recently moved and I'm here to speak in support of the amendment with perhaps some sort of broader caveats. I think that this amendment does a lot to fund what we currently have on the table. While I might have my own critiques and sort of second thoughts, as to perhaps we should be prioritizing building homes on the land that we already have to a certain degree and building actual social housing, this seems like an important way to, to fill in this gap in the meantime. For that reason and also for the reason of the extreme urges of the scenario, I think that it's extremely important to use this for, these funds to their greatest extent and for that reason I urge you to support this amendment. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Anyone else in the room? Come on up.

Blaine Doherty Okay, sorry about that. Good evening Council members, my name is Blaine Doherty. I live in the Riverfront neighborhood. I work on the Community Care Team at PHC. I'm also a volunteer with the Housing Advocate Network. I've also been a renter for 14 years and seeing how I'll be speaking a bit from my work experience; I also need to say that my comments don't necessarily reflect that of Partnership Health Center. And despite the information that I've heard and the great questions that have been asked and the specifics around where the funding has come from, it kind of made me hesitate a little bit about giving this comment to be honest, but I am still here speaking today to ask for the Council to fully fund the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. I'm thrilled to see that the full budget request for Operation Shelter was approved. I'm on the Community Care Team; my job is funded partly through this approval and so are all sorts of essential services like the TSAW staff for the approved campsite that I deeply appreciate, and I see the benefit every day through the people I work with and support. And so, the thought of not maybe having money for that next year, I do not take that lightly. I mean that very genuinely, but also at the end of the day I want to see myself out of the job and the only way that happens is for us as a community to just keep building more housing and more resources for it, and right now it feels like on the service side of the community, we're being asked to put out fires only to arrive at that fire to turn around and discover that the fire hydrant was never installed. And what that means and what that looks like is working with someone for weeks to get their application ready, showing up for an apartment showing, and having 30 other people there applying for a subsidized rental unit, losing it because you need another week to finalize your section 8 voucher, and you can't have it go any faster because the person that works at HRC has 30 other emails for that week, then the property management of the of the

rental unit you're applying for, the unit goes and they let you know that they'll likely be an opening in two years. It means that everyone over at ACS could start working immediately full time and have money to pay for their housing, and they would still not get into housing because they have all these barriers that that means they need to get on the MHA wait list or for Trinity, that are one, two, three, four years long and it means having conversations with people where you ask, is it more important right now to go to treatment so that you can survive another month even if you're discharged back into the streets and start drinking again just to give you another month of life so that you're closer for Trinity to open up and you have a spot there? And so, in this way, not fully funding the Affordable Housing Trust Fund is just going to increase the cost of direct services for folks that are facing eviction, losing their housing, entering homelessness, spending longer times there and will eventually utilize the paw of t-sauce, ACS, and as we know exponentially more police resources, fire resources, ER resources, park staff resources, private security contracts, and on and on. And so, the budget items that we have will keep continue to grow across the board, and so yeah, I think in some, I think this is deeply needed by our community right now and I know it's kind of worn out, but the housing crisis is that we're in a housing crisis that is deeply exacerbated in the pandemic, and that's exhausting. We're in amongst a bunch of crises right now including our democracy, but yeah this is just something that we deeply and desperately need to invest in even at the, the risks of future funding that we face. So, thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Okay, I've got someone online. Ms. Romero, can you unmute yourself? There you go.

Leticia Romero Hi my name is Leticia Romero. Can you hear me?

Acting Mayor Jones Yes we can. Go ahead.

Leticia Romero Okay, yes. My name is Leticia Romero. I live in Ward 4. I wanted to support our community in funding the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to the full extent that has been asked by Daniel Carlino and the rest of our community. As one of our community members spoke on their public comment and said that this is an opportunity today that we can all take and funding it. And I know in my place of employment, I have co-workers, new co-workers, people that have been there a while, as well too are being asked to, to vacate their, their homes to make, you know, they just don't have nowhere to go and it's getting harder and harder to find anywhere to live, and I'm sure that's a story that it's going on everywhere. I go to the grocery store, and I also hear the same thing by people, community members that are checking me out. They're working at the grocery stores, and you know they can't afford anywhere to live. So, I think it's, it's definitely a no-brainer as Zeke said not to fund this. So, I would definitely encourage you guys to take this opportunity and put action to the words that we all speak and show our community that we really care. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Okay, anymore public comment? Come on up quickly. We got a lot to get through tonight, so thanks.

Dylan Albans Hi Dylan Albans, Ward 3. I'm in support of this amendment, but with the winter shelter being part of the Affordable Housing Fund, I do think it should be expanded, but also that it needs some

oversight. The employee turnaround this past winter was very high, the shelter closed too early, and people still had to sleep even when the cold weather returned. They consistently ignored bed bugs and lice infestations constantly and asked the employees who weren't really trained with how to handle that. So, I'm just asking for, when the money's given to them of where the money goes. I fully support them it's one of, unlike the main Poverello, it does allow people to show up intoxicated and they're already struggling and that's really good to have just for like, I did hear someone say that the, the money went to help with competitive pay but the overnight staff got \$15.00 an hour and because it's a non-profit, their tax returns or whatever it's called is public info and I know the executive director makes roughly \$32.00 an hour, compared to the direct care staff, and I am in support, but I do think oversight is needed for where the funds go. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. All right, comments from Council before we go to a vote. Mr. Carlino.

Aldersperson Carlino Yeah I guess I'll start by pointing out that right now, the \$250,000.00 that's currently in the budget for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund makes up 0.09% of our total budget for the year. And when we talk about a housing crisis, as a Council as a government, it our, our budget should match up with what we're saying. If it's a crisis then we should put funding to help the crisis and that's what I'm trying to do with this amendment and you know to Dale's point about trying to save the extra surplus money for Operation Shelter next year, you know Operation Shelter includes Rogers International and security forces that are harmful to helping find people secure housing. And currently, the budget has \$630,000.00 towards Rogers, towards a security force to patrol in and around the shelters and the surrounding neighborhoods. If we can get six hundred and seven, \$630,000.00 of our ARPA funds to hire a security force to help patrol around the neighborhoods and shelters, I think we can get at least that much for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund out of our ARPA funds. And I'll point out as well that between last year the 2022 budget and the 2023 budget, there's 1.3 million dollars under Operation Shelter and housing and community that's going towards security forces, that's enough to pay my rent for in the University District for 271 years. We could have paid for all those people's rent rather than patrolling around the neighborhoods with people that are armed, hiding their faces, and so on and so forth. So, if house, if you really believe that we have a house in crisis and you really want to solve it, then let's put money towards it and if you don't put money towards it then you must not want to solve it.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. West.

Aldersperson West [no speaking]

Acting Mayor Jones We do not have outbursts in this room because that does not mean that everyone is welcome to speak in here. If it happens again, we'll recess and it's going to take that much longer tonight. All right, Ms. West.

Aldersperson West I, I think I have a question at the moment, not a comment. So, I, I just want to make sure that I understand what your ask is. So, the way I understand what you're asking is that you're asking us to take money that is specifically earmarked to provide services to the most vulnerable people in our community during the harshest time of the year and instead you're asking us to put it put it in the Housing

Trust Fund where any organization that wants to use this money has to go through a competitive process that against any other equally probably valid housing project that might be coming down the pike in the next year. Is that what you're asking us to do?

Alderson Carlino No. That, this is surplus ARPA funds. It is not dedicated to anything. I'm asking to take \$600,000.00 from our surplus, undedicated ARPA funds and dedicate them to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, but I was also pointing out that part of Operation Shelter goes towards funding Rogers International and security forces. So, right now, this money is undedicated. It's our surplus pandemic relief funds and that's what I'm asking to use towards the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

Alderson West Is it time for comments now?

Acting Mayor Jones Sure, but if we could have a clarification from Mr. Bickell.

Alderson West Yes, I would appreciate. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones My understanding Dale is that this is earmarked, our surplus ARPA is earmarked for Operation Shelter, so that we have something to work with next year if the crisis service levy does not pass in order to help our most vulnerable, is that correct?

Dale Bickell It's, I think earmarked it would be a bit too strong. We haven't asked for a commitment from Council related to that, so those months are unrestricted there, but that was the intent is because of because of the need of for Operation Shelter in the future. If that, if the levy doesn't pass, I think there'll be some decisions to make and this would, this would help with that.

Acting Mayor Jones Do you have more Heidi?

Alderson West If, if, Kristen's question is related to Dale's answer, I'd happy to pass it over to her and then I'll comment.

Alderson Kristen Jordan I guess my question is, is if we're concerned about our vulnerable populations, why are we putting a massive levy out to the vote when we're raising taxes 12%. My fear is that this is not going to pass and that we're going to have to rely on other funds to fund these really amazing programs that do address crises and people who are in crises and who are living on the street and who cannot find a way to get help. I have expressed my frustration multiple times that the mobile crisis team is going out to vote because it is an amazing program, it helps a ton of people and we are asking people to vote on it when we're also raising their taxes 12%, and I think this is not the values of our community that we want to project and it's really frustrating. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Dale, can you talk again about the cap that we're butting up against so that we cannot raise taxes past the cap and that's where the monies would have to come from for these types of programs because they're not in a district and they don't apply to a district? So, we really don't have any other recourse.

Dale Bickell Well, there's two places that new revenues to fund these programs would come from. It's, it's General Fund, which is limited by our property tax limitations under state law. The other thing is, is to reduce expenses in General Fund areas in order to fund these programs. Those are really the two tools we have to deal with, to deal with these.

Acting Mayor Jones Great thank you. Any other comments or questions from Council?

Alderson West Hi, I'll make my comments. So, I am not going to support this, and I think it's disingenuous to, to frame the contribution to the Housing Trust Fund as a totality of what we do as a Council or as a City, or as a community overall in the realm of affordable housing. I think that this is a very, the current funding decision is prudent based on the unknowns and I think the worst thing, the worst outcome that could possibly happen is if the levy doesn't pass because you're right it is up to the voters, and we need to have a plan B if we fully allocate all of this, it's not fully, it's a big chunk of the ARPA dollars that are still in reserve to the Housing Trust Fund this year. There aren't going to be any tools left to be able to help those people in our community that need our help the most. So, I think we should keep that option open. I also just want to point out that there are many funds outside of the Housing Trust Fund that are going to affordable housing or to help housing along the spectrum including over \$800,000.00 of ARPA dollars this year that went to support veterans housing, which is transitional housing, so people live there up to two years. It never went through the Housing Trust Fund, it is not reflected in an allocation, it's not part of your percentage and it's a significant amount. So, I think yeah, I think we need to make sure that we have the tools next year to help those folks that need our help.

Acting Mayor Jones Mr. Hess.

Alderson Hess Thanks. You know, I think I think my comments are going to reflect a theme of my comments throughout the night, which is that, that we have the structural problem, structural budget problem and we're butting up against, we're butting up against very noble, very important priorities that I support. And I guess, I have a question and, and I think, Dale I guess maybe you're best equipped to answer this, but we do mid-year budget amendments all the time and that's to bring our programs in line with, with grant revenue or to recognize a new program. Would it be appropriate to make a mid-year budget amendment shortly after the November election to determine the fate of these ARPA funds? If the crisis levy passes, there's a path forward and if it doesn't pass there's a different path forward, would that, would that be an appropriate way to address this?

Dale Bickell It certainly could be. Yes, I think if that information gained, that that those ARPA funds and, and even a way to think about a way we could internally finance or at least in partnership with our friends at Missoula County to think about how we could you know advance some funds you know to bolster some of the Operation Shelter programs that are a little bit underfunded between the City and County this year. I would also, add but that also is true for other projects such as the sale of the Sleepy Inn or any of those other things that that happen in what we don't do typically in a budget is we don't we don't count on revenues that we aren't sure of receiving. So, if we do have a sale of Sleepy Inn or one of the other properties that is that becomes available, we could, Council could do a budget amendment to appropriate those dollars and have those available for an allocation in this fiscal year.

Alderson Hess Okay. So, a followup question?

Acting Mayor Jones Go ahead.

Alderson Hess So just to clarify if this, if the Sleepy Inn were, were sold, likely in excess of a million dollars, by our ordinance that would, by default go into the Affordable Housing Trust Fund correct? And then we would do a budget amendment to recognize those revenues?

Dale Bickell That'd be right and, and provide the and provide the spending authority to allocate those.

Alderson Hess Okay and we could similarly, we could similarly have a budget amendment after November, a second quarter budget amendment to, to handle ARPA funds that we are suddenly have the ability to program differently correct?

Dale Bickell Yes, that's correct.

Alderson Hess Okay. Thanks.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Mr. Carlino.

Alderson Carlino Thanks. There's, we could find money for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund from anywhere in the General Fund or anywhere from ARPA funds. It's a false choice to say that we can fund shelters or fund the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. We can fund both and this budget year is especially special because we have these funds from the government, from the federal government. These are pandemic relief funds to help get to the root causes of the issues. They should not be all spent on band-aids such as more police and more security force. They should be spent on trying to help the root causes of the issues that and to help relieve people from the economic impacts of the pandemic, and the Affordable Housing Trust Fund is a great way to do that. And again, you know, staff requested the \$850,000.00, so to cut staff short \$600,000.00 for the Housing Trust Fund does not seem like the best place to cut staff short. There's many other places that we could take these funds from, but the Affordable Housing Trust Fund is so important for our community right now that we must fund it.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Sherrill.

Alderson Sherrill Yeah thanks and you know, I really appreciate this discussion. I appreciate that public comment and Daniel, I, I also appreciate the fact that you brought this amendment. You did actually ask for it from the ARPA funds which I think that's why we are discussing that amendment, as you brought it forward. I'm not going to support it and the reason, I, I think Heidi actually outlined my reasons probably the best because I am very worried about this. I don't know if the, the levy's gonna pass and we are butting up against a cap here and I want to have something for winter shelter. So, it's a little bit of an insurance policy for me because you know people, we haven't had anyone freeze to death since we opened the winter shelter that I have heard about, and I don't want that to start happening again. So, I, I do appreciate this conversation. I love Jordan's idea about doing a budget amendment. I don't, maybe we don't need to discuss this now because it's going to get very late, but I don't completely understand how the budget amendment would work if we wanted to bring that forward as Council. Could, Dale could you talk about that how can we, how, how does that, how does logistically that happen, if it's something that we want to do after we find out the results of the November levy?

Dale Bickell Just to clarify, are you, are you talking about? Well can you, can you rephrase that question for me?

Alderson Sherrill If I am making a budget amendment, how would that come forward? Yeah I mean, how would we do in a budget amendment in November? I mean, I understand how we do budget amendments, but would someone on Council need to bring that forward? Like I, I don't, I, I have not seen someone on Council bring a budget amendment forward in the middle of the fiscal year and I'm curious how, how that works. I mean we've seen it from staff but not someone, one being checked in by Council.

Dale Bickell I see. So, typically that is, those budget amendments are brought forward by the administration, so staff will be, have you know a new, receive a grant award or you know has information and staff would bring that forward. It's not to say that you know Council certainly could do that based on a you know new information that is brought forth and say hey I think we, we would like to be able to appropriate some of these un-committed ARPA dollars to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. I think that could be a, that could be a Council referral.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Ms. Vasecka.

Alderson Vasecka I guess I'm going to switch up some reasoning here a little bit on, on my opinion at least. I, I'm not going to support this amendment tonight, but for a completely different reason just because I think that the more involved that the government gets involved with quote-unquote affordable housing, it makes it more unaffordable for the majority of the citizens in in our municipality. There was somebody who came up tonight, I can't remember which one it was who talked about taking a Homeward class about home ownership and that is amazing. I think that more of that should be widely available. I took a prep for life class in high school, and it taught us how to budget for renting, how to budget that you're gonna have to put down a deposit and transportation, and all the moving costs and that was an elect that was an elective and there was no requirement to be taught that. I'm just really happy that that teacher knew that we needed to learn that stuff. You don't learn how to balance a checkbook. You don't learn how to pay your taxes. These are all life skills that I think, or you don't even know how to even begin buying a house. I, I'm a renter. I, my husband and I, we made the mistake of when we got married in 2018 said oh we don't need to buy a house right away and so, so, we're renting and being here in this Ward, I'm, I'm stuck in this Ward. So, I have even way more limited availability of purchasing at home and yeah it's, it's hard to purchase a house. It's hard to find, find a rental but I do think that the more that the government gets involved in this that the more difficult it will be for the majority of our, our residents. Daniel and I have had conversations about this. We disagree but I think that moving funds, I guess, I disagree without putting their ARPA funds to this altogether, but if it was up to me I would like to put the ARPA funds back to the federal government where they would then give it back to the taxpayers, but we all know that's not going to happen. So, I, I just, I disagree with government getting involved with this. I disagree with this allocation of the ARPA funds and I respectfully, I heard all you guys and I really do feel for you. This is just, it's against, against what I believe, so I'm not going to be supporting it.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, thank you. Jennifer.

Alderson Savage I just had a clarification question for Dale. So, just, just to be clear. So, if any, any proceeds from the sale of, of City-owned property would go into the trust fund at 100%. Is that correct?

Dale Bickell Yes, under the ordinance. There is a carve out for assets that are already restricted such as utility assets.

Alderson Savage Okay.

Dale Bickell But other, other, just general properties that those proceeds do go by ordinance, go into the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

Alderson Savage Can I just have one followup?

Acting Mayor Jones Go ahead.

Alderson Savage And to followup, just to clarify a question from Councilwoman Sherrill. So, then staff would bring forward a budget amendment based on that? If we sold the Sleepy Inn, the money is going into the Housing Trust Fund, staff would bring forward a budget amendment based on that? That's how that would work?

Dale Bickell Yes and that and that budget amendment would be to get the spending authority to spend those proceeds.

Alderson Savage Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, Ms. Becerra.

Alderson Becerra Thank you. I appreciate my colleague Daniel Carlino bringing in this amendment. I think you speak for many of us in terms of wanting to put as much money as we possibly could into the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, but I think that you saying that not supporting this amendment is that we don't care or that we don't want to find a solution to the problem is, is inaccurate. Don't forget that many of us on Council were here when the trust fund was created. We created the oversight committee. We committed to funding the, the trust fund and we will continue to do so and the reason I don't think that I can support your amendment is because I think we have some lines of revenue that can be injected into the Housing Trust Fund that will allow us to do significant work in the community without using ARPA funds that need to remain as a safety net to provide the services that those in, in need could use, especially during the wintertime. Regardless of our opinion of Rogers International or how we provide a sense of security for the neighborhood, but most importantly for those who reside in the shelters. That's a different conversation and I think the funding right now is in my opinion something that we can count on from all the revenues that have been already outlined and I think that a budget amendment when those revenues materialize is going to be a good a good way to, to inject into the, the Housing Trust Fund and, and do the work that we all want to see happen from those funds. So, I respectfully, I will not be supporting that amendment.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. I will make a brief comment and then we'll have a vote and I, I appreciate....Do we have one more wait, okay you're pointing over that way..... Mr. Nugent then Ms. Anderson.

Alderson Mike Nugent Sorry. I appreciate, I appreciate everyone's comments and Mr. Carlino I, I think this is a phrase I'm going to repeat often but I really do appreciate you pushing this conversation forward. I think that funding this is important. If we weren't in a place where I, I was fairly confident that we could,

we could fund and go beyond the staff's request with the sale of a property that's intended to go in there, I, I, I would almost be there. I am concerned though and, and I don't think that you mean it, but I don't think all of these decisions are zero-sum. I don't think that it breaks down to either or and I don't think that anything is nearly as simple as, as saying we don't care if we don't do one thing versus another because I do care and I think all of us care and it's how we get there, and you know there's been a lot that's been in the in the news media and shared on social media. I don't think anybody on this Council supports what, what Rogers International has, has done as far as what was in the paper with the mask things like that. I don't think anybody on this Council thinks that that is something that meets the intent of what that was. I toured the authorized campsite in the fall with a couple of my fellow Council members and one of the, one of the residents came up and, and when she realized who we were, she thanked us, I guess on behalf of the City, for, for creating the space. She shared her story with us. She was a domestic violence survivor, and she actually thanked us for having Rogers International there, and I think what she might have been getting at was more of the security. I have not followed up with her. I share that story to say that even if we cut tonight and said no more Rogers International, we still have major health and safety issues that we would have to address in those camps and that's not something that I think we can easily just say oh if we cut that, we move it over, we've solved the problem and I don't think you think that either because I know you have other, other thoughts on how to spend that money. So, I guess what I'm getting at is I just don't think it's quite as simple as to say if we don't support this man, we don't care because we do care and I will tell you that if the levy passes in November, I will introduce an amendment to, to fund this request fully and I know that that's not necessarily what some people want to hear because they want to do it all within the budget like my colleague Ms. Jordan and I can appreciate that too, but I think the reality of where we're at is that we are within, Dale, you can correct me if I'm wrong with about \$200,000.00 of our, our max cap. And so, we talk about adding programs and we have to cut programs and our biggest cuts our biggest, biggest additions this year are, are in payroll across the City and, and in various departments so when we talk about not raising things we're talking about cutting employees and so I don't think it's as simple as saying we care or don't care. I think there's a lot more nuance to it, so I really do appreciate this conversation. I'm just not able to do this right now.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Ms. Anderson.

Alderson Anderson My colleagues all said it better than I, so I will pass thanks.

Acting Mayor Jones So Mr. Carlino this is a third or fourth time speaking on this. In the future, for amendments, and I think it's better practice if we just try and speak to it once because we got a lot to get through tonight, but if you want to take a few minutes. Okay.

Alderson Carlino Sure. Yeah, I've got a lot of amendments to make tonight and so I think we ought to just take a deep breath and take our time but if we're not gonna fund this with the surplus ARPA funds, can somebody please recommend a place that we could fund it from? I think this is one of the most important programs that the City has, especially during a housing crisis and I you know sent in my email to the whole Council that I'm open to suggestions on where we fund things from. Yet, I guess, I was

maybe the only person that wanted to fund the Affordable Housing Trust Fund with an amendment. So, if you have any recommendations on how you'd like to fund it, if not the surplus ARPA funds, please let us know.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, Ms. Anderson.

Alderson Anderson Okay, I guess I do have something to say. Yes, I am all for funding the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. I was on the Council that created it in 2020, and it's a really innovative tool and we are going to fund it with the sale of property, which is why we specifically put that in there in the resolution, that when we have a property for sale for the City and we are in the process of getting ready to sell the Sleepy Inn because we have talked at length about the fact that it is not an ideal location to actually develop affordable housing on that property, but what it is an ideal location for is to sell it and use the proceeds of that money to fund the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, so we have that; we have the Payne Family block. So, at the end, the City staff requested this money because as Dale said it is not City staff's practice to allocate money that has not been you know received by the City and so but I do think that we will in the long run by the end of this year have much more than \$800,000.00 in the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and that is how we are going to continue to fund this one of the many affordable housing initiatives that we have as a part of the City and we will still leave the flexibility necessary that these one-time ARPA funds, that are running out. We only have \$900,000.00 left and we do not know what the future holds, and it is prudent to have those available to us because the levy may pass, the levy may not pass, something else could happen and if we spend all of our money now to fill this one line item, as incredibly important as it is, no one here on this Council is going to argue it but we are not taking the proceeds from the Sleepy Inn and allocating it to other projects, that is going to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. There are specific line items to fund these specific projects and so it leaves the ARPA dollars to fund winter shelter and other things and those are only one time. The additional ARPA dollars, if they're utilized for winter shelter, only get us one more winter. We have systemic problems because it's not going to quit being cold in the wintertime in Montana in the winter of 2025 or 2024, but we have to balance the immediate need and the long-term need. That is what every budget that I've been on for the last five budget cycles tries to do and I just you know, I'm not going to tie up all of the funds now when we have other funds earmarked coming in for this in the immediate future. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Mr. Hess.

Alderson Hess Thanks. This is a general comment about the, this amendment and the rest of the amendments tonight. Our staff, our administrative staff and the, the administration, the executive branch of government spend literally thousands of hours crafting a budget proposal. It is a large complex organization and as we've seen throughout the budget presentations, the staff, the department heads just can squeeze every last bit of value out of, out of their departmental budgets through vacancy savings, through, through efficiencies. You know, one example of that was just when one, one single example of throughout all the departments was when our, when the when the water utility became a City entity, there

were stories of the staff who had greater ownership as, as in, in a sense employee owners of the system going through and finding efficiencies and saving money and, and just tightening up that system in a way that, that they were never able to do under the previous owner. And you see those stories throughout the City departments, where they are run so damn efficiently that to suggest that there's just a you know a couple hundred thousand dollars that that we could pluck out of a, out of another departmental source is without, without making major impacts on another City operation, I. I don't think that's true. I, I've never seen it. I don't know where it comes from. People periodically talk about creative thinking and, and creative budgeting and to me that's a euphemism for cuts, that is. that is all it is, is cutting something that somebody values. And all of our programs exist because through that, that administrative budgeting process, they are determined to have value. So, I don't have any suggestions for cuts from other places. I have, I have spent years in this budget, and I don't have, I don't have suggestions for where to cut. I don't think that there are places where it is prudent to do so. It just is, it's just a recognition that, that funding something by, by eliminating another program is a reduction in service and, and somebody in the City relies on those services regardless of what they are.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. I'll just make a couple of brief comments and then we're gonna have a vote. I wanted to reiterate that originally, well a year ago because we had ARPA funds, we put a lot of seed money into the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to get it going, to get it some traction and in the meantime we've got numerous things queued up that will put money as sources of revenue into it, but it does take time. However, this summer also, the Mayor's initial budget had \$100,000.00, which is our, our obligation under our ordinance but it was upped to \$250,000.00. I think that does show our values when the final numbers came in and they had a little bit extra to work with, while still having a significant tax increase that, that was, that effort was made to put \$250,000.00 into the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, but I want to point out that in the long run, I think our ARPA dollars, which we can use for things like the Emergency Winter Shelter and the authorized campsite, which are immediate needs, that is the short game. To me, the Affordable Housing Trust Fund is the long game; it is designed to provide permanent housing, permanently affordable housing in the long run and that takes time and effort, collaboration with developers, land, it, it takes time to cue that up and none of it happens quickly. So, although our many of our revenue sources have not yet come in, they will be coming in and in the meantime, as development goes forward in Missoula and people focus more and more on affordable housing, those projects will be coming in the door and applying for those funds. So, that's the long game and I'm, I think it's very important to keep some monies held back for next year, if we need those for the Emergency Winter Shelter and authorized campsite, since they, it won't cover all of that even, but we need something to work with so that we're not in a crisis situation. All right, I saw one more hand raised, and everybody's spoken numerous times on this. Let's go to Sandra and then we will vote.

Aldersperson Vasecka Very quickly and I know it's going to be a very long night, but while you folks are still here. While we, while I disagree, I just wanted to say that I admire the heck out of Daniel and Kristen and all of you folks who came here to speak so passionately about what you believe in and I admire your

tenacity and your passion, and I just wanted to say, even though we disagree, continue fighting that good fight for yourselves.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Thank you. We will go to a roll call vote on this amendment, which is to add \$600,000.00 to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund from the surplus ARPA funds.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay thank you. We're gonna have a ten minute recess. We've been going for three hours. We're gonna have a 10 minute recess, come back, and plow through the rest of the amendments.

Acting Mayor Jones I'm going to call us back into order. If people can take their seats and City Councilors can come back in. Thanks everyone. We've got a few City Councilors still trickling back in, who can't hear me. Okay, we're gonna get going. I know we have a lot more amendments that some Councilors wanted to bring. I think we actually covered a lot of topics in the first amendment, so I am hoping the rest of the amendments it's a more focused discussion. And I want to say I appreciate people in the public, in the audience not clapping or whistling. It is one of our roles that we're very strict about, so I just want to say appreciate that by having a, a forum in which everyone can be heard, it provides a much more welcoming atmosphere, so we try, and we really try and honor that. I will say we in the past, we have typically each Councilor has spoken once on an issue when we get to comments. So, I'm gonna ask people to abide by that tonight because it's nine o'clock, we've got a lot of work ahead of us, and when you say, when you give your comments say your peace then, and then yes, you have to listen to other people and then we'll vote. I think that would be appropriate as a respect and courtesy for other people, so I'm going to ask you to do that. All right, so we do not have all of our Councilors back yet, but could someone knock on that second door there and tell them that we're back in session? I'd appreciate it. Is everybody, do we have everybody? Where's Sandra? She had to leave for a minute? Okay, then we are intact, all right. Very good.

Aldersperson Kristen Jordan I guess my curiosity is I find it's hard to not say one comment because other things come up that I'd like to respond to, and I'm wondering if the one comment thing is part of our rules or if it's something that we're trying to do to save time? Because it is hard to have discussions when new [inaudible] come up.

Acting Mayor Jones So, it is not.

[unknown speaker] I don't think Jordan's microphone is on.

Marty Rehbein Yeah, Kristen, your microphone....you have to use your microphone so folks who are virtually attending can hear you.

[numerous people speaking at once – inaudible]

Acting Mayor Jones So, I am not clear if it was in our rules ever or if it's in Mason's, but it has been a practice in the past. I, if people want to speak more than once, I'll let you. Okay? I understand that but also it is a lot to get through, so it is possible to kind of outline your arguments and say them. It's always hard when somebody else says something, you want to pipe back up, but I think we should try really hard to do that out of respect for each other's time. Jordan, I, can you give some insight?

Aldersperson Hess I mean, I don't have my Mason's book with me, but it is a Mason's, as something like ability to speak once or something like that. It's, it's not in our rules, but it is in Mason's, and I don't, and I can't say any more about the content of it and I appreciate what you're saying Council President Jones, I also appreciate the flexibility.

Acting Mayor Jones Yep, I'm happy to be flexible, but on a first amendment, some people spoke three or four times. So, let's really try and just reign it in, make your arguments. I think we all understand the points. All right, so let's get going. Ms. Anderson, quick comment before we get going again.

Aldersperson Anderson Yeah just to clarify. You're asking us to limit our comments per amendment item, not like one speak one time for the floor? It's like just because I, I, I....

Acting Mayor Jones Correct.

Aldersperson Anderson Yeah, that's not questions but it's like the comment of how you feel about the amendment, is what you're encouraging us to do?

Acting Mayor Jones Correct.

Aldersperson Anderson Correct, thanks.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. All right. Mr. Carlino, I know you have more, so, let's. let's start getting through them. Okay?

Aldersperson Carlino Does anybody else have any that would like to go first or?

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Jordan.

Aldersperson Kristen Jordan Thank you. I do have one. So, I would like to move to amend the budget by adding \$261,573.00 to the Fire Department, as requested by staff, to fund the Mobile Support Team from our surplus ARPA funds or from the revenue loss ARPA funds. So, these, these funds would go to allow them to hire a data collection specialist and some admin support staff and a facility to actually work out of instead of the little office that they're currently working out of now.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. So that's \$261,00.000 to the Fire Department to add to the Mobile Support Team budget? All right, any questions for staff regarding this?

[unknown speaker] This was addressed by staff during our budget and finance meeting last week, I believe.

Acting Mayor Jones All right. Any public, I'm sorry, I just want to make sure I'm checking for everybody. Any public comment on the amendment? Yes.

Kevin Hunt Thank you. My name is Kevin Hunt I live at 308 Parkside Lane. I urge you to approve this amendment. This is a program that's proved to be something that actually saves money, and it meets desperate needs. It's highly popular; the Fire Department likes it. So, I am asking you to please approve this amendment. I'd like to also to respond to some comments that have been brought up again by Councilor Hess and others, and just, I guess what I want to say overall is that it's awfully easy to nitpick about these requested amendments because everything's atomized. Everything's atomized and you know there are things that maybe is there something wrong with cutting, is there something wrong with cutting something that isn't in the interests of the community so that you can fund something that is? Is

there something wrong with furloughing money that maybe could be spent later because there's a higher priority to do something else? I, I just, I just would like to ask that maybe you take a more global look at this, but, but the bottom line is just philosophically when things are atomized and everything you know this is a lot of money. This budget is huge and so much of it is going to working with, with private parties and going through all these inefficient machinations and labyrinthine processes to be sure that we, we follow the capitalist way and if you took all of this money in this budget, here in year 11 of the 10-year plan to end homelessness, which has not even come close to meeting its goal of net zero, which most people don't even know is the goal. If you take all, all this money that's going towards house and put it towards housing people, the, the most efficient thing you do would be instead of buying land and selling it at a loss and subsidizing multi-state development consortiums, buy the land, build a bunch of houses on it, you know small houses and, and, and house people. You know, in conclusion, I would just say I'm probably one of the only people here old enough to remember 1968 when Pat Paulson ran a satirical presidential campaign, and he noted that the State Department had issued a report that said it was costing the United States taxpayer \$20,000.00 for every Viet Cong killed. And he said, did it ever occur to them that we could buy them off cheaper than that? This is what I'm talking about. This is, this is a crazy way to deal with the housing crisis. The way to deal with it, it's, it's like Tolstoy said, if we don't want to have poor people we got to quit producing them. If you want a house people, house them, buy the land, fund the, fund the darn land trust, buy the land, have people, the people who are living there form co-ops, co-ops. Why does everything have to be for profit? It's profit off of human misery. Take the money, buy the land, put the houses on it, put the people in the houses. You'll have a surplus. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Any other public comment on the Mobile Support Team for \$261,000.00 as an amendment?

[unannounced speaker] Yeah, I'm in full support of this amendment. Doing napkin math from the numbers given at the beginning of the budget presentation, the Mobile Support Team saves the City \$815,000.00 a year in medical costs, which is huge and they're asking for a fourth of that. They provide direct services for mental health services to people in need in this community. I think it's frankly a little crazy that this wasn't factored into the general budget already and we were kind of hoping that the levy would solve this, but for now, I think this is a good start and then I'll be back here next year to try to get it in the regular budget next year, but right now, I think absolutely we should be funding the Mobile Support Team. They've proven that they're wildly effective. They're saving the City money. They're diverting people from the medical system. They're diverting people from the criminal system, and we absolutely should be funding their request.

Henry Curtis Hi, Henry Curtis, Ward 6, again. I would like to urge you to fund this in full. As stated, it saves money. It saves lives. It is, it could not be more simple. This is, it's a no-brainer. Fund this please.

Acting Mayor Jones Anyone else in the public? Come on up.

Joe Joea again. I promise I won't curse this time. I got my aggression. The MST is one of the most innovative and important programs that the City runs. I hope that the City Council members have made time or will make time to go and see their work and see what they do. As stated, obviously it keeps people out of the, the criminal system but more than that it also helps people start their lives over and it puts them back into society, and it is basic care work that is so often underfunded and undervalued by our government institutions, and I really hope that you will give this serious consideration and fund them as much as they deserve.

Acting Mayor Jones You, come on up.

Dylan Albans Hello, Dylan Albans. I do believe that the Mobile Crisis Unit does need more funding. I heard plenty of stories from the winter shelter that they would have times where they requested their help, but they were engaged in other places and until a better more permanent solution is found, I think this is a good band-aid for now. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thanks. Anyone else in the room? Let me go to our attendees to see if anyone's raising their hand for a public comment. Okay seeing none, we'll go back to Councilors for questions or comments. Ms. Vasecka.

Aldersperson Vasecka I apologize for being tardy, but can the amendment be repeated.

Acting Mayor Jones Absolutely, hang on a second. It was to add \$261,000.00 to the Fire Department for the Mobile Support Team. It wasn't specified where the money would come from. Did you want to address that?

Aldersperson Kristen Jordan Yeah, I did specify. It's from surplus ARPA funds or from the revenue loss ARPA funds.

Acting Mayor Jones Thanks for clarifying that.

Aldersperson Vasecka May I have a followup?

Acting Mayor Jones Yes, go ahead.

Aldersperson Vasecka I'm assuming, since this is ARPA, it'll be one, one time funded, instead of ongoing?

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Jordan.

Aldersperson Kristen Jordan I'm sorry, I apologize. Could you repeat your question?

Aldersperson Vasecka Yeah, so since it'll be ARPA funding, I am assuming that this is a one time?

Aldersperson Kristen Jordan Yes.

Aldersperson Vasecka Okay.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Any other questions or comments from Council? Mr. Carlino.

Aldersperson Carlino Yeah, I was just wondering if anybody from the Fire Department was on that would like to speak to it? That was my question and then I have a comment too.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. I'm sure that.... Chief Hughes. Do we have AC Davis on?

Marty Rehbein I see Chief Hughes in the list of attendees.

Chief Hughes Can you hear me? This is Chief Hughes.

Acting Mayor Jones Good evening Chief Hughes. Did, did you want to restate that question just so that it's clear?

Aldersperson Carlino Yeah, I was just asked, I was just asking the Fire Department, what this money would go towards for the Mobile Support Team? I know that they're trying to expand service this year and I know that this extra \$261,573.00 was to complete the Fire Department's request for the Mobile Support Team. So, I was just wondering if you could tell us what it would mean to you all and to your team to get this fully funded?

Chief Hughes Sure, just as Councilwoman Jordan mentioned, the extra funding would go toward the admin support staff position, which would also provide data mining and analyst support and to determine such items as a number of options [inaudible speaking/breaking up] essential data for the pro [breaking up speaking]. So, it would provide position for an outreach specialist, which would be base facilitation [breaking up speaking] after MST units. They contact those in crisis, this followup care that is provided by outreach specialist. Another item on that task is free space for the unit, running out of station one. This would [breaking up speaking]

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, I think we got the answer. Can I just rephrase that from my notes? Is this all right? And, and Chief Hughes, we're having a bit of a hard time hearing you,. But from my notes, this would provide an FTE for administration to help John Petroff, an outreach specialist, also additional office space and permanent facility for parking the vans. Does that summarize it?

Chief Hughes Yes.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, all right. Does that answer the questions? Go ahead.

Aldersperson Carlino Yeah, my comment is that I fully support the Fire Department's request to get this additional \$261,000.00. I think it's really important that we provide the Mobile Support Team a space and get that, get those new full-time employees on board, as well. I did my ride along with the Mobile Support Team and we were actively calling people and avoiding even having to send emergency services out to calls. We were calling them ahead of time and checking in on people. We, we rode along with the you know therapists, psychologists, and the EMT where we talked to many different people around town that they knew and they helped them with a wide variety of issues and it saved the City a lot of money from not having to send Fire Department out there or not having to send Police Department out there or not having to send people to jail, etc., etc. So, the Mobile Support Team, I believe, pays for itself and although I would prefer to see this come out of the Police Department's budget because they fulfill part of the Police Department's job by answering those calls that would normally be fielded by the police, I think taking it from the surplus ARPA funds would also be a good source of funding for this next year.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay and Chief Hughes, I see your hand is up. Did you have additional information to provide?

Chief Hughes I should just make a comment that the budget currently supports the team and what the design looks like and the staffing is currently to run those emergency calls. We are not this ask is for

additional support for the program but the program with the units on the street did not change, if that makes sense.

Acting Mayor Jones thank you for that clarification. I'm going to go to Ms. Anderson, Ms. West, and then to this side of the room. Ms. Anderson.

Alderson Anderson Thanks so much madam chair. Thank you Chief Hughes for being on and I, I just, you kind of led into my question because if you look at what we are funding in the mobile support budget, we are funding \$969,000.00 in the mobile support, and this does allow you to expand hours that this team is operating, what the difference is with the additional proposal is more an FTE that we're looking at one-time funding sources for something that would be ongoing. So, the following year, we wouldn't have money for that, and you know being able to continue and expand sustainably, the mobile support unit is really one of the key components of the crisis services levy that is going out to the voters, that is going to dedicate funds year in year out versus looking at these one-time ARPA funds that once spent will not re, we will not see again. Several questions in there but if you could address the? You are expanding hours of operation with the budget that is currently under the Mayor's suggested funding?

Chief Hughes Yes, that is correct, Councilwoman Anderson. Our service provider, provision does not change with the way that the budget has been presented and adopted by the Mayor. The only thing that would be carved out, as mentioned, are those FTE's in support roles, not in the service delivery side.

Alderson Anderson Thank you for that clarification Chief Hughes.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. West.

Alderson West That was my question....

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Jordan.

Alderson Kristen Jordan Thank you. There we go...I just have a couple comments. I forgot to ask to comment to speak to my motion, so I apologize.

Acting Mayor Jones Go ahead.

Alderson Kristen Jones One of the reasons why I would like to see this funded is because when the program was put together, the, the metrics that were, that were put with the program were incredibly comprehensive and the metrics are showing us that this program actually is a bang for buck program, and I think that the metrics that we attach to this program are a model format for how we should implement all new funding and existing funding. I think that they should all have really deliberate and intentional metrics that talk about program performance that will help us make a decision about whether or not we should fund programs in the future. I also wanted to speak to the fact that because we're putting it out to a levy doesn't mean it's a guarantee and in fact I worry that in the climate that we're in that voters are going to say no to this and I know that all of my colleagues are aware of my frustrations with this that we're putting one of our highest performing programs out for vote when we are also increasing taxes 11-12% is a risky, it's a risky thing to do and I, I think that it's exceptionally disappointing that we're taking one of our highest performing programs and putting it out to a vote in a really precarious year. I too have ridden around with the Mobile Support Team; I think probably everybody knows that I played a key role in getting the original

funding for the Mobile Support Team and putting the metrics together for the program, so it's no secret that I have a lot of passion for this program. It solves, it addresses a lot of problems that we're seeing in other parts of our budget as far as mental health and affordable housing affordability and lack of case management and I think that a quarter of a million dollars or thereabouts out of a 250 million dollar budget, and I know it's not that simple but it sometimes kind of is that simple, for a program like this where our Fire Department is overworked. They are sending big trucks out on mental health calls when the Mobile Support Team's not available. We need to make this program robust. This program saves money, it helps people, and it supports our vulnerable population. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Vasecka.

Aldersperson Vasecka I apologize if this was already answered, but I see that there's already \$969,000.00 that is funded for the Mobile Support Team. So, I was wondering did the Fire Department specifically ask for this or where I just kind of want to see where this is coming from?

Aldersperson Kristen Jordan So, I think I'm going to pass to Daniel because Daniel was, I wasn't at the meeting last week where this came.

Aldersperson Carlino Yeah, at the meeting on Wednesday, at the committee meeting when we asked the Fire Department. They put in the request for \$261,573.00 more dollars to add those full-time employees in. Brad Davis spoke to it at the Wednesday meeting.

Aldersperson Vasecka Oh I was there, yeah I remember that now. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. I have a question. We did discuss this last week in the Budget and Finance Committee meeting and as it stands, the funding that will go to the Mobile Support Team will hold their services steady. And Dale, if you can clarify or Chief Hughes? I, I feel like there was an expansion of hours, but this amendment would have, would definitely have expanded service but as it is, as the budget is proposed in the Mayor's budget, it will maintain level of service. I think there might have been a possible expansion of ours but also there is the potential for Medicaid revenue in the future and that is something we're working on queuing up and that could fill this gap in the long run.

Dale Bickell Yeah, that's a great question. So, Chief Hughes correct me if I'm wrong, but the, but the with coming on in that that second team this \$964,000.00 budget actually increased the hours of team responses in this, as, if I, if I recall that correctly. So, there is a slight expansion in the actual delivery of service. What we're not funding with this, and the original request was the outreach coordinator, the data analysts, and the administrative support, and some costs related to the space. So, I think there actually is a, an increase in the expansion. Now what isn't included in the budget, that is a that is a possibility, that fire is working on is, is other, other sources. So, there are grant funds that are applied for that we haven't heard about, so those are excluded from the budget because we don't know if we're going to get those. The other is the opportunity for Medicaid billing and that may, fire is working with, you know the Montana State Department of Health and Human Services could create, working on creating a program where we would be able to get Medicaid reimbursements for certain calls, and that would also add to this budget.

So, that is an opportunity for a budget amendment during the year to add capacity or additional staffing to the program.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay thank you. Any other comments or questions from Council? I'll look online to see if anybody's raising their hand there. I'm not seeing anybody. I'll just provide a brief comment and then.... wait was somebody raising their hand? Oh, Ms. Anderson.

Aldersperson Anderson Thanks so much madam chair. Yeah, I don't think anyone at this table is going to argue the incredible benefit that the Mobile Support Team has provided our community and it is paying for itself. Unfortunately, if we think back to what seems like a really long time ago at the beginning of our budget meeting and Dale talking about how our budget is funded and how we as a municipality are being asked to do more and more, but yet the funding and the tax system that our state operates under is not effectively keeping up with that, it makes it really difficult to you know fund these new innovative programs, which you know I share Councilwoman Jordan's passion and frustration about the fact that putting this you know one of our really successful programs to a levy, but that is unfortunately, there is not other, you know long-term sustainable funding. I mean you could think of the ARPA money, and I don't think any of us would want to have gone through the last few years with COVID, but it did provide these really interesting opportunities. In last year's budget, we put a significant amount of money into the mobile support unit beyond what we originally did when we first you know it was first created. It was first created and then we put additional money right off the bat in that first budget, we're able to significantly expand it the following year because we had ARPA dollars and but there isn't the ability to sustain those programs because it's not like it's saving money in a particular line item that occurs in a cost savings. It's not the Fire Department because they go out on different calls than mobile, mobile crisis calls, or the police don't go as out on as many Mobile Crisis Unit calls creates a savings for us to then figure out how to sustain and fund this program. And I really have concerns about funding FTE's with one-time dollars because it does create you know a problem the following year. I think that the fact we were able to put almost a million dollars in this year, I would love for it to have more. I will be a huge champion of the levy because I think that that is how we sustain in our broken tax system environment that we currently live under and believe you me, Gwen and I could talk your ear off on about all of that. That's how we sustain these innovative programs until we can get enough you know change happening in the other levels of government that have really led to us having to really step in in innovative ways, to provide services to our most vulnerable in our community that are not being provided in other levels of government. So, you know I am a huge advocate of the Mobile Support Team, I'm a huge advocate of Fire Department but I just, I can't support this particular amendment because it doesn't actually it's, for a variety of reasons. So, thanks so much.

Aldersperson Kristen Jordan I apologize. I will try and not comment again, but a couple things I wanted to respond to. And that is, first of all we do have a lot of positions that have one time funding and we, we decide that the positions are important enough, at the time, that we throw money into them to fund those positions and with the hope of finding money the following year. I can think of four or five positions right

off the top of my head that have one time funding that we've agreed to fund because that we needed them. The other thing that I would like to speak to is, if only other departmental budgets got as much scrutiny as the mobile crisis team did, I think that that is a really curious thing when we have the highest performing program getting exceptional amount of scrutiny for the dollars that they need to spend to run the program, yet all the other budgets come in to us and we tick and flick and say yes to them without asking these deep questions, like where are your metrics? How well is your program performing? Did you have any extra money? Where can you cut back? We're not doing any of this with any of our other program budgets except for the mobile crisis team, which has an incredible reputation.

Acting Mayor Jones Oops, Ms. Vasecka.

Aldersperson Vasecka I'm really, really torn on this one because I did go on a ride-along I went on a couple of Police Department ride-alongs. And when I did one in 2018, we responded to the same person three times and that took up valuable resources. It took up valuable resources from the Police Department, from the hospitals, and from a lot of, a lot of folks that could have been used their time and effort and skills of doing other things rather than responding to the same houseless individual that needed a program like the Mobile Support Team. Because it's being funded by ARPA dollars later on tonight, I'm going to be proposing a few amendments because I believe it's a misuse of ARPA funds and ARPA funds came about because the American Rescue Plan Act because of COVID. So, if it was not a direct cause because of COVID then I believe that we shouldn't be using ARPA funds for it, and because there was this problem before COVID happened, before the American Rescue Plan Act dollars came in, if I'm going to be proposing those amendments later on tonight then I have to not support this one because that would make me a hypocrite. So, while I do think that this Mobile Support Team does need the extra, the extra funding, I do believe it is a very great program and I, I really, I didn't support the levy going on the ballot either for it but, I, I don't want to, yeah I don't want to accidentally make myself a hypocrite so I'm going to have to, unfortunately, I'm not going to be able to support this. I'm sorry.

Acting Mayor Jones Thanks. Any other comments from Council? I'll just say I also support the Mobile Support Team and I appreciate, and Ms. Jordan was integral in setting it all up. It was a, it's a great program. I think a lot of programs honestly all of our programs I think in the City have a lot of scrutiny. It's, I've seen our department's heads and how hard they work on their budgets and what they bring forward and how they make things work. At this point, I think the main theme of the budget this year is maintaining service levels, honoring our collective bargaining agreements, and paying those cost of living increases and very, very few new programs or new expansion of programs. So, I am going to vote against this because I think we need to again keep that surplus ARPA for next year and see what that holds. And ultimately, if the levy passes and we've got some more tools to work with, we're going to we're going to see what we can do with mobile, the Mobile Crisis Unit, but I agree, I wish there were, I wish we had more options for funding, but this is where we're at. All right, so seeing no other comments, we will take a roll call vote.

Marty Rehbein Okay, so this is on the motion to appropriate, I have \$261,573.00 to the Fire Department for the Mobile Support Team from ARPA funds.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay Mr. Carlino.

Aldersperson Carlino Yep. I just have a, another amendment here. Let me pull it up. I move to amend that we furlough the \$100,000.00 towards the parking commission expansion, extension of their jurisdiction study, and put that money towards the Mobile Support Team instead.

Acting Mayor Jones Can I ask a clarifying question on that first? Dale, the parking commission is an enterprise fund, so is that legally possible even?

Dale Bickell I can't make that legal conclusion. It would be unprecedented to take parking commission dollars that were generated from parking revenues and use it for another program. Whether that it can be, you know this is a public process and, but I don't know the answer to the whether this based on the results of this budget process that that is whether that's legal or not, frankly.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. And do we have?

Dale Bickell Leigh Griffing has a comment, I think.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Leigh.

Leigh Griffing Hi, thank you. I'm having trouble with my camera. I just wanted to let folks know that those parking revenues are actually committed to some bonds, some outstanding debt that the parking commission has. So, in order to reappropriate those, I'm with Dale, I'm not entirely sure about the legality there, but it would be very difficult, and we would have to pull in bond counsel to let us know if we were even able to since they're already promised to back that debt.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Given that information, Mr. Carlino, do you want to retract the amendment because I'm not sure that it's?

Aldersperson Carlino Sure, yeah, I can retract that and go with a different one, if that's okay?

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, why don't we do that.

Aldersperson Carlino I move to amend that we cut the \$100,000.00 from the parking commission's study of expanding their jurisdiction.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. And it will stay within the enterprise fund then? Okay. Any questions for staff regarding that? I don't believe we have anyone here from the parking commission to address it, do we? Now, we don't. Ms. Jordan.

Aldersperson Kristen Jordan Thank you. Do we know if the, if we reallocated those \$100,000.00 within the parking commission, could they use that to pay off excess fees that were just mentioned rather than instigating a new study?

Acting Mayor Jones Are you able to answer that Dale or Leigh?

Dale Bickell I don't quite understand the question. Pay off excess fees?

Aldersperson Kristen Jordan Sorry, I misheard what you said, but you mentioned that there's some, some fines or fees or arrears, payments in arrears that the parking commission has. Did I hear you correctly?

Dale Bickell No, they have outstanding bonds.

Aldersperson Kristen Jordan Outstanding bonds....

Dale Bickell And depending, depending on the covenants and the maturing those bonds, the \$100,000.00 could, could potentially be applied just to pay down debt.

Aldersperson Kristen Jordan That's what I was trying to spit out...Thank you. Yeah, I mean it, yeah that would be an interesting question. It's too bad somebody from parking's not here.

Acting Mayor Jones All right. Well, I can speak to, I can speak to that actually, if Council allows me? I'm not with the parking commission but I've spoken to the parking commission before about this and for the RPPPP, Residential Parking Permit Program was created in the 1980s in the university district and frankly there were some last minute adjustments to it back then right before it went live, and it has not changed in 40 years since. While in the meantime, the university, the university population has grown immensely, and our hip strip has become far more commercial, and we have far more density going in on the hip strip and surrounding areas. So, for years it has been discussed that the parking commission needs to take a look at that and probably do a parking study in the long run and see how it can better accommodate not only homeowners, but also students and faculty and staff at the university, to all be able to more efficiently use the on-street parking and make it work better. I'm seeing a lot of puzzled faces looking at me now, but I'm telling you what I know. So, after several decades of discussing it, this is now going forward in very incremental baby steps and the first step is they look at a jurisdiction issue and need to do a study on that before they even get to parking. So, is that what you're talking about Mr. Carlino?

Aldersperson Carlino Yes.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Now, I see some hands raised, so let's start at the end with Ms. Anderson and then Ms. West.

Aldersperson Anderson Okay thanks so much. Sorry, take a momentary pause for that. So, thanks for the musical interlude there Mr. Contos. So, I, I mean, I guess I'm concerned the parking commission is an enterprise fund. It has no taxable effect. So, to cut the \$100,000.00 for the study that is funded from the revenue that that entity generates, given the explanation that Ms. Jones gave about the fact that this is, you know there has been radical changes in parts of this jurisdiction, and really you know the first step in adjusting services and residential parking permits and things is to do the study, I don't see. I would like a little bit more explanation from the, Mr. Carlino on why to cut this, when it does, knowing that we can't move it out of the enterprise fund, and the fact that it's funded with wholly within it and has no taxable implications. I guess, I'm, I'm wondering why this particular amendment at this time?

Aldersperson Carlino Yeah, I think, we're just spending hundreds of thousands of dollars to try, and you know show people where they can park and cannot park, but if we just give all the spaces back up, up to the public, we'll see that the university students have somewhere to park, people that live there have somewhere to park without having to pay abnormal big amounts for a residential parking permit. I live in the residential parking zone and neither I nor any of my roommates buy the parking permit pass because it's too expensive and if we just opened up all the spaces to the public, university students could park there, people that are coming there could park there, anybody could park there and I think it would be a

much more efficient, much more cost effective way of doing things rather than trying to decide who can park where and you have to pay how much money to park here and there and just to spend \$100,000.00 just for a study to see about, about something like this I think just seems like a really good place to cut things but overall I guess I'm advocating for not having residential parking permit zones.

Acting Mayor Jones Dale, you had your hand up?

Dale Bickell Yeah, talk about the, the consultant a little bit more, more that the parking commission, the parking commission board is looking at. And I'm going to talk about it in, in three different areas and I'm not going to speak to it, as well as our parking service director, Ian Ortle, would, but really one is parking commission board interest in expanding, potentially expanding their jurisdiction City-wide. And that doesn't mean that there would be managed parking City-wide but that would expand their authority to be able to consider, consider managed parking or consider enforcement in other areas. As the City moves to liberalize its parking rules related into land use, we get more and more calls related to parking related problems out there, really our only mechanism right now is they have to call the police and, and that's just, and it's an inefficient use of police time to deal with those parking issues in residential areas. So, that was a tool that was going to be considered. The other is moving managed parking across the river into the hip strip area and that's a, a big piece. I think there's a lot of development potential in that area and proposed around there and understanding how managed parking may affect that is important and then and related to that, the residential parking permit that Councilman Jones talked about is part of that because if we suddenly created managed parking in the hip ship that is going to push additional parking into residential neighborhoods for people trying to avoid paying and so we need to take a holistic approach to looking at managed parking. So, really this \$100,000.00 is a placeholder. They have not yet done their request for proposals, and it was a, it was a, an estimate related to establishing a budget, but it's about trying to accomplish all of those things I just mentioned.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. We have Ms. West next.

Alderson West So, I, I am not going to support this. I have heard from constituents both on Front Street and on West Spruce Street who are very much in favor of the parking commission expanding their residential permit program and I think they deserve to have this study done.

Acting Mayor Jones Any other comments or questions from Council? Mr. Hess.

Alderson Hess Thanks. Dale mentioned what I was going to mention, but I think one of the things that I, that I like about this proposed study in in talking to, to Ian, our parking commissioner, is that we can transition enforcement so that it's no longer a law enforcement action and is instead an action within the parking commission. It gives citizens one place to call if there's, if there's parking issues City-wide and it allows us to grow as a, as a City and promote more diversity of housing types by allowing more infill potentially, requiring less parking and managing the conflicts that go along with, with becoming a more dense walkable place to live. So, I'm, I'm supportive of that study for those reasons.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Vasecka.

Alderson Vasecka Thank you. I wanted to thank Mr. Carlino for bringing this up because that was one of my amendments, so that's one last amendment for tonight. Ms. Anderson did bring up a couple of points. It is its own fund, and it has no taxable implications, but it does affect our constituents and it is in front of us and we do have the opportunity to support it or not support it. So, I'll bite, I'm going to if I have the authority and the ability to prefer this money to go towards their debt service then I will encourage that. So, I absolutely will be in support of this amendment tonight.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Any other comments or questions from Council? Seeing none, we'll have a roll call vote. Did I take public comment? Wait, time out, just a second did I take both? Okay, let's take public comment on this item... sorry. Come on up, just laying down.

Maggie Bornstein It is so late, and I so apologize. My name is Maggie Bornstein and Heidi, thank you. I know that we've talked about parking before. Heidi is my one of my board representatives and I really appreciate her lens on this. I think just my only trouble about this is not knowing what the public participation will be in the study and again not necessarily like for against the study. Again, I wish I could ask Dale all the questions or perhaps the parking commission. My only fear is that like this could perhaps impact low income neighborhoods disproportionately, in terms of like they are a revenue collecting service. It, it sounds like they're an enterprise, so that those funds aren't spilling over to support other services, but I am concerned, like to meet needs. Like what will that look like for, for different neighborhoods? For the folks in the hip strip who have traditionally like maybe not had to pay for parking and things like that, and so I'm just really curious about what the public participation would be in this, and I would caution you to be very conservative should you go forward with this and in implementing expansion into new areas without working with communities in advance and asking for their participation. Thanks.

Acting Mayor Jones Thanks. Any other public comment? Come on up.

Henry Curtis Hi, I'm back. I'll keep it short. Henry Curtis for the record. Yeah, these sorts of things kind of can operate and just sort of to echo what Maggie said. These sorts of things can operate in a slightly regressive sense. Now if we were doing this to incentivize a different like pattern of usage in a sense, like if you were trying to say use this to nudge people into using for example public transit, that would be pretty cool. I'd support that; however, in a vacuum and just doing this in a vacuum like this has the risk of just sort of providing a stick with no carrot and potentially no, a special gain to anybody beyond a consultant or something. I'm not saying it's not useless to do this sort of like research. I'm just saying if we are to do this let's do it in a considered and theoretical way, you know, not theoretical and like imagine but theoretical and services like conforming to like having a goal beyond it, behind it. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Any other public comment? I'll check online; I don't see any raised hands. Any other questions or comments from Council?

Alderson Vasecka A couple of weeks ago, Mr. Hess and I had the, the privilege of doing an interdisciplinary walking audit and where they had a range of folks from a range of different disabilities with parking, sidewalks, ramps and all that. And I, I'm not too familiar with that department, but I was

really impressed with the way that they looked into having the public input. So, I don't know if Mr. Hess can expand upon the public input with the, with the parking or anything like that or if this has anything to do with that, but I would, I guess in response to the public comment, I just wanted to let, let folks know that the City has been looking into what citizens input has been with sidewalks and in that parking area. So, I just wanted to point that out.

Acting Mayor Jones Mr. Hess.

Alderperson Hess Sure. I can't speak for the parking commission, but I, I agree with Ms. Vasecka that I think the, the input of the, the City's transportation programs is really top-notch. The interdisciplinary, the inclusive interdisciplinary walk out was a great example of involving a diverse population early in the project phase in order to determine what, what barriers might exist in in a potential Higgins project moving forward. Incidentally one of the things that came up was, was in part enforcing parking violations because parking violations oftentimes block accessible paths of travel for, for individuals with disabilities. So, that was something that did come up. I have participated in, in a few different things with the parking commission over the years including the deployment of, of the new parking meters in downtown, and that process was very, was a very public process. It came to Council, it had a lot of opportunity for feedback and of course our long-range transportation plan and our other transportation programs, I think are really innovative in their, in their feedback, whether it's through the neighborhood traffic management program or, or other transportation programs. The last thing I would say is that the parking commission is one of the biggest supporters of transit in our community, and they view, they view parking as a resource that is best managed by, by utilizing transit and other modes. And so, so when, when the zero fare program, before Mountain Line's most recent [inaudible], the parking commission was a big supporter of zero fare and other transit programs and so they, they, they manage parking as a resource and sometimes the best way to manage that resource is to manage demand by making, making people more comfortable using transit for instance. So, I hope that answered your question Ms. Vasecka.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Great. Ms. West. Oh, your hand was up...No. Okay, very good. Any other questions or comments from Council? First of all, I just want to say thank you Dale for providing a more coherent comment on what this study is for and I'm, I think it needs to stay in their budget because I think, as we are a rapidly growing City and we are focusing on more density with our growth policy, parking is a thing, and we need to figure it out and make it work for everybody. So, we either do it and do it well or we ignore it at our own peril, so I'm really glad that they're taking proactive steps to start addressing this and figuring out a better way forward. And that does include the hip strip with and also Hellgate High School has 1,300 students plus staff, the university is growing again, plus a residential neighborhood, plus there's just other areas in in our City that we need to look at some more managed proactive parking strategies to make it all work. So, seeing no other comments or questions from Council, we will have a roll call vote on the amendment to strike the parking jurisdiction study from the parking commission's budget. I believe I stated that correctly. Okay, very good. Marty.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you Marty. All right, the next amendment, Mr. Carlino

Alderson Carlino I think we can come up with a public, non-militarized team that could patrol around the shelters and neighborhoods and in a humane way, so I moved to cut the \$630,318.00 from the private security force that patrols around the shelters and surrounding neighborhoods, that is currently in the budget to come from our ARPA funds.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Thank you for the amendment. Questions to staff regarding this amendment and its impact on programs and budgets? Mr. Nugent.

Alderson Mike Nugent Thanks. I guess if, if we cut this line from the budget and we don't replace it with something else, does that eliminate our ability to easily find an alternative solution Dale?

Dale Bickell Thanks for the question. I may ask Eran Pehan weigh in on this as well. I think without an alternate solution with this, I think short term implications are that we would likely shut down authorized campsite and it'd probably delay the opening of the Emergency Winter Shelter. Our ability to pivot and create a different style of, of, of security would probably take us 6 months, I'm assuming to develop the program, recruit, probably a minimum of 6 months if we fast-tracked it to be able to do something like that. Eran, do you have any comments on this?

Eran Pehan Yeah, I would mostly just echo what you shared Dale, that we know we've heard from both providers and from utilizers of service at the authorized campsite, at Emergency Winter Shelter, at temporary safe outdoor space, all of the programs outlined in the operations shelter initiative and budgets, that those providers and residents feel that security is necessary and essential for the operation of those programs. And so, I think the immediate impact of loss of funding or security services going away is that those programs could not operate and/or open if they're not yet open for the season, until we were able to determine another course of action. I agree that that would be lengthy. What we know is that staffing these programs even with supportive staffing is incredibly challenging. We saw that last year with Emergency Winter Shelter, and we actually struggled to find staffing for almost a four-month period at the authorized campsite for operation coordinators. And so, I think I think it would be a challenge and it would have a direct impact on whether or not we can keep those locations open to provide that life-saving service.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. We've got questions down here and then I'll come back to you Mr. Carlino. Ms. Anderson.

Alderson Anderson Thanks so much madam chair. My question is for Ms. Pehan, the money, that so....It's a two-part question, if I'm allowed? First of all, the current contract that we are under with Rogers is set to be, is only through October, correct?

Eran Pehan Correct. Our current contract expires on October 31, 2022, and we'll be issuing an RFP in the next several weeks for to, to identify a vendor moving ahead for that service.

Alderson Anderson So, I, so this basically is a line item to allow us to execute and hire somebody for that RFP. It is by no means, a you know, necessarily that we're retaining Rogers, going forward beyond what their current contract is.

Eran Pehan That is correct. We hope to get several applicants, so that, that is a competitive selection process.

Alderson Anderson Can I have one more followup?

Acting Mayor Jones Go ahead.

Alderson Anderson So and this is just for the next coming year budget? I mean, so based, simoMy question is, simultaneously, we can retain security because it is necessary for the reasons laid out but we can also be looking at in developing our own internal systems at the same time but if we cut this, it kind of in the short term delays providing these services while we are you know basically it's putting all of the focus on creating our own internal systems?

Eran Pehan Yeah, I think, if I understand what I think you're saying, it isn't an either or situation. You're absolutely right. We do need security services in place now to keep the authorized campsite and other services available and operational. We also need it in place to open Emergency Winter Shelter on November 1, 2022, but we, our current contract is expiring on the 31st of October, that gives us time to assess what we want that new relationship to look like and what we want that scope of services to look like. And of course, as a reminder, that in any contract would come before Council and this conversation could happen again and we could not execute the Council's approval and so this, this matter will be before you again.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, Daniel, and Daniel can you just restate the amendment one more time, so I can write it down? I neglected to do it.

Alderson Carlino So, the amendment, well I'd like for us to come up with a public entity instead, but the amendment is to cut \$630,318.00 from the, you know, the RFP for the private security that patrols the shelters and surrounding neighborhoods.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. All right. And then your hand up, I believe.

Alderson Carlino Yes. And hiring a private company to do armed patrols and be able to use the ability to use force on Missoulian's is an easy way for us as a Council and government to avoid liability. We're the government; we're the City Council. We can come up with the public entity and if it takes 6 months well, a lot of us have been speaking out against this for much longer than 6 months at this point. And we could have come up with a good public option instead, but last week when the *Missoulian* without the permission of the City, you know or went to go see what's actually happening at the ACS, they saw you know, they let the public see for the first time what, what it looks like in there sometimes with, with what Rogers is doing. And Roger's Security, while they were tearing down people's shelters from hiding from the heat and the shade, that's where ARPA funds were going towards. They were going towards tearing down shelters and they were wearing masks over their face, covering their faces, while they are tearing down shelters. I've gotten multiple complaints from constituents who have are representing somebody who's been assaulted by Rogers or who and from constituents who have been assaulted by Rogers International. I shared the one with you all about how the man was, was tased and his and you know wouldn't and Rogers wouldn't stop and, and this is something that's going to continue to happen if we

keep hiring private security forces and give them the ability to use force and to use armed weapons to control our neighborhoods and to control the people that are staying at the shelters. It is not okay, no private security companies okay, sending out an RFP to do to do this all over again after we already know how failed it is, is not okay.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Any other questions from Council? And then, we'll take public comment. Ms. Vasecka.

Aldersperson Vasecka I, I'm a little bit confused of where this number is coming from. I guess, can, do you have? Was it a new request that came from?

Aldersperson Carlino It's under operation, Operation Shelter and this is just, and I think the number exact numbers to be determined between the City and County, but this is how much staff said was going to go towards the RFP for private security, but it's under right now the bigger budget item of Operation Shelter, which is super confusing in itself. I think the public deserves to know how much we're spending on this, but I got it from Eran Pehan, but she also said that we're going to be splitting that between the City and County, I believe. So maybe Eran could tell us more.

Aldersperson Vasecka Thank you. And you said it was going to be coming from ARPA funding?

Aldersperson Carlino Yeah.

Aldersperson Vasecka Okay, thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Other questions from Council? Mirtha.

Aldersperson Becerra Thank you...

Acting Mayor Jones Hang on a second Mirtha. Eran Pehan's hand is raised so I think she's responding to a question and then we'll go to you. Sorry Ms. Becerra. Go ahead Eran.

Eran Pehan Yeah. I did just want to clarify. So, the, the \$630,000.00 dollar sum that Councilman Carlino was mentioning is the estimated total amount of security across all four or five sites identified in the Operation Shelter budget. That includes temporary safe outdoor space, the Poverello Center, the authorized campsite, and other services, and that is the total responsibility. And so, the City would only be looking to cover half of that and so that number is closer to \$300,000.00.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Ms. Becerra.

Aldersperson Becerra Thank you. A couple of questions for Eran. During the last election process or when an RFP went out or when we try to get security for the sites and, and ultimately ended up with Rogers. How many other companies applied?

Eran Pehan So, that's an excellent question. And we actually did not go to competitive bid at the time. We were in the midst of the pandemic and Missoula County had an existing relationship with Rogers International, they were providing security services at the temporary safe outdoor space, as well as the non-congregate shelter. And so, we, due to that existing contract and our relationship with Missoula County and the broader operations shelter initiative, we chose to expand upon the scope of work that Rogers was already providing. So, this will be the first time we will go to competitive bid and look at a more competitive process throughout the broader community.

Alderson Becerra And I have another question, if I may?

Acting Mayor Jones Go ahead.

Alderson Becerra Do you have any idea and I know nobody has a crystal ball, but do you have any idea what the cost would be to have a public entity providing the security?

Eran Pehan I'll, I'll have Dale weigh in as well, but I do know that we looked at some of this when we were looking at the benefits of providing a security presence, especially around the Poverello Center and we provided an in-depth report and update to City Council. And at that point in time, I think what we had calculated in collaboration with PD is that to replace that private security with a public presence through the Missoula Police Department would cost about 2.5 million dollars.

Alderson Becerra Okay. And I guess, guess I have a clarification question for my colleague Mr. Carlino. Is this an appropriate time to do it?

Acting Mayor Jones Sure, go ahead.

Alderson Becerra I guess, I'm wondering Daniel, if you propose to cut this funding, how will we pay for the public security? If there's no funding allocated for it?

Alderson Carlino Well, I thought we would fund, cut this and then use that money to help fund a public and I was not a public entity. And I was not saying it should be through the Police Department; I was saying we should come up with you know something that is more humane and helps, helps work in a non-militarized way. So, I was hoping we could use some of some of these funds to, to fund a public entity instead and if we're paying \$30.00 an hour to Rogers International employees, you know, per their time of service I you know it seems like quite a bit of money that we could use for a public entity.

Alderson Becerra Okay. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Vasecka, questions?

Alderson Vasecka Yeah, Mr. Nugent asked this already, but I, I might have to rephrase it. So, if we do not, if we take this out, if we take out this line item in the budget, will that completely erase any possibility of having a private security firm in the future or is, or will we be able to add that in later? If we, if this does succeed? If that made sense?

Acting Mayor Jones Is that a Dale question? I'm not quite sure? We, we always have the power to do a budget amendment, but we have to find the money. There's the finding the money and then I think Dale can and Eran can speak to this, but I think the idea of tipping up an in-house security force is, is a topic of discussion, but I don't think it can be done in a month either, it's it takes quite a bit of.... I mean Dale and Eran, can you speak to this a little bit more than me? It's a, it's actually quite a large project and in the meantime, we don't even know if there is sustainable funding in the long run for the TSOS and the Emergency Winter Shelter and the ACS, so there's a lot of moving pieces and trying to figure out the next steps that make sense, that are feasible, that do provide the best service possible, that are short-term versus long-term. Okay, what else can you add in Eran and Dale to my?

Eran Pehan The only other thing that, that I would add to that is, I think through communication with our partners, the Community Care Team, and Partnership Health Center, the Poverello Center and others.

There is a real need to separate out supportive staffing from site-based security and so I think there's a strong preference from those doing this work on the ground who know this work best, that we, we, not have a supportive staffing presence that is security based. They want that separate and that allows for them to maintain relationships with the individuals that they're working very hard to build strong relationships with to help move them towards housing without having to be in the enforcement role. So, those roles do need to be separate. The City of Missoula does not have the internal administration and infrastructure to tip up an enforcement team. We would need to create that internally and so it's not just a, it's not just a process of hiring some people and putting them on the ground. We would have to create internal structure, we would have to get the right training, the right certifications, and build the team around that and I think that would take a great deal of time and I think that 30 hour, \$30.00 an hour sum doesn't capture all the infrastructure that would need to be developed to deploy a service like that.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay and Eran, I would say, I don't think that that's off the table at all. I think it's a potential option in the future but that is more of a long-term option, and we don't know if we're short-term or long-term yet bottom line. Is that correct?

Eran Pehan Yeah, that's absolutely true. It's expertise we could develop and its infrastructure we could build, we just simply don't have that today.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Any other questions, questions from Council? Then let's go to public comment on this item.

Kevin Hunt Hello, my name is Kevin Hunt. I live at 308 Parkside Lane. I just want to say let's look at how you got here. I mean, Missoula has two ordinances, had an anti-loitering ordinance and a no-sleep lie ordinance that are unconstitutional unless you have adequate space to shelter people, you know, all the time. And so, what you have is now by having these, these camps, now your ordinances are constitutional, now your police could do the job, but apparently, you're now hiring Rogers to do this part of the time, but now you can sweep people into these concentration camps, so they're not downtown and you know they're out of sight and, and all of that. I mean, that's what it is. I don't care if that's your intent or not, you got to look at what, what it really is and that's what it is. If you have a no sleep-no lie ordinance, you want to keep it on the books and you have no loitering ordinance you want to keep it on the books. You can't do that and enforce it unless you have places for people to go and so put them behind, you know cyclone wire and, and have private security guys, and that's, so that's where we are. So, it's a matter of aesthetics really a lot of it is and you know in, in India. I mean, I'm not saying we should be like India, but I mean, you know people don't try to hide the fact that they have poor people among them and so that's, that's kind of what's going on. It's part is part of the overall gentrification and, and all of that and we're, we're really hip, hip town. So, you know, we can't have we can't have this kind of thing visible. We've gotta put people over by a sewage treatment plant or whatever, and so, that's how you got here, so maybe it's time to maybe take a another look at how you got here and maybe just all be a little more honest about the, the problem we have. Okay, because we're, it's the same, it's just the same thing. It's just throwing millions and millions of dollars that could if spent more directly just to house

people would solve the problem, but you're not going to do that. I know you're not going to do that, so I commend the people that are making these amendments, asking for these amendments even though they know they're going down and even though the amendments are not perfect. I, I think I think it's really commendable if it makes people think about, about where we are and how we got here. If you look at every other City in the country, they've, they've tried just about everything you're trying now and you know, it hasn't worked and it's this, again it's this, it's this model that we have that we use, but that's, that's what, that, that's the essence of it. We're sweeping people out of view into concentration camps and, and now what do we expect? Of course, they want some security because we don't provide mental health services. We don't, you know, we, we don't fund that kind of stuff and so, because we don't do that, not nobody wants to be there and, and, and be attacked by, by somebody else, but you know, I, I, I would still.... I think every day that you have Rogers International under contract, I think you are risking liability. I don't think you avoid liability by, by negligently retaining a service that is, is violating people's rights and is doing an incompetent job. That's, that's ridiculous and it will cost you a lot more a lot more in liability, than 2.5 million dollars. That's all I'm going to say.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you for your comment. Any other public comment on this item?

Joe Joe again. I'm going to try and keep this short because I know that you guys are going to vote it down and I know that you know that I know, but he was brought up by Councilman Nugent, I think, met someone who was a survivor of abuse at the camps who mentioned appreciating security and I just want to point out a couple things because I've also have friends in the camp and the fact of the matter is that just about all of the women or female presenting people in those camps have suffered abuse. And one of those people, a couple weeks ago, when it was in the triple digits got accused of stealing water because there wasn't water provided at the camps, despite the fact that the people who were supposed to be there, Rogers International and the various managers in case of stuff people sorry, from Helena, I believe, or the infrastructure manager that's what I was trying to say were supposed to provide those things, supposed to provide shade. None of that has been provided, and while she felt safe there at first, after she was accused of stealing, they tried to throw her out and her case manager had to spend days fighting tooth and nail. She was back on the streets all that time and when you're back in the streets, it's easy to relapse, it's easy to get abused again. Every single time that we fail these people, there's more human suffering that goes into that, and I just want to mention again I know I came in here and did a big theatrics with an empty plate carrier and a serpa holster. The reason that those guys carry those poverty pony rigs is because they don't know what they're doing. They want to be militia members, that's why they dress up they, they want to play pretend like they're like operators, they want to be door kickers and they're not. And when you put people who don't have the training with firearms and empty plate carriers in a position around poor people, it's because they want to feel powerful over people who can't fight back, and they're going to abuse that power because that's how power works. And just like I warned you that something like this was going to happen months ago, I'm telling you right now, the longer you keep these people around the poorest and most vulnerable members of our community, the likelihood that one of them has a

bad day and shoots someone and someone will die goes up, and approaches one. At some point, it's going to happen. I understand that it's hard, but you weren't hired to do easy jobs. I understand that you're going to vote no. I understand that you're making promises about what you'll do in the future, I hope you will because it's important.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Any other public comment?

Henry Curtis So, we've heard the arguments saying that fundamentally it takes however many months theoretically to train up people or something like that. We've seen the arguments that say that or honestly what could be considered a failed threat, that if the security lapses that that is an excuse to close the camp and throw the situation back to worse than before probably. I don't think that either of those necessarily hold as much water. I think that, again, the first and the most ethical choice is to at this point today to remove the source of the problem, to remove these again heavily armed guards who are the crux of the issue right now. That doesn't solve the issue but that would be removing, that would be removing the blade from the back to use a metaphor to misquote Malcolm X, slightly. And I think that that if it would dislodge the concerns of other members, why don't you again, you're here, it's budget night. Let's take that money away from that and let's in the process of doing so let's actually add a second amendment enters like that. I cannot propose this, I'm throwing this out as an idea but why don't you take these steps today for the at the very least the active draw down? Why don't you fund the creation of something to replace that? Why don't you solve the issue in this case, which is not the full solving of the issue, which is again providing people with homes, but why don't you solve the most central and immediate part of this problem by taking these funds and providing a system to draw that down or something or even directly create what will replace this current unjust, inhumane, and violent system? It's a simple ask. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you for your comment.

Henry Curtis Also, it's Henry again for clarification. Yeah, I've been here, up four times now, sorry.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, come on up.

Dylan Albans Hi, Dylan Albans. I don't know if I'm supposed to say how many times I've been up, but...

Acting Mayor Jones Just keep saying it each time because the transcriptionist, it makes it a lot easier for her. Appreciate it.

Dylan Albans So, by saying the shelters need security, it seems to imply that the, the, the people, the population is dangerous, but they're, they're just people who are down on their luck, but why is it private security that was hired? Why wasn't the police, why like, why not just put, have them patrol everything? If they, it's, it's just, they have 34% of the budget, why is the police not doing it and we hired a private, private group instead of an on-site crisis assistance, or a bouncer? The people needing to use a winter emergency, emergency shelter have committed no crimes to be there, and I've spoken to houseless people who stay near the Pov, and they say they don't feel safe with their presence. So, this seems to make, it seems to be that it makes the lucky ones who get to live in a house feel safe, but the people who are the most in need feel less safe, and I, I don't, if, if, it's not completely removed, I would at least ask maybe to cut the cost of weapons or to remove the cost of weapons. I hear they walk around with big

knives strapped to their chests and maybe if, if taking it away completely postpones the opening of a winter shelter next year at least train them in non-lethal ways so that the winter shelters can still be open until a better replacement is available. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Any other public comment on this item? I'm looking online, I'm not seeing any raised hands. Back to Council for any further questions or comments. And I'm just going to ask Eran, Eran Pehan, if you're still with us, if you could address? We've have had some issues with Rogers Security, and could you tell me the steps that have been taken, and what we can be doing to address that while that contract is running its course for the next few weeks? In the meantime, we're....

Eran Pehan Yeah

Acting Mayor Jones We're doing the RFP....

Eran Pehan Absolutely. Yeah, Eran Pehan with CPDI. And so, we did issue a formal contract, notice of contract violation for the incident that occurred several weeks ago in which Rogers violated the agreed dress code on-site by covering their face and not having uniforms that clearly identified them as security with Rogers International and so, so, we are continuing to hold them accountable as we see violations to the contract and this is better informing us of how we need to ensure that the RFP for services moving ahead is structured in a way to, to address the type of presence that we would like to have on site and that our partners through these various sites would like to see on site, as well as incorporating feedback from those who are utilizing this service. We did receive the heavy feedback from those that are utilizing the service through the survey that we completed and reported out to City Council on a few months ago, and there are mixed reviews. There are folks who definitely don't feel the benefit of security personnel on site and there are also many individuals who access services who do feel the benefit of security on site. So, I just want to make sure that's not lost in this conversation, as well, but we will continue to hold our current contract in place and hold Rogers accountable for contract violations for the duration of that contract through October 31, 2022.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Okay, any other questions or comments from Council? Ms. Vasecka. Alderperson Vasecka Thank you. So, there have been some comments tonight about the, the encampments and what and concentration camps and I've, I dislike using that word concentration camp for this camp because they're free to go as they please. It downplays the horrendous situations of folks that are actually imprisoned in concentration camps. So, I just wanted to let you know that I disagree with that a wordage there and then there's also. So, there, this is my Ward, this is mine and Kristen's Ward and we have talked with the business owners multiple, multiple times and yes a lot of the folks that are there are down on their luck, and they have committed no crimes to be there, but there are some who do commit crimes in and around the area. The business owners have said that they can't go to work and at night sometimes because they have, they get accosted by some folks; they have to pay a fee to some folks to get past them to get into their building. There is prostitution. There are drug deals. There's litter. There is defecation. There, there's a lot of inappropriate activity that is, inappropriate and illegal activity that is going on. So, there has to be some sort of security and I've talked with the Police Department and

there are just not enough police officers to constantly be in that area. So, I do think that there should be a security, some sort of security there just to kind of you know not really be a chaperone but to have a presence there so that in a, inappropriate and illegal activity is dissuaded. That being said, following my consistency with this was a problem before COVID and this is an inappropriate use of ARPA funds. So, in a roundabout way, I will be supporting this motion tonight or this amendment to the budget to not use the ARPA funds for, for Rogers security.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Ms. Jordan and then Mr. Hess.

Aldersperson Kristen Jordan Thank you. A couple things I wanted to say just about Rogers security. One is to address the survey that was sent out a couple months ago to the public regarding their interpretation/impression of how Rogers security was performing, and the results were used to come back to Council and say that Rogers security is doing exactly what we needed them to do. People find that they're safer. With all due respect, that survey was poorly written, and it was written in a way that directed respondents to ultimately approve of the functions that Rogers security was fulfilling. I was very disappointed that that survey made it out to the public, having a background in data and policy analysis, those types of things need to be vetted by professionals before they're sent out to the public and I will be really disappointed if those results are continued to be used to support having Rogers security. You know, another thing, I, I do have a, I am you know Sandy and I were out there listening to business owners. It was really upsetting hearing what the business owners are going through. It is unacceptable what's going on out there and, and even one business owner is moving because he can't have customers leaving their cars overnight because they're getting broken into. These are real problems, but I also think that private policing is a slippery slope. After our visit with the business owners, the Police Department sent somebody through, cleared people out. They were able to do it in a way that was, I, I don't know where these people went but what ended up happening is they weren't loitering in businesses front yards and that was the important piece is that the businesses felt supported. There was no, nobody was accustomed, nobody was threatened, it was just a sweep that the Police Department did in a matter of a couple hours, and I think that if we took these funds and created a special team that did regular sweeps and said folks, you got to move along to protect the business owners, to protect the clients who are staying at these shelters that would be more appropriate use of these funds. Private policing is scary; it is a place we don't want to go as a municipality. We are going to lose control of how we police our citizens if we allow this to continue.

Acting Mayor Jones Thanks. Any other questions comments? Oh wait, I'm sorry, Mr. Hess. Jordan.

Aldersperson Hess I'm, I'm sorry my audio cut out. Did you call on me?

Acting Mayor Jones Yes, you're up next. Your turn....

Aldersperson Hess Okay. I just want to say that I favor holding our contractors accountable. I favor releasing a new RFP with appropriate sideboards. I favor exploring a publicly operated option and I ultimately favor passing a budget amendment, when necessary, in order to implement whatever, we land on.

Acting Mayor Jones Mr. Nugent.

Alderman Mike Nugent I agree with everything Councilman Hess just said. I think it's important to draw the distinction that we can do better, and we've talked about that for the last four months in this process, that's RFP and we need to. Public comments come up a couple times that why doesn't the City just start funding housing solutions on their own to solve this and I just kind of want to put this out there. Two big projects that, that people are excited about in the City of Missoula right now are the Bellagio, which is going to provide 200 beds or and the Trinity project which is spread across two sites, and it's another 202, so 402 total. And the Bellagio's price tag is 42 million dollars. The Trinity's price tag is 35 million dollars and that's before any overages. So, I think it's important to note that it is not realistic to say that the City can get in the development business. We, we do not have the funds to do it; that 45 million is, is more than the entire Fort Missoula Regional Park and whether we should have voted for that or not several years back, it is something that is going to be on people's tax bills for years. So, to do projects of that magnitude every, every year to meet this problem and to solve this crisis isn't realistic. We have to have private partners unless the whole system of economics in the United States changes, which would make some of these problems easier to, to solve but then probably create other ones. I think that we just need to acknowledge that we do not have 77 million dollars in our budget to build more of these projects straight from public funds.

Acting Mayor Jones Any other questions or comments from Council? I will just briefly add that I, I agree with what Mr. Hess said. I think it is important having some level of security within these programs that we tip up because we've heard over and over about how important it is that people who are homeless in this situation in these, in the, the TSOS, or the ACS, or the EWS be able to leave their belongings, to go handle business, to get a license, to get identification, to get a job. They need some level of security, as a home base there. They also need security from being assaulted and I think I'm trusting that we've got one of our best people in the City frankly, Eran Pehan who is working on this. I'm not sure exactly what the path forward is, but we're learning as we go and I think we're gonna continue to make it better in what is frankly a very, very difficult program to run. So, I see one, a couple more hands raised and then we're gonna go to a vote. Ms. West and then Ms. Anderson.

Alderman West Sorry, my hand was too slow. I was trying to look up the most recent numbers on Bellagio I think it's closer to 64 million dollars now, which is close to what our City's General Fund currently is. But to speak to this item specifically, I just wanted to give a little bit of context of how we got here. I think in the last I don't know five years; I think it is the City has really dramatically expanded its services for folks that are unhoused in our community. It started with folks being able to stay at the bus terminal during the winter and then it moved to the salvation army and then it's expanded to the place it's now along with other options that are now available year round. It's been an incredible expansion of what we provide for frankly the, the people who have the least in our community and I don't think we could do this without security. I realize it hasn't been perfect and I don't think that obligating these funds ties us to a specific vendor or a specific model. I also want to say that having been a Ward wrap, of Ward 1 for the

last I guess it's seven years now, this was the first winter that I wasn't bombarded with emails all winter long about like human feces being on somebody's lawn and I think that there is something that we're doing right here for everybody. We're allowing spaces for people that are safer than where they were before and where they can hopefully have some higher degree of dignity than they had prior. And we're also maybe creating some boundaries, so people can learn to respect and get along with each other. So, yeah I think this is important and it provides us an avenue to move forward and build on what we've learned. And last thing, summer of 2020, we heard loud and clear that this was not supposed to be a police, police force and that it should be something different and this is what we tried, and we'll keep working on it.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Anderson.

Alderperson Anderson Thanks so much madam chair. I think it's important to highlight that this isn't just security and I apologize if the one second I stepped out that they talked about this, but it's not security just at the temporary campsite, it is across all of the things that we're doing to provide shelter for the our houseless Missoulian's. And, you know, the temporary outdoor shelter, even though it's in the county abuts my Ward and I think the community, I heard a lot when that was being proposed about concerns that the community had and almost all of those concerns none of them came to fruition because it has worked really well and, and it's a different type of site and all of them cater to specific people with specific needs and whatnot, but it's across the spectrum. And I think that Ms. Pehan pointed out something that I think is important to highlight is, we're in a bit of a transition period now because we have you know the additional units coming online that's great. They will not by any stretch of the imagination solve our homeless problem, our houseless problem. It is systemic, societal at all levels that have led to this problem. We are not going to fix it in this one budget cycle or in two budget cycles and we at the City, as my colleagues have highlighted, cannot fix it ourselves. We don't have the funding ability to get into the housing development business. We're trying to do what the best we can with the tools that we have, and we also need more tools, and you know, I'm gonna keep saying this because I think it's so important. We are working in a City that that is doing new and innovative things reliant upon an antiquated funding model, and we are being asked to do more and more at the municipal level where our partners and the other branches of government are not keeping up and being supportive partners. You know, to Ms. West's point about the things that we have done over the last couple years, a lot of it started in 2017 when the legislature cut the Department of Health and Human Services caseworker program, and those folks needed you know that is a critical program and then it kind of cascaded from there. And so, we are trying to figure out how to do more with less, which leads us back to the levy because if that levy doesn't pass, we are going to have some really, really difficult conversations in this room this time next year because we will have no leftover ARPA funds. There is not going to be another tranche of them to continue to fund these programs that we have been funding throughout the COVID pandemic that sort of collided with you know some people in our you know many people in our community experiencing some really hard times and, and providing services because that is what Missoulian's do. We are there for

each other but it is a balancing act and I just, this to me given especially the fact that we are don't know what's going to happen with the levy and of our ability to continue to fund and provide these long-term services, while also other sectors and other partners help in the ways that they can I think leads us in a pretty precarious situation and I want to have the ability to you know provide security, address the issues that have been brought up with security, as up to date going forward and then also look at other ways. I think we'll know a lot more about what we can do and what we need to be doing after the levy hopefully passes because I think that will give us an idea of long-term funding for these really critical programs. It has been said and I think it's important to repeat again, nobody died because of exposure, I do believe for the last two winters and that is not an insignificant thing. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Any other comments or questions from Council? Then we'll do a roll call vote on this amendment which is to cut \$630,000.00 for private security for Operation Shelter.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Let's do one more amendment and then we'll take a break. Mr. Carlino.

Aldersperson Carlino I move to amend that we add the staff requested amount of \$300,000.00 to the Affordable Housing and Climate Action Incentives Program from our revenue loss section of the ARPA funds. And can I speak to that, or we can comment first?

Acting Mayor Jones Let's, let's follow our order, which is questions, if we have questions for staff and then we'll take public comments. So, questions for staff, Mr. Nugent.

Aldersperson Mike Nugent Yeah, if we move the money from the revenue loss fund that was just going to the General Fund, Dale am I correct that we need to come up with something to cut from the General Fund to offset that?

Dale Bickell Yes that's right, if we intend to maintain our budget policies and have a balanced budget under our definition.

Aldersperson Mike Nugent Are we required by state law to have a balanced budget?

Mike Bickell We are required to have a balanced budget, but we get to define those rules.

Aldersperson Mike Nugent Great. Mr. Carlino could I ask you to amend your motion to specify something to cut?

Aldersperson Carlino Yeah, I think it's a real shame that we're putting two point almost 2.4 million to revenue loss, but I could amend the motion or revoke that motion and do a new motion. I move to amend adding the staff requested amount of \$300,000.00 to Affordable Housing and Climate Action Incentives program from our surplus ARPA funds.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. So, questions for staff. Eran, can you address? I just need some quick clarification because it's getting late in the evening. Has any of this been funded in the Mayor's proposed budget? Dale or Eran, can you address that? I just can't remember at this point.

Eran Pehan So, Dale, do you want to?

Dale Bickell These are programs that, were to, to create incentives to create sustainable features in affordable housing projects that would be part of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. They were not funded in the Mayor's budget.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. And as a followup, I'll just ask. I believe it's called the Inflation Reduction Act was just passed that had a lot of climate, climate monies put towards certain things and I'm sure it's a huge act and nobody's been gotten through all of it yet, but is that a potential source in the long run? Does City staff think that's, think that that is something to pursue because it seems to be well aligned with this request?

Eran Pehan Yeah, Eran Pehan, CPDI. We do think that there is great opportunity in the recent law that was just passed. We're, we have several grant administrators in our department that are watching the administration on rollout of that very closely so we can try to identify where there might be opportunity alongside our partners and Public Works and others because we think if we can in some of those instances pair our goals that will be even more competitive for those grant applications.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Questions from Council for staff? Ms. Vasecka.

Alderson Vasecka So, if we do find or do move it from the, sorry, it is late. So, the amendment was to move it from the reimbursement for revenue loss, is that right?

[inaudible speaking in the background]

Acting Mayor Jones Correct.

Marty Rehbein Excuse me, could we have that repeated? Somebody didn't use the microphone....

Alderson Carlino Sorry.

Marty Rehbein I didn't catch it here in the virtual part of the meeting.

Alderson Carlino Yeah, I revoked the original motion and the motion that's on the floor now is moving to amend adding the staff requested amount of \$300,000.00 to the Affordable Housing and Climate Action Incentives program from our surplus ARPA funds.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Okay. Any other questions for staff regarding this item? Ms. Anderson.

Alderson Anderson Thanks madam chair. Ms. Pehan, I mean, I think we talked a lot about this, kind of the incoming monies that we are anticipating for the, into the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, and so would it be correct to say that the \$300,000.00 identified as you know funds that would be utilized for climate incentives can come from the funds that will be dispersed into the Affordable Housing Trust Fund from the sale of properties that we are anticipating to happen in the coming months?

Eran Pehan That is correct. We were, here we were looking for a specific earmarked amount that we could reserve for this innovation type activity around our shared goals with affordable housing and climate. We could choose to earmark any portion of proceeds of sale or revenue that comes into the trust fund for a similar purpose.

Acting Mayor Jones Any other questions? We'll take public comment then. Any public comment on this item? Let me check our attendees that are online. I'm not seeing any online attendees. Okay, let's go back to Council for comments or questions. Mr. Carlino.

Alderson Carlino Yeah, I guess I'll just start by pointing out that staff has worked pretty hard to put this program together and staff time is taxpayer money spent, so it'd be great if we could launch this program this year and it's more important now to launch a new climate incentive program than ever before

because the climate crisis has gotten quite worse up until this year where we're at peak worseness until next year and then it will likely get worse and worse and worse, but I guess like just to ground us and why we even need to stop the climate crisis is because there's been five mass extinctions in the history of earth where 70-95% percent of all life on earth has gone extinct. And every single time that's happened, there's been three common factors. There's been extremist ocean acidification. There's been an extreme change in the carbon cycle, and I just blanked on the third one, but I guess my point is that right now we're experiencing the six mass extinction and you know we, it's our duty, as this, as the people live today to ensure that we don't let this get overboard. We're already almost at 1.5 degrees Celsius warming past pre-industrial revolution levels and that's gonna, scientists have warned that's going to cause a chain reaction that will make it to where it's outside of human control to reverse this. If we don't, if we don't start investing in stopping the climate crisis, future generations will not get to enjoy a good summer day in Missoula. It'll all be smoke or winter. The fish in the Clark Fork rivers are gonna keep going extinct and burning up like they did last summer, and our children's lungs will fill smoke and, and there'll be lots of health crisis that come out of that as well. Millions of people are dying across the world from effects of the climate crisis whether it be natural disasters coming at unprecedented rates or whether it be that their crops that their village or town relied on cannot grow any longer. There's nothing more important than funding climate action and I, I think that you know when you look back and people ask you 10 or 20 years from now like what you did on at your time on Council to help stop the climate crisis, I hope we don't look back and say that we spent all of our money on revenue loss or we spent all of our money on private security or we just couldn't find any money in the budget to stop the climate crisis. No, we must, we must find money in the budget to stop the climate crisis and our staff created this program to help in the in hopes that we would fund it to help start making more progress on this. And not only is this to help the climate crisis, they, this climate staff even attached this to Affordable Housing Trust Fund to help our housing crisis at the same time. They spent a lot of time on this, and I think we should at least fund it to get a pilot program.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Vasecka.

Aldersperson Vasecka If I'm understanding this correctly, so this is still ARPA funding is that correct?

Okay may I have a followup question to Mr. Carlino?

Acting Mayor Jones Go ahead.

Aldersperson Vasecka So, one of the things that I try to do, and I disagree with somebody is try to wrap my head around why, what you're thinking and why, why you believe that that's the best course of action. So, I guess with the American Rescue Plan Act money was because of COVID but the climate change situation has been happening for a while a lot of people have been talking about it for years. So, I guess, can you give me your reasoning behind why we should use ARPA funding for climate?

Aldersperson Carlino Well, it certainly has gotten worse during the pandemic and more people have you know become homeless during the pandemic and have to experience the worst effects of the climate crisis, but overall, I think since we're using 2.4 million of our ARPA funds for revenue loss, that literally

encompasses pretty much anything. So, I think anything's fair game to use ARPA funds for at this point if we're using 2.4 million for revenue loss because revenue loss doesn't necessarily come from the pandemic either. You know, I'm open to other ways to fund it as well, it doesn't have to come from ARPA, but it seems like the only place that seems reasonable that people might be open to taking money from rather than cutting programs, but I would be open to cutting programs to fund this as well.

Alderson Vasecka May I have a quick followup?

Acting Mayor Jones Go ahead.

Alderson Vasecka So, I guess it's my understanding now that with the, you changed the amendment so it's no longer it's the surplus ARPA fund. So, it's no longer the revenue loss? Okay, then never mind. I, I appreciate your candor, but I am I'm not going to be in support of it.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Sherrill.

Alderson Sherrill Thanks. There, there are rules around how we use the ARPA funds. Could someone speak to? Can, could we use ARPA funds for this Dale? Leigh, someone?

Dale Bickell Yes, it would be eligible for ARPA.

Alderson Sherrill It would? Okay. You know, I would, Eran, I can't.... it's 1:00 a.m. where I am, so I'm a little, a little foggy here. I can't see Eran, but you know, I'm, I'm curious. Do you feel like the details of this program are kind of ready to hit the ground running, going forward? I mean, I, I've been involved in all sorts of things around climate action in the City, being the chair of that committee and I'm just curious, if you would speak to that?

Eran Pehan Yeah, absolutely. It's only 11:00 p.m. here and I'm also very foggy, so I will do the best I can. I, I do think that our staff have put a lot of thought and effort into conceptualizing an innovation program but there's still more work to do there. We, we still would need to kind of create a framework in eligible projects and, and go out and elicit some interest and activity in those, as well. We know and we have seen through initial rounds of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund that simply making money available doesn't bring projects to our doorstep, that there's still a great deal of cultivation that we need to do with our partners with the community to incent that type of project beyond just making some funding available because we often can't provide all of the funding that is required to make those projects happen. We're just a portion of that funding and so there's, there's a great deal of work more that needs to go into that process.

Alderson Sherrill May I have a followup?

Acting Mayor Jones Go ahead.

Alderson Sherrill Yeah, I mean, so I, I don't know if this is a followup question or just a comment. So, I mean it would be a reasonable thing to do to have the staff be working on a better friend not a better framework but a more kind of complete framework on this and how we would roll it out, how we would incentivize it, how we would...Like you said, I mean just because it's there doesn't mean it gets utilized and I think to me that's a really big piece of this, is you know we are on a really, really tight budget year and you know I want to be sure things are ready to roll and that we, we know how we're gonna do it all

before we fund them. And it's not that I think that it's not a very worthy thing, I do. You know, I, I think we are doing some things to make some headway with sustainable sources of energy, which I'm pretty excited about and some of that is funded elsewhere in the budget. It's not enough, I agree with you Daniel, nothing feels like it's enough right now because we are in a crisis but my, my, I can't even think of the words, but my feeling is that this is, is not ready to roll out immediately so that urgency is not necessarily there right now for this in my opinion.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Any other questions or comments? Ms. Anderson and then Ms. West.

Aldersperson Anderson Thanks madam chair. I agree, I mean, I would hope that everyone around this table agrees that we are on the verge of a climate Armageddon almost and everything needs to be done and we should have been doing this 15-20 years ago. I do, I am excited about the fact that literally last week, the President signed the biggest climate bill ever in this country and when this budget was being put together by the staff, they had no idea that that was coming down the pike and the opportunities I think for funding an innovative programs out of that are going to be just incredibly exciting. And so, the fact that I absolutely think that this is a great idea to have these sort of incentives in our Affordable Housing Trust Fund, we do know that there is going to be additional revenue coming into the Affordable Housing Trust Fund so that's option A to make sure that something like this gets funded. Option B, as Ms. Pehan said, they are still working with staff to figure out what is in this new bill and there will absolutely be tremendous opportunities for us at the municipal level. We are very good and established in Missoula getting and leveraging federal grant dollars. We have a very strong senior U.S. Senator who is really great at advocating to make sure that Missoula and Montana gets you know more than our fair share of federal programs, so, that's option B to make sure something like this is funded. So, because, I say this again because you know we don't know what is going to happen next year having that \$900,000.00 for ARPA funding as sort of the you know our ability to have flexibility next year. If the crisis levy does not pass, we need to then make sure that funding is available to set up the winter shelter the following year. We have limited options for things like that that we need to I feel it's important to hold our ARPA dollars because those are one-time dollars that will not get replaced and there are other funding sources for this because I think we all agree that funding and doing everything we can for the climate is utmost important, but there are other options for that that I think are really exciting and have potentially even more money than the \$300,000.00 to come into the, this project.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. West, were you next? And then we've got Mr. Carlino.

Aldersperson West I guess I had a question for Eran probably. I, I guess I wasn't picturing a climate incentive program that was just limited to the Housing Trust Fund, and something that was broader and integrated into our I guess I overall code reform, would that be or, or is it staged? I don't know, could you just talk about that a little bit?

Eran Pehan Yeah, the, the request as written is really looking at a set aside in the Affordable Housing Trust Fund for innovative projects that marry our goals around housing affordability and climate action, particularly green building or electrification projects. And so, that's, that's what we're really trying to

achieve with this specific ask. We do have a lot of goals around code reform, looking at again green building, electrification and other activities that support our climate goals through regulation and potentially through other funding sources in the future, but today what we're focusing on is, is just that set aside within the trust fund.

Acting Mayor Jones Mr. Carlino.

Aldersperson Carlino Thanks. Yeah, climate staff did set this up as a program that was ready to be funded and ready to get started. So, I don't think there's any concern about being able to start it since they already were planning on trying to get it in the budget. To speak to the federal bill that just got passed that also allowed drilling on millions of acres of public lands; it's not a climate solution. And to speak to our climate senator, Senator Tester, he's also trying to build pipelines for oil and gas through Montana right now. He's trying to do more drilling for oil and gas in Montana. He's not a climate senator at all and to back to the point about the six mass extinction, the three were a significant change in the climate, disruption of the carbon cycle, and extreme ocean acidifications. Those three common features were happened every time that 70-95% of all species on earth went extinct. That's happened five times in the past five to six hundred million years and it's happening again right now because of the climate crisis and associated factors with that. So, we're not going to take it from the surplus ARPA, tell us where we're going to take it from because I don't see how I'm going to go home tonight without funding, funding something for climate because we're in a climate crisis. We had smoke in the air yesterday. It's been a really easy year, but the bitterroot flower is not gonna be able to grow in Montana much longer. Our farmers are not gonna be able to grow the same crops much longer in Montana. This is really serious and if we, if you all don't feel comfortable taking out of the ARPA funds, tell us how we're gonna fund stopping the climate crisis locally and fund this new program that the staff made to help with our housing crisis and climate crisis.

Acting Mayor Jones Anyone else? Questions or comments from Council? All right seeing none, I just.....

Aldersperson Kristen Jordan Sorry.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, Ms. Jordan.

Aldersperson Kristen Jordan I might just add kind of from a different perspective that I am the parent of two teenage children who have anxiety related to climate collapse. My children are not the only children in Missoula or the country or the world who have anxiety that's directly related to their climate being destroyed before they have a chance to get old enough to do something about it. These kids are saying things like, I don't know how to plan for the future because I'm not sure if I have one and it's not just my kids it's other kids as well. And I think that, aligned with Daniel wholeheartedly on this one that we have to do something at the local level to, to make a change so that we can tell our kids we did something.

Acting Mayor Jones Any other questions or comments from Council? Seeing none, we will take a roll call vote.

Acting Mayor Jones Great, we're going to take a 10-minute break and come back and keep working.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, we are back in session and I'm looking for the next Councilor that wants to make an amendment. So...Ms. Vasecka.

Aldersperson Vasecka I guess I'll switch things up a bit, give Daniel a bit of a break. I would, let me see which one I'm going to start with. Okay, so I'm going to start with this one it is the, the parks and recreation program is in, is in charge of the management of it, but I don't believe that they're actually and this isn't their department I believe it's a City-wide thing for the American Rescue Plan Act funded Citywide diversity, equity, inclusion program, specialist number two, for \$94,069.00 from ARPA. I would propose that we remove that and put the, that those dollars back into the surplus because I believe that this is an inappropriate use of ARPA funding. These were issues that the City has claimed has been going on for a long time. So, I believe that if the, if a second specialist for diversity, equity, and inclusion need, needs to be on the City rolls, then we can use I guess taxpayer-funded dollars for that, but I'm not proposing that at this time. I would just like to remove this program and put those ARPA dollars back into the surplus.

Acting Mayor Jones And just so that I'm clear, I believe there was also \$100,000.00 for training.

Aldersperson Vasecka Yeah.

Acting Mayor Jones If you, if you also want to make an amendment on that. Do you want to bundle those together, just for convenience's sake?

Aldersperson Vasecka Oh no, this is separate.

Acting Mayor Jones It's a separate item but they're the same topic. So, you if you were going to address that in an amendment, I would recommend you just include that in this, and we just got....

Aldersperson Vasecka I would like to include that in this.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, do you want to say what it is, specifically?

Aldersperson Vasecka Yes. I don't have that one cause it wasn't this other one for the training...that wasn't the JEDI supplies and purchase services...

Acting Mayor Jones Yes.

Aldersperson Jones It was?

Acting Mayor Jones \$100,000.00...

Aldersperson Vasecka Okay, then yes, I will combine the American Rescue Plan Act funded JEDI supplies and purchase services with the Citywide diversity, equity, inclusion program specialist number two. The second one is \$94,069.000. That first was one was \$100,000.00 one-time funding from ARPA.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Thank you. Just trying to streamline it a little bit. Okay. Questions from Councilors to staff regarding the impact of this or the what the programs amount to? Any questions? And actually Ms. Becerra.

Aldersperson Becerra Thank you. I would like to ask Donna, or I guess, Eran, as to the rationale behind using ARPA funding for, for this, for the JEDI program.

Donna Gaukler The reason the City has chosen to use ARPA funding for this is one of the uses of ARPA funding are for those most impacted by the pandemic, and generally, we find that those populations that

have been marginalized are most heavily impacted. For example, people who had to be at their work in order to be paid or may not have health benefits, challenges with housing clearly are the most impacted and therefore qualifies for ARPA.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. And Donna, can you talk a little bit about what was done last year in terms of our JEDI resolution because we did take some steps forward?

Donna Gaukler Sure and I also want to clarify that the JEDI specialist II isn't a second specialist; it is the only. It's a singular employee for the entire City and so we have over 700 job attached employees and another 200 short-term workers, and we do have a population of City employees that are 95% white, which is slightly greater than what our actual population is. We have under representation of people from black, indigenous, people of color, LGBTQIA+, and it also includes individuals with disabilities, people who are experiencing ageism, discrimination, and importantly, it includes individuals experiencing social economic challenges. The JEDI specialist works with the City-wide strategic implementation work team to develop programs that provide greater opportunity for all to have success. I think we can agree that we all do better when we all do better, meaning people have meaningful jobs, they feel a sense of belonging to this community and they have opportunity to thrive. That specialist works with the strategic implementation work team at looking at internal policy, looking to implement some of the recommendations from the learn audit. They also work with the overall JEDI community, JEDI network, which is made up of multiple partners both government, non-government business, as together, we look to support and find different ways to be more inclusionary with our work and again to give people opportunity to achieve their fullest potential. The, so the specialist coordinates all of that work, helps coordinate the training, will provide some of the training as part of the human resource team for onboarding, and then the \$100,000.00 is actually less than we had last year, and it is to help support a planned summit October 27th and 28th to help explain and educate community, help us align our efforts with all of those different organizations, and to truly do some of the work that you've all been talking about, around bringing the concepts of climate and people who are most impacted by climate, who's most impacted by lack of childcare, low wages and how do we align those efforts, to hear what needs need to be met, what barriers are there, how do we train our employees to better understand, how do we develop the metrics, so that we do indeed understand where we're having efficacy and success and where we need to change. So, we have trained about 150 employees our human resource, the chief of human resources probably has more accurate number, but very close to 150 employees. We have several more employees that are asking for training and so, we would like to continue those efforts.

Acting Mayor Jones Great. Thank you. Any other questions? Oh, Ms. Vasecka.

Aldersperson Vasecka Thanks. I guess I was wondering if it's the only specialist why, why, the number two after it?

Donna Gaukler That's a classification in the overall City pay plan.

Aldersperson Vasecka Thanks.

Acting Mayor Jones Great. Any other questions from Council for staff? Okay, a public comment on this item? Any public comment? Come on up.

Henry Curtis Yeah, Henry Curtis. I'm back, never left, well briefly left. In short, I think that just sort of to bolster other arguments in favor of this. I think we can't forget the, the sort of the social mobility effect that having this focus on further diversity and inclusion can have. Just to pull a single historical example out, there's the example of how the USPS integrating in mid-century actually was a huge engine of basically entry to the middle class for large amounts of the African American population. These, these stable government jobs with healthcare are a boon to people who have them, especially if they're from a marginalized community. It offers a very important way forward for people who might not otherwise have that opportunity. So, yeah please support this. Thank you. Further, please support this position.

[inaudible]

Acting Mayor Jones We got you...Any, any other public comment on this item? Okay seeing none, any other comment from Council? I'll just briefly say that after summer of 2020, it was clear that this was a community priority to take some steps forward and that's what this is doing. And it's hard, it's not easy, and I don't think we ever complete the work, but I think it's in our best interests and the community clearly wanted it, that we should figure out how to move forward. So, that's, that's how I see this money being spent and we'll see what we can do in the long run in terms of sustainable funding for it, but for right now, this is the tool we have. Okay, I see Mr. Carlino has got his hand raised.

Aldersperson Carlino Yeah, I appreciate the efforts to see where we can cut the budget, but I will, can't support this amendment. I do see the JEDI's positioned as a helpful thing overall for the City and after talking to the previous JEDI coordinator for the City, I just think that it'd be great if we could make this role more, like not just in the HR department or just you know more expansive amongst departments and getting involved with the Council when they can and things like that, but I do support funding this position.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Any other comments from Council? Seeing none, we will have a roll call vote. Oh wait, I'm sorry, Ms. Sherrill and then Ms. Becerra sorry. Sorry, Ms. Sherrill.

Aldersperson Sherrill Yeah thanks. I actually think Mirtha was first, but I don't think she'll fight me for it. So, I just wanted to say that I appreciate, I appreciate trying to cut the budget, cut the expenses, but I do think that this type of work does not happen overnight and so it would be a disservice to any of the work we've put in to say okay we're done. I, I think it's important that we, we... I'm sorry I'm very tired, but I, I just think it's important that we, we keep this at the front of our mind as we look at hiring policies and as we consider policies that we're making throughout the City and so yeah it doesn't feel like this work is done to me so I will respectfully be not supporting the amendment.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Becerra. Mirtha.

Aldersperson Becerra Thank you. I agree Sandra that you know the issue of inequality has existed for far too long and certainly before COVID, but I do believe that COVID has highlighted the inequality issues that we have in our system and I think that this is an appropriate use of funds and, and this is a fundamental step to get us to a more equitable community. I want to commend our staff for doing a lot of

work with very limited resources and being as comprehensive as they have been so far with this work, and I will continue to support future funding so that we can move forward on this issue. So, I respectfully will not be in support of this amendment.

Acting Mayor Jones Any other comments from Council? Seeing none, we will have a roll call vote.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Okay Ms. Becerra your hand is still up and it's going to confuse me. Thank you. All right, next Mr. Carlino.

Aldersperson Carlino I move to amend adding \$49,050.00 to Public Works to go towards the neighborhood traffic management program for more quick build traffic circles and other safety measures to come from our unused ARPA funds, which will pay for 12 traffic circles, 7 bulb out intersections, and 9 speed humps or for the Fire Department, speed cushions.

Acting Mayor Jones Mr. Carlino can I just ask a clarifying question? I believe that Jeremy Keane, Public Works Director, had sent an email out in the last few days.

Aldersperson Carlino Yep.

Acting Mayor Jones And referenced a \$25,000.00 increase that would increase the capacity of the quick build. Is, is that I think that was his most recent email, is that what you are shooting for?

Aldersperson Carlino No, I was doing \$49,050.00, but yeah, I'm referring to that same email where he told us what all that would fund. Jeremy are you on the call now? Could you speak to this?

Jeremy Keane Hi everyone, can you hear me?

Acting Mayor Jones Yes, you're still awake, wow.

Jeremy Keane Thank you. Jeremy Keane, Director for Public Works and Mobility. We, we explored this idea of increasing our quick build projects with our neighborhood traffic management program, and the, the \$25,000.00 number was the number we arrived at based on what we think we can do without adding additional staff. So, these projects require a certain amount of neighborhood involvement and staff to deploy them, and the \$25,000.00 would support purchasing the materials and then we could do the work with existing staff, so, that's how we arrived at that number. If we went to a larger number, I'm not sure that we'd be able to, to use all of that money with, with our current staffing.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Thank you for that clarification. Did you want to revise that?

Aldersperson Carlino Yes, I, you know after hearing from Jeremy, although I think it would be great to also hire more staff for the sake of right now, I think, I will revise my amendment to say I moved to amend adding \$25,000.00 to Public Works to go towards the Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan coming from our unused ARPA funds. And could I speak to that?

Acting Mayor Jones May I interject one more question just to clarify this motion, so we get it on the record? Do you want to add it to the Road District instead of ARPA and that does not go against the cap then because it's in the Road District and maybe we should ask Jeremy regarding that?

Aldersperson Carlino I'd like for it to go towards things like the traffic circles and quick build, the Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan.

Acting Mayor Jones Right, just to clarify, I'm talking about the source of the money though.

Alderson Carlino Oh no, from the surplus ARPA funds.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. All right, so that is the motion that's on the floor. We have questions then I can see. Mr. Nugent and then Ms. Anderson.

Alderson Mike Nugent Yep, question for Dale. Do, \$25,000.00 seems like a pretty small number, do we have capacity for that in the Road District?

Dale Bickell We do. I think that would be an appropriate place to fund this. You know, keep some of that ARPA dollars if we do it as an, as a, as a modest increase in assessments it will have a very small impact on that and, and then that could also be considered an ongoing increase to the Public Works budget.

Alderson Mike Nugent Rather than offering up an amendment to your amendment, would you be willing to change your amendment to fund it from the assessment to the Road District?

Alderson Carlino Just to clarify, would that be raising the property taxes further? I mean \$25,000.00 isn't very much at this point, but just coming out of the Road District?

[unknown speaker] Yeah.

Alderson Carlino Okay, yes, I would like to revise my amendment to, to fund \$25,000.00 to Public Works for the Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan coming out of the Road District fund.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay and that motion is in order. Ms. Anderson.

Alderson Anderson Thanks so much. Jeremy, if you could quickly talk to us about where Road District funds come from we, that would seem germane to this at the moment.

Jeremy Keane Sure, so, so Road District is an assessment on properties, so it is a form of property tax. It's a little bit different than the way we assess mills for General Fund, but it does come from the same place.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, further questions from Council? Ms. Vasecka.

Alderson Vasecka Since there are amendments to amendments, I'm a little bit confused. What is the amendment on the floor?

Acting Mayor Jones I can say, it's \$25,000.00 from the Road District to go to Public Works for quick build traffic management for bike, ped, modalities.

Alderson Vasecka Okay, that's what I thought. So, I guess my question is, if this \$25,000.00 comes out of the Road District what's is going to be put on the back burner or guess what, what won't be funded if we move this this money?

Acting Mayor Jones I think this would be additional, this would be adding to the Road District. This is not General Fund; it's in the Road District so it does not go up against the cap on mill levees. It's in the Road District but it comes from the same source, which is property tax. Am I answering your question?

Alderson Vasecka I understand. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, further questions from Council regarding this item? And Jeremy, I'll just ask you a quick question. You say you can double your capacity, without pulling up your email and reading it again what does that mean? Because I, I do like, the quick build traffic circles have been very effective in neighborhoods, and I know they're so much cheaper than the permanent traffic circles.

Jeremy Keane Yeah thanks. So, we, we've done about \$25,000.00 a year in these quick build projects. We did six different corridors and so, this would, this would double what we're currently able to do. So, they've been well received, and we've had good results and it's, it's pretty good bang for the buck.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, we've got some hands raised. Amber Sherrill.

Alderson Sherrill Yeah thanks. You know, I, there is there's one of these down the street from me and I think that it works really well, and I, I actually think this is a great budget amendment because I think we are going to get a lot of bang for our buck. Based on what you're saying, you can, you can do it for \$25,000.00. I think it increases the safety for the neighborhood. I think it increases safety for people commuting through those neighborhoods, on bike or on foot. So, I'd be happy to support it. I think this, I, I like, I, I like this amendment and I'm, I'm on board.

Acting Mayor Jones Mr. Hess.

Alderson Hess Yeah, I was gonna say the same. I think that the Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan is stands out as one of my favorite Council committee presentations to date. I just think that Jeremy's staff has done such a good job with that program and justifying it and kind of embodying the whole later, quicker, cheaper traffic management philosophy that really has real safety results and results in more walkable livable community. I remind everyone that we have an award-winning complete streets policy and that our complete streets policy calls for prioritizing pedestrians, followed by the next most vulnerable mode and I think this is a good way to, to accomplish that. So, I appreciate the amendment and I will support it.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Becerra.

Alderson Becerra Thank you. I too will be supporting this. I, I believe that traffic calming like this is a, an easy and effective way to promote safety in the neighborhood. It also aligns well with a lot of our goals and transportation, and I also think that these traffic coming projects have brought communities and neighborhoods together to come up with a solution that fits their neighborhood and I like that collaborative aspect of these projects. So, for all of those reasons, I will be supporting it.

Acting Mayor Jones I'll go to public comment, we kind of slid into comments, but let me call for public comment on this item first and then we'll go back to Council. Come on up Henry. You can sit closer if you want.

Henry Curtis You know I can, but then I have the wall against my back and like really comfortable. Anyway, yeah, Henry for the record, back again. These are I, I cycle less now than I did six months ago, but in short these are an extremely cheap and extremely effective way to make what are often quite dangerous intersections significantly safer. They, they calm traffic. I currently have recently moved near an intersection, which I would love to have one in because I keep almost getting blindsided when I'm going to like buy food and but beyond, beyond the personal, they, they help calm down traffic in a way that doesn't stop traffic, so, it doesn't really annoy anybody once they remember it exists and again \$25,000.00 for what was it like, 6, 10, however many multiple, numerous of these things seems like a literal bargain and a no-brainer. So, please support, please support this. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Any other public comment? Let me check our virtual attendees; I'm not seeing any raised hands. Okay, any other comments from Council? And Jordan and Mirtha, if you want to take your hands down, unless you have re-raised them. Okay, Ms. Jordan.

Aldersperson Kristen Jordan Nope.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Ms. Vasecka.

Aldersperson Vasecka At first, when this was first proposed, I was not going to support it, but I've done some thinking and I have been seeing commuting differently these, these past few months. There was a Missoula in Motion campaign, I think it goes Missoula in Motion campaign about seeing commuting differently. So, I got myself a bike trailer for my baby and I've been biking everywhere. I've been riding the bus everywhere. I still disagree with the free bus system, but it's, now that I am no longer driving everywhere, these calming circles, actually I, I do agree with them. Yeah, I agree with it, it is a cheap way to do it, it does make everything safer. Me, 6 months ago, would have said heck no but you know you can't knock it till you try it, and I tried it and I guess I'll support it.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Mr. Carlino.

Aldersperson Carlino Yeah, I just wanted to say that this amendment is also supported by Free Cycles Missoula and Missoula Institute for Sustainable Transportation. They did, you know advise \$1000.00.00, but they understand that that also requires more staff but will settle for \$25,000.00, but these traffic circles get everybody to slow down. It's safer for bikers for sure but it's even safer for car drivers as well, just getting everybody to slow down. I was hit, hit, I was a passenger in a car and got T-boned at an intersection once where somebody was going about 50 miles per hour and my back still hurts like today from that it was about 6 or 7 years ago and I just can't help but thinking if that was a roundabout it would have not happened and the roundabout policy of the City is great and just putting these traffic circles instead of yield signs or unmarked intersections is a big improvement to safety.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Ms. Jordan.

Aldersperson Kristen Jordan Thank you. Just real quick, after living overseas for a really long time where there are tons of traffic circles and roundabouts, I would love Jeremy, I don't know if you have any control over this to see some education around signaling into and out of roundabouts, nobody signals and it's a turn. In Australia, it was illegal to not signal going in and going out. I don't know what the law is here, but sometimes I think it does create confusion for folks. However, I'm super supportive of them. I'd just love to see some education around signaling in and out of them.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, any other comments from Council on this matter? I'm not seeing any raised hands. All right let's go to a roll call vote please.

Marty Rehbein Okay on the amendment.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, thank you. Okay next one up, Ms. Vasecka.

Aldersperson Vasecka Mr. Carlino did part of this, like at the beginning of the night, but I would like to fully take out the \$964,506.00 from ARPA that was going to the fiscal year 23 Operation Shelter projects. And may I speak on that?

Acting Mayor Jones Sure, why don't you explain your rationale and then we'll go to questions too.

Aldersperson Vasecka Okay, so with my consistency throughout the night, I believe that this problem has been going on before COVID, and so I believe that this is an inappropriate, although legal use of ARPA funds and I would prefer this going to the ARPA surplus.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, any questions for staff on this item? We did spend a lot of time previously on the topic I think, but Ms. Anderson.

Aldersperson Anderson Thanks so much. I just would like Eran Pehan, for the record, to say what happens if we have no money in the budget for Operation Shelter. I know we discussed the components of security at length, but this there's a lot more, there are a lot more components of this and would like for her to paint the picture of what happens if we don't fund this.

Eran Pehan Yeah, Eran Pehan with CPDI. All of the programs within Operation Shelter, but primarily our Emergency Winter Shelter along with temporary safe outdoor space and the authorized campsite provide life-saving service in the coldest winter months of Missoula to hundreds of Missoulian's. And as many of you have noted already, through those services we have been able to prevent unnecessary death due to exposure to the elements. Both ARPA and Cares Act, the funding that was passed prior to the release of ARPA have specific provisions in it that address funding for services to individuals who are living outdoors, so that is a, although an expansion of service that already exists, that is a special call out in both of those funding services because individuals who are living outdoors and especially those who are living in congregate settings whether that be shelter or encampments are at a disproportionate risk for contracting COVID and also at a disproportionate risk for having extreme complications or dying as a result of contracting COVID. So, those were high focuses of both of the passage of Cares Act and ARPA funding and so it's something that not just our community but communities across the nation are focusing those funding those funding streams on.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Any other questions? Oh, did you have followup?

Aldersperson Anderson I have a comment, but I'll wait till that's....

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, let's hold on. Any other questions for staff? Seeing none, any public comment on this amendment? Seeing none, comments from Council? Ms. Anderson.

Aldersperson Anderson Thanks so much. I, I think that this is an appropriate use of ARPA funds and it's an important thing to fund. I mean we saw an, a significant change and increase to our houseless population during COVID. A major component of that was the fact that for a significant period of the pandemic, the Poverello Center was not operating at full capacity and so finding other resources for folks to have shelter and not be in the elements was necessary because they, due to what they felt were health and safety measures because of COVID reduced the number of folks that they were willing to sleep in their shelter. And so, by us partnering with the county to provide the winter shelter and also providing a lower barrier facility that the Poverello is a private entity and so they have certain components and or requirements that we were able to serve even more people and keep them off the streets So, this was a problem that existed, I agree, before COVID, I think it got significantly worse during COVID and the

means in which we were able to address these problems had to adjust because of COVID. So, so I will be, I will not be supporting the amendment to withdraw, to take away this funding. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Any other comments from Council or questions? I'm not seeing any online, let me just check. Okay, we will have a roll call vote. And did you need me to repeat the motion, the amendment Marty or did you get it, capture it?

Marty Rehbein Yes, please.

Acting Mayor Jones You got it, okay.

Marty Rehbein No, yes, please amen. Please read it.

Acting Mayor Jones Correct me if I'm wrong Ms. Vasecka, but it is a motion to remove the \$934,000 from the ARPA funded Operation Shelter?

Aldersperson Vasecka It is to remove the \$964,506.00 for Operation Shelter and move it into the ARPA surplus.

Marty Rehbein Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Next, is there anymore?

Aldersperson Vasecka This amendment, I would like to, I guess it's the professional development and certification from Central Services. It is a new, a new program for, ARPA funded, \$4,500.00 in tax fund, \$4,500.00 for, let's see here, an increase in ongoing funding for training and travel to support the increase in the Central Services personnel and one-time funding support for specific project management training and certification, such as project management professional. I would like to remove the \$4,500.00 ARPA funding and move that into the ARPA surplus, and then just not assess the \$4,500.00 from taxpayers.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, do we have Eric on? Or I'm not sure if our IT department or new department head is on yet or even knows the budget that well? Otherwise, Eric Hallstrom, are you able to speak to this item if there was enough detail there to clarify it for you?

Eric Hallstrom Yeah, sure. I mean, I'm happy to take any questions that that Councilors have. There were, as was just explained, there's two components to this. One piece is funded through one-time funding for our, through ARPA and one component is, is just part of our Central Services professional development budget.

Acting Mayor Jones Just so I', clear, is that \$4,500.00 total with two different items covered underneath that \$4,500.00? No, is it separate?

Aldersperson Vasecka It is one, it was requested, ongoing of \$4,500.00 and then one-time expense of ARPA was \$4,500.00, so a total of \$9,000.00.

Acting Mayor Jones Eric, could you just speak to, speak to these programs covered by this and the value of them, and why it's being requested?

Eric Hallstrom Sure, I mean, it really, it really addresses the two different goals or focuses and so that's why we propose to fund them in in two different ways. The, the both of them support the professional development and certification around program management and particularly around the change management components that are integral to large system upgrades and transitions. So, as you are

aware, we're involved in a significant upgrade of our internal communication systems, particularly a project blueprint that we've spoken to you about numerous times as an ongoing process of changing the, the way that we manage some of our internal systems. I'm sorry, I'm getting a bit of an echo and I'm, hopefully you're not...

Acting Mayor Jones We've got a little bit of echo but....

Eric Hallstrom So, so some of the, some of the resources are directly sort of geared towards ensuring that the resources that we're devoting to project blueprint and these transitions are effective. And so, they're really geared around those big system transformations. We also have just a need for improved project management capabilities within, within Central Services in order to continue to deliver some of the strategic support that we provide to the City and so some of this is just a recognition that we have ongoing staff development support that is important to do our job well.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Ms. Vasecka.

Aldersperson Vasecka I'm happy with that explanation. I will retract my amendment.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, thank you. And just a shout out to staff, thank you for staying up so late and answering our questions. It's, this is the way we do it in our democracy, so anyway appreciate it. Okay thank you Ms. Vasecka. Any other amendments for tonight? Mr. Carlino.

Aldersperson Carlino I move to amend adding \$100,000.00 to Public Works for sidewalks from the Road District fund.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, that is in order. Any questions for staff regarding this amendment at this point?

Aldersperson Anderson I have a question. I guess, I was....This seems like a new amendment from the original, from the things that were previously talked about. So, Jeremy, Dale, do we just have endless amounts of money in the Road District that we can pull from? Is there, I mean like, it is, it comes from somewhere. If you could highlight that again for us. I know that we talked about this with the \$25,000.00 but it's, I mean that, that's a more absorbable amount, \$100,000.00 knowing that we have a mill cap, which this is not but.... now you're starting to get real numbers and there it is a taxable component.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Is that a question?

Aldersperson Anderson Yes, it is....

Acting Mayor Jones And directed to whom?

Aldersperson Anderson Jeremy and Dale, I would appreciate you weighing in on this and then I have a follow-up question for the sponsor, the proposal....

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. So, the question is basically the impact on the Road District by \$100,000.00 increase for sidewalks?

Aldersperson Anderson And this is why you're running the meeting, yes, sorry....

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Dale, do you want to just briefly address that?

Dale Bickell Sure. Yes, the sidewalks are specifically Road District eligible, so that could be an increase in assessment. It would increase the, the tax increase from to 11.9%. Okay make our tax increase go from the 11.7% to 11.9%.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay.

Alderson Anderson Okay, so okay, so bear with us, it's late. So, to make sure I understand this correctly. Road District does not go against our mill cap because it's a special district; however, it does have a taxable component, so we are adding to the budget through the Road District which would increase the not finding an offset for this would increase the proposed tax increase that the current budget not amended, would move from 11.7% to 11.9%. Please correct me if I've regurgitated that correctly.

Dale Bickell That's correct.

Alderson Anderson Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, all right. I've had some hands raised, first virtually Mr. Hess and then Ms. Sherrill.

Alderson Hess I, I made a very similar amendment one year and was disappointed to learn after the, after the amendment passed and the budget was adopted that staff did not have capacity to, to implement the extra funding. Jeremy and can, can you speak to that? Does your staff have capacity to, to absorb that?

Jeremy Keane Yeah, thanks. We, we could certainly absorb that amount with current staff capacity. Unfortunately, \$100,000.00 doesn't go very far; it's not going to make a huge difference in the program, but you know we have we have lots of sidewalk work to do and, and every, every little bit helps.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Sherrill.

Alderson Sherrill I actually had forgot to take my hand down. I have had about the same questions Jordan probably could even do that.

Acting Mayor Jones I'm having a hard time understanding you Amber. Could you restate that?

Alderson Sherrill I just said that I actually had the same question as Jordan for Jeremy, whether we were even able to get anything done with, with that amount of money, so if we had staff capacity to get anything done. Can you hear me?

Acting Mayor Jones Now it's better.

Alderson Sherrill Well I'm yelling. I don't, I don't have a question.

Acting Mayor Jones You're good. Okay, I feel like there were a couple raised hands over here. All right, anybody over on the right side? Okay then I'll call for public comment on \$100,000.00 added to the Road District for sidewalks.

Henry Curtis Hi, Henry back again. You recognize this voice if you're transcribing? So, in short, this is a very common sense thing. Concrete is expensive; it will not go necessarily as far as we would like, but also every friend I have from out of town who has visited Missoula in the last 10 years that I can think of has commented on wow, wow the sidewalks are kind of messed up to a certain degree. It is an

accessibility problem; it's a problem for kids. When I was a kid in this town in summers, I was like often having to kind of plan trips around that to a degree because again some areas you have to ride in a sidewalk because there's something else bike wise. This seems common sense; they can absorb the funding. Please fund this. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Any other public comment on this item? Okay, any other comments from Council on this item? Mr. Carlino.

Aldersperson Carlino I guess I just want to say that rather than raising property taxes anymore, if we're gonna fund sidewalks, I'd like to try and also cut something in exchange, but overall sidewalks are, seem to be a big priority for community members who like to walk around or enjoy a stroll with the family, but they're not a priority in the City budget at all. In fact, if some we're building a sidewalk in front of somebody's house, they can be charged up to, I believe, \$9,000.00 and we're only building a few blocks a year from the General Fund. So, I, I just think any increase that we can make to the sidewalk program would be great and I think would be appreciated by the community,

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Any other comments? Ms. Vasecka.

Aldersperson Vasecka This is one thing that Mr. Carlino and I do agree on. I wish that it wouldn't, I mean even though it's just 0.02% increase to the taxpayer, to our taxpayers. I do think that this is very important, and I if I understand it correctly, we can do mid mid-year budget amendments. So, Daniel and, I, I will work with you to find, find something that we can do to offset that. I wish I would have known about this amendment before the roundabouts because I would have chosen sidewalks over roundabouts but that's already been there done that. So, I will be in support of this.

Acting Mayor Jones Any other comments from Council? I'll just say, I would love to put more sidewalks in. I don't have the stomach to add another \$100,000.00 to the Road District right now. I think we, we push this budget as far as we can this year but and I was happy to do the \$25,000.00 for build outs on the, the quick build outs on the traffic circles because it's so minimal but I'm hoping next year we can have more of an infusion into sidewalk program because I think we're actually doing a little bit less every year because of the costs going up. So, I at least would like to hold steady, and we'll see if we can do some more next year. All right, any other comments?

Aldersperson West I just have a question. I just asked it to Dale, but I thought I put it on the record. My question is whether or not this is an ongoing request or a one-time request because?

Acting Mayor Jones I believe it's an ongoing request, but Daniel did you want to clarify?

Aldersperson Carlino It would be an ongoing request.

Aldersperson West Okay, thank you.

Aldersperson Carlino All right.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, any other questions or comments from Council? Seeing none, we will have a roll call vote.

Marty Rehbein Adding that clarification about the ongoing funding because I think that's significant.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, I just want to take a quick count. Who else still has amendments to offer? All right and can you tell us? Three amendments and Mr. Carlino, how many do you have? So, I'm going to ask you, I think we'll do Ms. Vasecka's and then we'll come to you Mr. Carlino. And if you can look at bundling them, that would be a courtesy I think to everyone because it's turning into a very long night here and we'll try and get through them.

Aldersperson Carlino Sure, yeah.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, all right, so three Ms. Vasecka, 15 with Mr. Carlino, and if you're gonna be able to bundle those, we've spent a lot of time on the budget this summer, we've got a lot of discussions. So, I think we need to start wrapping it up here, but all right Ms. Vasecka to you.

Aldersperson Vasecka Thanks. This, this amendment I just couldn't find any more information on it the, the non-department ARPA funding to the Women's Business Development Center contribution. I was wondering if staff could give me a brief overview of that before I try to cut it? Because from just the label of it, it doesn't seem like it's ARPA appropriate.

Acting Mayor Jones Dale are you able to speak to that.

Dale Bickell Yes. So, so the City is partnering, would like to partner with the University of Montana to support the Women's Small Business Development Center that's located at the unit, as part of, oh now I can't remember the name of the acronym but anyway it provides entrepreneurial support in mostly Missoula but throughout the state to support women business owners.

Aldersperson Vasecka Thank you. Wow, I really love women small business owners. I actually did graduate with a degree in entrepreneurship in small business management. So, I mean really, and my boss is a woman and there's so many women on Council, but I, there's been small business owners that are women before COVID happened. So, being consistent here, I don't think that's ARPA appropriate, and so, I would like to cut \$37,500.00 from that and put it back into the ARPA surplus.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, that most is in order. Are there any further questions to staff? First of all, Ms. Rehbein did you capture that amendment?

Marty Rehbein I could use a little assistance with the name of the program again please. So, I have removed non-departmental ARPA funding in the amount of \$37,500.00 for?

Aldersperson Vasecka It is the UM Women's Business Development Center contribution.

Marty Rehbein Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. That motion is in order. Any further questions to staff regarding it? Any? Oh Ms. Anderson.

Aldersperson West I mean, I guess I would be curious if we have any statistics to talk about, the, if women-owned small businesses were disproportionately affected by the COVID shutdown? I mean, I think that small businesses in general were really affected by COVID and the lockdowns and the you know lack of.... I think we talked a lot about this at the beginning of COVID, how we want to make sure we support those businesses because we don't want to live in a community that is only run by big box stores. So, if

Dale or anybody else would like to feel appropriate to give a little bit more insight into this, I would appreciate it.

Acting Mayor Jones Yeah, I'm and I can speak to it a little bit and then maybe Dale can supplement. I don't have statistics but my understanding is that this is a program through the university where there's a lot of matching funds and it exponentially puts more money towards business loans for women-owned businesses and that it, that sector was impacted by COVID and so that's one of the reasons why they're, they're tipping it up, but that this is also just a commitment that the City had made months and months and months ago on this. And Dale, can you speak to? Is it a one-time contribution?

Dale Bickell Yes, this is a one-time contribution. The, and I don't know the answer to Councilwoman's, Councilwoman Anderson's question either related to a woman-owned business is disproportionately affected. However, should this be included in the budget, the contract with the university would come forward and so we could answer get some of those questions answered at that time.

Acting Mayor Jones Yeah. Ms. West. Well hang on, we'll get there. Okay, any other questions from Council on this side? Seeing none, any, any public comment? Seeing none, now we'll go to comments from Council.

Aldersperson West Wait, there's like, I, I think one of the things that happened during COVID is that a large percentage of women left the traditional workforce and have been and I think many had to pivot to create you know becoming entrepreneurs, being able to you know maybe work while being home with kids, and it's altered the trajectory of people's lives and I think that this is a, I would say an appropriate use of ARPA funds to help people you know maybe solidify what they're doing with, with business counseling or you know whatever tools people need to make sure that they stay successful. So, so I won't support your amendment Sandy.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Vasecka.

Aldersperson Vasecka Yeah, I absolutely agree with you Heidi. There, my, my rationale behind this is with ARPA funding, it's still taxpayer dollars even though they're federal taxpayer dollars and if the, if the government doesn't dictate where the money goes, it leaves more money in the, in the taxpayer's wallet, so that they can donate to programs that they believe in. So, that's my rationale behind it and I absolutely agree with that a lot of women did have to stay at home, do zoom while they're raising their kids and while, while a mom is at a park you know, she's the mom but when a dad is at the park, it's, he's babysitting. And I know that's not accurate in all cases, but that's just the stigma that's going on and I absolutely admire anybody who starts a business, especially a woman with children, it's amazing and I think that if anything this brings awareness to the, to the women's program there. So, I would encourage anybody listening right now to think about donating to that, but I don't think that ARPA fund should go to it.

Acting Mayor Jones Great. Any other comments from Council? Seeing none, we'll have a roll call vote.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay thank you. Ms. Vasecka, next amendment.

Alderson Vasecka My second to last amendment is on the other end of ARPA funding. I would like to fund the IT Disaster Preparedness and Continuity of Business for Central Services, the information and technologies. The \$20,000.00 from ARPA, in, for financial support of cyber security systems.

Acting Mayor Jones So, the \$20,000.00 from ARPA funds for the IT Disaster Preparedness Program? Eric, if you're still with us, if you could speak to that? It sounded like there were several different routes to accomplish that for the City and could you speak to it? And we'll see where we're at with that.

Eric Hallstrom Yes. So, I think this was a topic that came up on and committee on Wednesday. And essentially there's two pieces of the request that, that, that formed the, the beginning of this process. There, there's a disaster recovery capability that we, we have a gap with, we need to create some redundancy and that we believe we can fund through and is, is included in our capital improvement program request, that's a small, I mean that's essentially investing in an appliance that can create some additional server capacity for failover and emergency response to support business continuity. We do aspire to and, and the, the amendments is it references the, the piece of the request that sought additional resources to make, to begin moving to the cloud where we would like to actually have some of our longer term continuity solution based, so not being entirely reliant on physical capacity to, to host in an alternative location. So, really two pieces of, of the puzzle that are, are targeted to, to addressing the gap that we do have in that disaster recovery and business continuity capacity right now. If we don't, if the amendment doesn't pass and we don't have additional resources for the move to the to cloud-based, we would not stop looking for opportunities to, to make that move within our current budget. It is, it is an important priority. It may affect sort of our timing of making a move. We haven't nailed down this all of the ongoing or long-term costs associated with transitioning to, to a cloud-based solution. So, I guess I would say that in the current budget, we anticipate moving forward towards that cloud solution, but it would probably be a longer timeline than if the amendment passed.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay thank you, that is helpful. So, I'm not sure if you want to pursue the amendment that's fine but it sounds like they're able to make it work within the budget year that's just going to take a little bit longer and they're going to have to figure it out, but

Alderson Vasecka Yeah, I'll get my rationale because I do want to move forward with it.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, that's fine.

Alderson Vasecka And I really, really do appreciate you Eric because you can make it work, you can move things around, and I really appreciate you, you, a willingness to do that. My rationale behind this because when COVID happened everything moved to, we used computers like we never have before, like we everything became zoom or Microsoft Teams, emails, you know like you didn't have to go into the office anymore, so that leaves us very vulnerable. Cyber security is very, very important and if we have the ability to use American Rescue Plan Act funds for this, even though if it's just for one year to use those ARPA funds, I think that we should try to save the taxpayer dollars, it's taxpayers \$20,000.00 from the local tax money and, and use, use ARPA funding for, for cyber security.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Thank you for that. Questions, other questions from Council? Ms. Anderson.

Alderson Anderson Thanks so much madam chair. Eric, if you wouldn't mind, in your explanation it made it sound as though it was a two-part project and that and you know we only see the \$20,000.00 for the IT preparedness and continuity business, but if you could break it down.... It sounds like you are able to within funds that you have now do part of the project, but that the other part of the project, you will be able to do it just might take a little bit longer. What is the price tag on that portion? If you could break it out a little bit for us?

Eric Hallstrom Yeah and I yeah, I, I realize it can be a little bit confusing because I, I lump all of this into the broader category of, of security, of IT security and they both play a role, but the, the \$35,000.00 that is included in the CIP is the ability to acquire an additional appliance to actually ensure redundancy for, so call that emergency preparedness, emergency management being able to fail over and reduce our response, our return to service times if we lost a facility. The \$20,000.00 that was requested as part of under the with the ARPA funds was focused on moving ourselves towards a continuity of business solution, so it's really sort of a, the longer term capability to return to an appropriate service level after an incident. It could be anything, you know, it does not have to be an emergency incident, but you know, you could, it could be anything from a water in a facility or just having a facility unavailable. So, I, I guess in terms of our the emergency response and emergency preparedness components are the sort of initial step or the first piece of, of the plan to address some of those security gaps, but we do hope to, to address the, the absence of that business continuity solution and, and that would really be you know I don't I hesitate to call it a phase one and phase two but they are sort of separate pieces. They can move in tandem, but the higher priority, in my judgment, in the short term is the ability to have the emergency response capability and then we would continue to look for opportunities to transition to or obtain a cloud-based business continuity solution that, that also addresses those gaps in the continuity space. It's a little abstract, I recognize, especially at you know one in the morning, but they are sort of two pieces of the puzzle and they both contribute to our, our capability to maintain service level or return to an adequate service level in the event of an incident.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Any other questions? Ms. Vasecka.

Alderson Vasecka Sorry, I guess I have a clarifying question. It, it sounds like, I don't want if, if I pursue this amendment, I don't want to make things a big pain for you. So, would this amendment to get this one time ARPA funding of \$20,000.00, would it benefit you or would you prefer that I rescind this amendment because you're the expert?

Eric Hallstrom You know, I, what I will say is that you know the Mayor's proposed budget or balanced the need for additional capability with our resource constraints and ended with for the proposal that you have before you. If, if you made an additional recommended investments in, in advancing some of that that work sooner, we would be able to put it to work and, and sort of advance that. If that's, if that's Council's ultimate goal and recommendation. It's not a huge investment; this is our first step towards business continuities a business continuity solution, so it won't be the last time you hear from us on what our long-term needs are. One time ARPA funds for something like this would be helpful in maybe getting it off the

ground, but it won't pay for the ongoing maintenance costs or the, the licensing costs associated with some of these software or platforms as a service. So, I just want to recognize that \$20,000.00 won't get us all the way from point a to point b on business continuity, but it's, it's the initiating our journey towards point b.

Alderson Vasecka Okay. I would like to continue moving forward with it then. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones I'm, I'm sorry, not quite sure.... what did you say?

Alderson Vasecka I'm going to continue forward with this amendment.

Acting Mayor Jones Continue forward. Okay, very good. Any other questions for staff? Okay, then any public comment on this item? Seeing none, any other comments from Council? Mr. Hess.

Alderson Hess Just a question. I, I just last check of the dollar amount. Could you just restate the amendment please?

Alderson Vasecka Yes, I would like to fund, with ARPA funds, \$20,000.00 to the IT disaster preparedness/continuity of business for the IT technologies department.

Alderson Hess Perfect, thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Any other comments from Council? We'll have a roll call vote.

Marty Rehbein Becerra, did you have a chance to get back? All right, I'll note that as an abstain then. Actually, I think I have to do it as an absent.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, thank you. That amendment passes and Ms. Vasecka, you had one more?

Alderson Vasecka Yes, the final one is not ARPA related. I would like to remove the \$12,000.00 for the [inaudible] host compliance for the Airbnb and the short-term rental software programs.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, so removing the \$12,000.00 for the short-term rental data gathering? Okay. Any questions of staff regarding this? This has been discussed extensively in committee, I believe. Seeing no questions from Council, any public comment on this item?

Kevin Hunt Kevin Hunt, 308 Parkside Lane. I had extensive input on this when it was you guys were talking about it in committee. I hope that you won't remove the ability to continue monitoring STR's. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you for your comment. Any other public comment?

Henry Curtis Henry Curtis. These, the Airbnb proliferation has been a central part of the housing availability problem, especially in terms of rentals in Missoula and broadly in Montana. Since we're in Missoula, we'll talk Missoula. It is essential to fund this software. Please keep funding the software.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, any other questions from Council or comments? Miss, oh I'm sorry, whoops, come on up.

Dylan Albans Hi, Dylan Albans, wasn't expecting this, so I, if, if this is the program that I think it is. It is, I know, that in a previous City Council, the, the list of all registered Airbnb's used to be available for the public, but then a past City Council voted to remove it and this tool I believe is the only way first to look up an address to see if it's registered. And it's a really helpful resource to see if there's any illegal or

unregistered Airbnb's in our area and it's a really helpful tool. If this is eliminated, I'm not really sure how to look that up, other than I guess if I if there was an office to go to, to look it up but yeah thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Okay, questions or comments from Council? We have Ms. Savage and then Ms. Jordan. Oh okay, just Ms. Savage and then Ms. Vasecka, and then we'll go to the other side.

Alderson Savage When we heard this in committee a few weeks ago when we heard the report about the short-term rentals, after that, I'm sorry, I'm super tired and not very articulate, but after that I went and met with City staff and I met with Montana James and Ricky Henderson, and spoke to them and got a good background about how this came about. And I guess, actually with the funding from Council last year, staff was able to work with a consultant to build a dashboard and the dashboard actually took quite a while. And continuing to fund this software helps staff be able to continue to monitor Airbnb's and short-term rentals in Missoula and I think it's important that we do that because we've committed to do that and that's what the recommendations were from the short-term rental report that we, we got from the consultants. So, thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Ms. Vasecka did you have your hand raised on this comment?

Alderson Vasecka Yeah, I had a questions. The last public commenter, I, I guess one of his questions was is this the program that you can enter it or see an address and see if it is a, a short-term rental, is that so?

Acting Mayor Jones Yes, so, I can clarify that. Yeah, when we passed the very first short-term rental ordinance back in 2016 part of it was that there would be a published list of all those that were registered. Then it was revised in 2018 or so because there were concerns about privacy issues, so I'm not sure if this tool allows people to see what is currently or currently is not registered, but that's the history on the item. And I think that the main point of this is data gathering, so we get a sense of what big or little impact it has on our housing that's, that's the genesis of it, so....

Alderson Vasecka Yeah, that's exactly why....

Acting Mayor Jones Okay.

Alderson Vasecka I knew that, but I'll save the comments until after everyone.

Acting Mayor Jones Did you have more information to add to that Ms. Savage?

Alderson Savage Just briefly. I mean, my understanding is that the tool allows City staff to be able to put in an address; whereas, they were having to spend like potentially like three hours for every single complaint that they got because they were having to cross list between like the VRBO and Airbnb, and other sites, and it was taking them forever and so this tool allows them to do that. I don't know if it allows the public to do it, but I do think it does help staff.

Alderson Vasecka Okay this is exactly what I thought it was.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, thank you. And were there any comments or questions over here? Mr. Carlino.

Alderson Carlino Yeah, I mean, from what we've found so far, I think it was that in the past two years the amount of short-term rentals in Missoula increased 25% but I think continuing the study makes sense

and since staff recommended that, I think it's a good idea, but I think people don't want us to study it for too long and, and, and wait too long on action. So, I, I'm also supporting just regulating them as businesses rather than being allowed in residential neighborhoods in the future, but for the sake of this amendment, I will not support it, to continue the study.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, thank you. Any other comments or questions from Council? We've had public comments, so we'll have a roll call vote. Oh wait, oh, oh, you're sliding right in okay. Ms. Vasecka.

Aldersperson Vasecka So my reason, my reasoning behind this is that I have always been a big fan of private property rights and I don't think it's up to the government to monitor what you're doing with your own land, and then especially with all the tax increases and everyone's really struggling, I think that we could afford to cut this \$12,000.00, so I will be in support of my own amendment.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Ms. West.

Aldersperson West I'm not going to support this, I guess cut. I think it's important that we keep monitoring our situation. I don't think that this is necessarily the ideal tool and I think conversations are going to be ongoing about what, what sort of data metrics we're looking for and how best to gather those.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, seeing no other questions or comments from Council, we'll have a roll call vote.

Marty Rehbein Okay, on the motion to remove \$12,000.00 for data gathering host compliance software for short-term rentals.

Aldersperson Becerra I will abstain. I had some technical difficulties, so I did not hear the discussion.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, thank you very much. All right Daniel to you.

Aldersperson Carlino I move to amend adding \$15,000.00 for the staff requested community zero waste infrastructure incentives and capacity, that's what it was called, from our unused ARPA funds. And Eran spoke to this, oh I'm sorry, and I should wait to comment later.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, any, any questions for staff regarding this item? Seeing none, any public comment on this item? Seeing none back to Council, questions or comments on this item? Mr. Carlino why don't you speak to it?

Aldersperson Carlino Yeah, yeah this is to work towards our community zero waste goals. You know we have the zero by 50 goal and we're going to have to start you know implementing more and more things to help us reach that. And whenever we brought this up on Wednesday, Eran Pehan said this would fund like an AmeriCorps type member, so \$15,000.00 to get somebody new for the City that's working on our community zero waste incentive and capacity program sounds like a really good use of \$15,000.00 and to help us get towards the goal that we committed to as a City and it's essential to protecting our environment and working to stop the climate crisis. So, I hope that everybody would support it.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, any other comments from Council? Ms. Anderson.

Aldersperson Anderson Thanks so much. I would, Ms. Pehan, if you could come on and say if you feel as though we may have an opportunity to fund this position other places, such as the deficit reduction act because this seems like right up what that would be trying to accomplish? And then also, I'm just gonna

put this out here, so I have to keep asking for... We are starting to make amendments to the total amount of surplus ARPA funds, and I would love to know kind of where we are at because I don't want I'm to nickel and dime it down to an amount that is doesn't give us the flexibility we need for next year? So, think Leigh and either might be keeping track of this, but if we could kind of have a way to do that....

Acting Mayor Jones Eran are you still on the? Are you still on Eran?

Eran Pehan I am indeed, yes. I. I don't believe at least from what we've seen that there'll be opportunities to fund an AmeriCorps vista in that recently passed legislation, but we haven't made it through all of it and all the opportunities aren't open and so I, I don't want to say without a shadow of a doubt that it might not be there. I think other, other opportunities within that zero waste program, things like our recycling centers our zero waste, our zero waste structures that we, that we erect for things like roots fest and others. I think programmatic stuff, we anticipate there'll be a lot of opportunity in the new legislation but I'm not sure that there would be to fund an AmeriCorps member.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Ms. Sherrill.

Aldersperson Sherrill Yeah, Daniel is this request a one-time request or an ongoing?

Aldersperson Carlino Maybe Eran could answer that, but I believe they were requesting it from ARPA funds. So, it would be one.... or I'm making the amendment from ARPA funds, but Eran were you planning on this being an ongoing position or just the next year for AmeriCorps?

Acting Mayor Jones Eran are you still with us?

Eran Pehan I am. Sorry, I was just checking the budget requests quickly and it looks like we are making those as a one-time request.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. All right, any other questions or comments from Council?

Aldersperson Sherrill I, have an additional comment....

Acting Mayor Jones I'm sorry, go ahead Ms. Sherrill.

Aldersperson Sherrill I was just going to say, I, you know, I've, I've done a fair amount of work with Home ReSource and I, I would like to see some of that work maybe come to fruition and this could be a way to, to make that happen. I think that our zero waste policy, we need to make some more headway on it, so, I'm, I'm going to support this. I'm, I'd be happy to see that happen.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Any other comments or questions from Council? I'm gonna hold steady and not support it, not that I don't think it's good stuff but just I'm feeling like I just don't want to cross any more lines in terms of any more additions, but I also do want to note that we have tasked Eran Pehan with solving not only homelessness but also climate change. So, she, she does it all.....Okay any other comments from Council? We'll have a roll call vote then....Oh wait, Mr. Carlino.

Aldersperson Carlino Yeah, I guess I just want to emphasize that \$15,000.00 is not very much to help get us to our zero waste goal and I you know we often spend millions of dollars to help with deconstruction of buildings, and I think \$15,000.00 will actually go a really long way by hiring you know a passionate AmeriCorps member to help us reach our zero waste goals as a community. And since we committed to that goal, I think we really need to start picking up the pace if we actually want to get there. So, I think

this is a good opportunity with our ARPA funds to just use \$15,000.00 out of the, you know 14 million that we got to help with, fund this position.

Acting Mayor Jones Great, thanks. Any other comments? Ms. Vasecka.

Aldersperson Vasecka Thanks. So, with, with COVID happening, people stayed at home more, so you're going out less, so I think that there would be less trash and less waste because you would be reusing your stuff at home. So, that's my reasoning be behind not supporting this because I don't think it's an appropriate use of ARPA funds.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Seeing no other comments, we'll take a roll call vote.

Aldersperson Anderson Actually chair, I don't think we got an answer to my question in regards to....

Acting Mayor Jones I'm sorry.

Aldersperson Anderson Sorry, I don't....

Acting Mayor Jones Which questions was that?

Aldersperson Anderson Oh so yes, so sorry that's happens we're lumped together. I so, just I'm, I'm trying to keep a running total of the things that we are adding to the surplus ARPA to see where we're at, so just I don't know if Leigh is listening in on this or Dale? Because my, if, if someone would like to correct me I think we're tracking we had \$907,00.00. We've allocated \$20,000.00 for the IT, now this is another \$15,000.00. The other amendment we made was out of the Road District, so it does not go against the ARPA. Is that?

[numerous people speaking]

Acting Mayor Jones I believe that is correct...You can be tasked with tracking that...all right?

Aldersperson Anderson I am now.

Acting Mayor Jones Very good.

Aldersperson Anderson I've got correct numbers, okay. Great.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, let's do a roll call vote on this.

Acting Mayor Jones Great thank you. Okay, next amendment.

Aldersperson Carlino Thanks everybody. I move to amend adding \$25,000.00 for the requested 100% percent clean energy statewide advocacy and coalition building to CPDI from our unused ARPA funds.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Any questions for health, for staff on this item? And just to clarify, I believe \$100,000.00 was requested and \$75,000.00 has been funded in the Mayor's budget. So, this is the remaining \$25,000.00 that you want to add in. So, the great majority of it has been funded. Ms. Sherrill.

Aldersperson Sherrill I was just going to say that I was going to make your point, Gwen, and say that we are funding what, what I saw as being needed for that coalition and for the work with NorthWestern Energy on the green tariff and so I'm, I'm happy with that. I think we're gonna get a lot of good things done, fingers crossed. So, I'm not gonna support this additional amount.

Acting Mayor Jones All right. Questions from Council? Any public questions. Do you have a question? Okay go ahead.

Alderman Carlino Eran, could just tell us what the difference would make between having this program funded for \$75,000.00 compared to \$100,000.00 funded for it?

Acting Mayor Jones You're muted Eran.

Eran Pehan I'm, I'm not sure that I can speak articulately regarding the difference in funding from \$75,000.00 to \$100,000.00, if that creates a disproportionate impact on the overall scope of work that we can sign. I can check back in with our staff on that but, I believe that we can still achieve the goal of outlining an advocacy approach and implementing it with the \$75,000.00.

Acting Mayor Jones Any other questions for staff? Any public comment on this item?

Joe Joe again, last one. I'm tapping out, I made it over 7 hours I'm done. Obviously, it's a good amendment. It would make life better in this community and as why will obviously be voted down, but I do want to thank Council members Carlino and Jordan. I'm a very cynical person about politics and the last 7 hours have only made me more so. I don't really believe that the government tends to make things better, but I appreciate that you 2 are making a Sisyphean effort at it. I will say it's nice to see people putting their politics in line with what they say because what I see a lot in this community in particular and which I've seen for years in this community is the tendency to claim values like yard sign, bumper sticker politics and then back it up with nothing and it's deeply depressing. The future is going to make us, require of us to make hard choices and this mealy mouth speaking out of both sides is not going to cut it anymore, so I really want to thank you two, but the rest of you, I'm going to leave you with something that my minister told me when I was 10 years old. Whatever you say if you end it with a, but it doesn't mean you don't believe those things but everything you just said was worthless. The only thing at the end of the day that matters is action. I understand that your job is hard. I'm sorry I made that woman cry, but I'm asking you to do the job that you were hired for. It is a hard job, but you wanted it. Have a good night.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you for your comment. Any other public comment?

Kevin Hunt Kevin Hunt, 308 Parkside Lane. I support this and for the record, I'm going to be leaving too and I'm familiar with all the remainder of Mr. Carlino's proposed amendments and I support all of those as well. And what I'd like to leave you with is the notion that a small amount of money can go a long way and I will invite Mr. Nugent maybe to lunch because I did a lot of research last, last year when Rivera was going down and I, I came up with how many houses could have been built with that money, rather than having 70 units. What I want to leave you with is how, how a little money can go a long way. The amount of blindness in the world was substantially reduced in the 70s and 80s, and do you know who did it? It wasn't the United Nations; it was the Grateful Dead, and you know they were making about 40 million dollars a year touring and they had a foundation called Seva and Seva looked into this and you know what they found out? All you had to do for most people in the world to keep from going blind is to give them a hat and they did; there you go. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Any other public comment on this item? Okay seeing none, any other comments or questions from Council? Seeing none, we'll have a roll call vote.

Marty Rehbein Okay, I just want to check and make sure I have this one right. I have added \$25,000.00 for the clean energy statewide advocacy program from ARPA funds. Did I get that correct Daniel?

Acting Mayor Jones Yes.

Aldersperson Carlino Yes.

Marty Rehbein Okay great.

Acting Mayor Jones Next amendment.

Aldersperson Carlino I move to amend adding \$40,000.00 to the Fire Department to fund a study for a local public ambulance service from our surplus ARPA funds.

Acting Mayor Jones Any questions for staff. Ms. Anderson.

Aldersperson Anderson Thanks so much madam chair. I spoke to the fire chief in regards to this and I don't know if he's still on this call right now, but he feels as though they can fund this study through the funds that they already have with allocated to the Fire Department, so that this motion while appreciated, he has funding for it so.

Acting Mayor Jones All right. Chief Hughes did you want to address that really quickly or are you still with us?

Chief Hughes Sure, can you all hear me?

Acting Mayor Jones Yes we can.

Chief Hughes I believe, if authorized by Council, we can utilize our revenue funds to fund this study.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, so procedurally does it need to be in the budget to be authorizing the revenue funds to be used or is that already within your purview Chief Hughes to forward with that?

Chief Hughes We would have to go before PS&H for authorization, as it is over a \$25,000.00 study.

Aldersperson Anderson To clarify, it doesn't need to be, have a line item for, in this budget? It would just have to come because it's a contract over?

[unknown speakers] Correct.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, does that impact your proposed amendment Mr. Carlino?

Aldersperson Carlino Yeah. That's great to hear and I will not do that amendment. I will take it off the floor.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, that is retracted. Thank you Chief Hughes for your information. All right, next amendment.

Aldersperson Carlino Okay, I move to amend we add \$30,000.00 to a fund to help subsidized bear resistant trash bins for those who want to opt in and/or need it from our unused ARPA funds.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Questions to staff regarding that? And I will ask staff, I believe that Jenny Miriam, if you are on the line? You've been on the working group regarding that item and I'm not sure that Jenny Miriam is on the line with us. I can speak to it though, as she's updated me. The working group is coming to Council with their recommendations and under the umbrella of their recommendations is figuring out how to fund bear proof containers and there's several different options and my understanding is that Shan Ontario from the health department has some good ideas on that. So, I will

say at this point, I'm not in favor of doing that. I want, I want the program to come before us and then figure out the most strategic way going forward to get that funded and I think they have some good ideas on that. So, I think it's a bit premature, but other questions from Council. Ms. West.

Aldersperson West So, my understanding is that this would have to be a, a more I'll say regional approach that would involve County and City, and is that correct?

Acting Mayor Jones I believe that Shan Ontario wants to, can use, we can use the extra territorial powers and yeah it, it, it has to be strategically done in order to be effective, but I've got some other hands up here. Ms. Jordan.

Aldersperson Kristen Jordan Thank you. The County would need to be involved for a comprehensive plan and they're on board with something. I guess my question is, is I didn't realize there was a committee of people meeting on this, that didn't involve bear experts. I would love to be on this committee. How can I be on it?

Acting Mayor Jones So, it's the working group that has bear experts.

Aldersperson Kristen Jordan that was in that working group...Okay.

Acting Mayor Jones A large working group involving numerous different entities....

Aldersperson Kristen Jordan I thought it was a separate one within the City.... Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones No. I just know that Jenny Miriam is the person on the working group from the City. Okay, Mr. Carlino.

Aldersperson Carlino Yeah, I guess just to speak to this. You know, we're seeing bear sightings more and more often in Missoula lately. I was driving down the Rattlesnake just last week and I saw mom and a cub run right through into somebody's front yard and we've been seeing them this past week breaking into people's houses, going into their fridge, and you know, we're going to see more and more of this, and I don't think there's much time to waste. And I agree with following the bear smart groups guide on this, but it would be great if we already had you know \$30,000.00 to help them and ensure that if we were requiring bear resistant containers and all of the bear buffer zone and into the county even that we could use this \$30,000.00 to help subsidize the extra cost to the people that are going to be required to get bear resistant cans. So, this would be a step that will help us later on when we're trying to become bear smart and we're wondering oh isn't this going to be a big burden on people making them pay an extra five dollars a month for can. And then, I guess I just wanted to say that \$30,000.00 would subsidize 500 bear resistant trash bins for a year, so I kind of thought it would go for people that need to opt in or need help with funding.

Acting Mayor Jones Kristen, your hand is still up. Did you? Nope, okay. All right, any other questions from Council? Any public comment on this item? Any other thoughts from Council? All right Jordan, Mr. Hess? You've got something..

Aldersperson Hess Thanks. I'm highly supportive of this program. I'm going to wait for a budget amendment when, when we have the final recommendation. So, I'm not going to support this tonight, but I am supportive of the program.

Acting Mayor Jones Great, thank you. All right, any other comments or questions? We'll do a roll call vote.

Acting Mayor Jones Next amendment.

Aldersperson Carlino I move to amend adding the staff requested amount of \$25,938.00 for the new annexation of Red Fern Park from the unused ARPA funds.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Any questions to staff regarding this? Ms. Vasecka.

Aldersperson Vasecka I'm sorry Daniel, can you repeat that? I didn't quite get it...

Aldersperson Carlino Yes, I am moving to amend that we add \$25,938.00 to fulfill park staff's request for the new annexation of Red Fern Park from our unused ARPA funds.

Acting Mayor Jones Can I ask is this to install equipment at Red Fern Park or provide maintenance or? I'm not understanding the annexation, Parks doesn't annex.

Donna Gaukler Donna Gaukler, Parks and Recreation. The area was annexed a couple of years ago and we submitted a maintenance impact statement for ongoing care, park, park plans in that area, specifically Red Fern. So, it's predominantly maintenance and some repairs.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay thank you. That helps clarify. All right any questions for staff regarding this item? Ms. Anderson.

Aldersperson Anderson So, this is an ongoing, given the fact that it's now a City park for the annexation? And ARPA funds are only one time....

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. I'm sorry is this from ARPA funds or is this from Parks District? In your amendment? ARPA funds. Okay, any other questions for Council regarding this item? I'm sorry, questions for staff? All right. Public comment, any public comment on this item?

Henry Curtis Yeah Henry back again. A quick thing, if it is in fact repairs, even if it is a one-time thing (a) the money's free, it's there, we can use it (b) hey maybe you don't have, maybe you've pushed off the accumulated repairs a few years further by taking this, this small amount of money and basically fixing up the park quick spend, you get a better park, makes sense to me.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, thank you. Ms. Becerra. Oh, I'm sorry, any other public comment? All right seeing none, Ms. Becerra.

Aldersperson Becerra Thank you. Donna could you speak about the collaboration that exists between the HOA for Red Fern Park and, and park's responsibility and whether this maintenance could in part be paid for by HOA fees or is it completely separate?

Donna Gaukler The ongoing maintenance the HOA would like Parks and Recreation to assume, which we largely have. So, when areas are annexed or added to the system, we don't ignore them, we maintain them to the best of our ability. You just have less funds to maintain more acres over time and more facilities. The HOA has been incredibly helpful and that they've added \$50,000.00 to the new playground that we'll be procuring and installing this fall.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Any other questions from Council? Ms. Vasecka. Go ahead.

Alderson Vasecka Quick comment. To our very enthusiastic public commenter, money is, this money is not free, it came from federal tax dollars which come from your pocket. So, I just wanted to.....

Acting Mayor Jones All right, any other questions or comments from Council? Ms. West.

Alderson West Yeah, I have a question for Daniel, I guess. I guess, why this park? I think almost every park has maintenance needs in our system and I, I was curious why this one rose to the top?

Alderson Carlino I actually have an amendment for other parks too, but this is actually this was a request from the Parks Department is how I came up with this one.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Any other questions or comments from Council? I appreciate how much our parks need attention and we do our best to fund all of them, but I'm also really hesitant to pull ARPA money for something that frankly needs to be more ongoing and it's just not the direction I want to go in personally, but all right. Any other comments? Seeing none, we'll have a roll call vote.

Marty Rehbein Okay on the motion for Red Fern Park.

Acting Mayor Jones Marty, thank you. So, Mr. Carlino if you have other parks, I would request that you bundle those and you put them in front of us and we discuss them because we've got staff, we have all department heads on this meeting and it's close to 1:30 in the morning, so I'd like to make this as efficient as possible so that they can all get to bed because they've got to be at work tomorrow morning, as does everyone else here. So, why don't you go ahead and bundle the rest of the parks.

Alderson Carlino Okay, I just have two other parks amendments. So, let's see I move to amend adding the staff requested amount of \$13,049.00 for the developed parks of Montana Rail Link and Jeffrey parks along with adding the \$29,118.00 for the commuter trail expansions, Bitterroot Trail and Milwaukee Trail from the staff requested item and all from unused ARPA funds for a total of \$42,167.00.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, so just to repeat \$13,000.00 plus for the Montana Rail Link and Jeffrey Park maintenance and then how much for the commuter trail expansion?

Alderson Carlino \$29,118.00.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. All right, any questions to staff regarding this, from Council? Mr. Carlino.

Alderson Carlino Yeah, I was just wondering if, if Donna would want to talk about what the request for the commuter trail expansions is needed for? I know those are some of our best bike lanes for avoiding cars around town and go pretty much everywhere. Thanks.

Donna Gaukler Sure. What happens at times is we make decisions to acquire lands, annexed lands or build capital improvements and extensions of things like trail systems and parks to meet our goals in service to community. And what also often happens is the ongoing maintenance of those facilities lags behind the capital improvement. And so those are the common situations where we use existing budget and just slightly reduce service everywhere in order to provide for more. And so, generally the requests include a small amount of maintenance some 200 and some 300 accounts, 300 generally being utilities fuel and, and then in waste and then 200 accounts of course being materials and supplies. And so, this is one of those requests you've seen multiple years ever since those facilities were built.

Acting Mayor Jones Great. Thank you. Any other questions from Council? And Daniel, just to clarify, is this coming from surplus ARPA or parks district?

Alderson Carlino Surplus ARPA funds.

Acting Mayor Jones Surplus ARPA funds, okay. Any other questions from Council? Any public comment? And any comment from Council? Seeing none, we'll have a roll call vote.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay are there any other amendments that impact parks?

Alderson Carlino That was...I'm done with Parks, yep. I just have a couple more amendments and then, I'll call it a day.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. So, first of all, Donna Gaukler, we're going to cut you loose. We're done with parks. So, you have any amendments that involve MRA?

Alderson Carlino Yes.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, let's do those next and then we will send Ellen home also.

Alderson Carlino Sure.

Acting Mayor Jones So go ahead.

Alderson Anderson Point of order. Madam chair, if you could keep probably, I mean keep going on that same line for other department heads I bet they would be very appreciative of the ones who don't, you know I don't know if Chief Hughes still needs to be on or

Acting Mayor Jones Right, why don't you tell us the topics of your amendments and then we can cut loose everyone who doesn't need to be okay.

Alderson Carlino Yeah, I guess it would be great to have, to keep Fire, Police, and MRA on and I will try and be as quick as possible.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. So, any other department head can leave except for MRA, Fire, and Police. Correct? Okay great and lets do MRA first. Thank you department heads and staff that have been here. We appreciate, we appreciate you being here and helping with all the information. Okay, let's go with the MRA amendments and I think you can bundle those.

Alderson Carlino Okay. So, I will move to disperse the \$587,212.00 from the MRA's budget to return that money to the City, County and school general budget, General Funds instead of paying for the Wren Hotel redevelopments.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Are there any other MRAs because I think you should just bundle them all so we can discuss?

Alderson Carlino Sure and I will also move to disperse the \$269,000.00 from MRA's budget to return that money to the City, County and schools instead of the Bessinger Place redevelopments, and I will also move to disperse the \$233,718.00 from the MRA's budget to return that money to the City, County and schools instead of paying for the police facility redevelopments.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, Ellen, if you're on the line with us, can you address, as to the, the status of these projects?

Ellen Buchanan Ellen Buchanan, Director of the Missoula Redevelopment Agency. I think, as I've indicated in committee meeting the other day, these are projects that have been approved and have moved forward with the understanding and assurance that there would be tax increment funding available for certain improvements with those projects, some of it, and, and there are development agreements which are legal contracts involved in some of them. There's a memorandum of understanding between MRA and Missoula Police Department, which was executed some time ago and I, I think you know to, to I don't see how we arbitrarily remove the funding from those projects when it's gone through a process that's prescribed in law and it's been approved and agreements have been entered into and works progressing with the, with the understanding those funds will be available. I mean the Wren is almost finished. I think basically the work at the police facility is completed with a few little details left to be taken care of, punch list items as I understand it and Bessinger Place is, is you know is a fairly new project, but all of these have incurred cost with the, with the understanding that there would be TIF revenue available to their projects. So, I think there are legal implications to removing that funding in some instances and there's a financial impact on the City's General Fund if we were to remove the TIF funding from the police facility. This is one way that TIF dollars can go back into General Fund projects and offset the need to use you know property taxes, you're using the TIF revenue for those. So, we, we, any time we get a chance to invest in a public building, we, we do that if we have the revenue because it's, it's one way of putting that money back into an offsetting General Fund expenditures.

Acting Mayor Jones Great thank you. Any other questions for staff? Ms. Vasecka.

Alderson Vasecka I guess I would like to know what the legal ramifications are on that taking? If you're for or against these projects, what is the I guess what is the potential to happen if this amendment does pass? I guess, what, will we be opening ourselves up to lawsuits?

Ellen Buchanan Yeah, I would think so, particularly in a project that's you know as, as far along as, as the Wren Hotel. I mean they've, they're ready to open in a couple of months and they've moved forward with you know with an approval of \$587,000.00 in TIF funds, and they've made the improvements that those monies are paying for and they're in the public improvements in the right-of-way. So, I, that, that might be a question for Mr. Nugent, if he's still awake. I hope he's not for his sake...but you know, I can't imagine that there could not be legal ramifications in a situation like that.

Acting Mayor Jones Any other questions for Council? Ms. Anderson and then Ms. West.

Alderson Anderson Thanks so much. So, the total amount being proposed to disperse from MRA is a little over one million dollars, \$1,893,000.00. Now because the way that the disbursement goes, we at the City only will see approximately, to keep the math simple, 30% of that which is \$326,000.00. So, you're basically getting pennies on the dollar in return if you were to do this disbursement, take away the legal ramifications of it. It's like, it's a losing proposition would be my question from like best use of dollars because you're only getting a fraction of it back, correct? Ms. Buchanan.

Ellen Buchanan Yeah, that is, I mean if what we're talking about is a remittance and then yeah you have to remit whatever percentage of the, of the....boy my brain is just about gone tonight, I'm sorry, but

whatever percentage of the mills are associated with any given taxing jurisdiction, there's a mathematical formula that so if we give if we remit a dollar to the City then we're remitting a little less than a dollar to the County and a good bit more than a dollar to the schools and you know.... so just as a for instance, let's say a \$750,000.00 remittance ends up costing almost 3 million dollars in TIF, once you've given all the taxing jurisdictions the amount that they're due. So, it literally is 30 cents on the dollar.

Alderson Anderson Yeah thanks. I guess I was doing it backwards from the standpoint of these are very specific amounts being saying well we're not going to pay for that and remit that amount if that is the amendment that Mr. Carlino is making that you are....Are you proposing that the \$587,000.00 from the Wren get remitted back to the General Fund?

Acting Mayor Jones Mr. Carlino.

Alderson Carlino Back to the City, County and schools General Fund. So, yeah we get about 30% but I would argue that even the 30% would be better than giving \$587,212.00 towards helping redevelop a hotel and \$269,000.00 towards helping redevelop luxury condos when they have no affordability requirements; that was our chance to require affordable housing there, but yet we just did \$269,000.00 of TIF funds. So, I don't expect all that to go back to the City of course I was saying that's why I said disperse it back to the City, County and school General Funds.

Alderson Anderson May I have a followup?

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Anderson.

Alderson Anderson Yeah, so I think that there's a misconception here because this \$587,221.00 to the Wren Hotel is not just cutting them a check because they, we think that they're, they're golly nice people for being here. This actually is paying for public improvements that they did that benefit everybody. It's not just padding their, it's not a check to them just because we feel like it...correct? I mean, Ms.

Buchanan, can you talk a little bit more about? And I feel like every time we talk about this but there's a general I feel misunderstanding of that this isn't going just a check directly to the developer...

Ellen Buchanan No, it's, it's a reimbursement for, for monies that were spent making improvements in the public realm, in the public right of way. So, it got us the curb extensions at the corner. It got us the street trees and the landscaping that will go in the street. It removed overhead utilities in the alley that allowed them to add an extra floor on that building, which is a consistent pattern in downtown. Anytime you want a multi-story building, we've got to get rid of the wires in the in the alleys. Otherwise, you're going to have two-story buildings and then and, and by adding you know the renovation is one thing in terms of creating tax base, but to add an entire new floor on that building you know adds 1/3 more tax base than we would have been able to have if we had not assisted in removing the utilities from the alley.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, so it's 1:37 in the morning and we're going deep down a rabbit hole of discussing MRA law and how MRA works for tax increment financing, and we can spend hours on this. If you could make your questions short and sweet, okay. I've got a few thoughts I'll say on this and we're going to move it forward. Ms. West.

Alderson West It's, it's quick. I promise. So, Ms. Buchanan could you elaborate what happens to the 1/3 that would get returned back to the schools? Is that something that they can keep?

Ellen Buchanan Generally speaking, it simply reduces the amount of money that they get from the state in support of their per capita student transfers and that all goes back to the school equalization litigation that took place a number of years ago.

Acting Mayor Jones My understanding is they can possibly supplement their reserves a little bit, but it does not increase their budget at all. All right, Ms. Jordan, your hand was up.

Alderson Kristen Jordan Thank you. It's getting late, shoot I just lost my thought. I guess what I would like to say is that it sounds like this cake is baked for these particular funding sort these this particular these funds and my comment is just that I'd like to see more City Council oversight on how TIF funds are spent in the future. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Let me call for public comment on this. Any public comment? Seeing none, I've just got a few comments and if anybody else wants to comment, I hope we can keep it short. So, this is a complicated topic but the bottom line is under Montana State Law, we have a program that is created to invest in our community and create extra income that in the long run, down the road, can go to public improvements such as affordable housing and that's how it works and the Front Street District with the Wren Hotel and items like this will create increment that can go to the old library block, so that's the way it works. I'm happy to discuss it in greater detail but the thing I think we need to be thinking about is if we make representations that we have tipped up a program that follows Montana law, we have people rely on us as part of their business plan and then we basically pull it out from underneath them in an arbitrary way at the last minute. There will be no trust in this program, and it will not exist and that's a huge problem. So, I think it's very important to think about how we interact with the rest of the business community and following through on our root word, I think is incredibly important. So, that's the way it's currently set up and we need to follow through on that. Any other comments from Council before we go to a vote on this matter? Ms. Vasecka and then Ms. Anderson.

Alderson Vasecka Thank you and while I do, I have two things to say. While I do really appreciate wanting to be really efficient with what's going on tonight, I don't want folks to be deterred from commenting and discussing what's happening with our budget because it will affect everyone's wallets. So, I really appreciate everyone sticking with us and, and actually having a very thorough, a very thorough discussion even though it is the wee hours of the morning. On that note, with a very heavy heart I will not be supporting this. Like my Ward mate, Kristen said, it looks like the cake is baked on these projects and while some folks in previous years have said that we have funds for lawsuits, I don't think that we should open ourselves up to any further lawsuits, so I'm unfortunately not going to be supporting this amendment.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Anderson.

Alderson Anderson I just got my second wind, so, but I agree with yeah.... I'll pass it around.... let's see, I agree with Ms. Vasecka. I also think that you know we, we've talked a lot about affordable housing

and various other components and there is no money to put into any of those without funding from the tax increment that these private sector businesses put into the district. They are connected. You can't just say oh we're going to fund affordable housing but we're you know we don't need any of these other things in a part of a TIF district. So, you know and it this isn't just cutting the check it is improving the right of way and I think Ms. Buchanan has, in a previous meeting, highlighted this specific project about the fact that the old Executor or Days Inn Hotel was bringing in a tiny fraction of the tax, you know what the taxable value of that place was versus what the taxable value is now going to be and we're looking at a \$587,000.00 investment that not only, that basically got a bunch of trees that are good for the environment, streets and sidewalks that are good for mobility, and then as well as money to go into the district to put towards affordable housing projects such as what we hope to envision for the Payne block. So, I am not going to be in support of this from also from the legal standpoint but just from an overall you know philosophy on the fact that MRA is one of the only tools we have to help diversify our income stream and put towards affordable housing projects across the City. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, Mr. Carlino.

Aldersperson Carlino I'll go ahead and revoke that motion just to try and avoid any legal challenges, but I still don't agree with where that money was spent from the MRA towards the luxury condos and towards the hotel and things like that, but I can move on to the next amendment.

Acting Mayor Jones Hang on a second. Ellen, I think, if there's no other MRA questions, we're gonna cut Ellen loose. Okay go home Ellen. Thank you for being here.

Ellen Buchanan Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, Mr. Carlino can we do police next? Great.

Aldersperson Carlino Yeah, this one's from the police...

Acting Mayor Jones Do we have, how many police do you have?

Aldersperson Carlino I have, 1, 2, 3, 4...

Acting Mayor Jones All right, put them all out there and we're going to talk about them, okay?

Aldersperson Carlino Put them all out there at once?

Acting Mayor Jones Yep.

Aldersperson Carlino I think they're a little different.

Acting Mayor Jones We can vote separately on each but put them all out there, we'll discuss, and then we'll vote separately.

Aldersperson Carlino I'll start with this first one. I move to furlough the \$130,000.00 from the Police Department's new request for increased department fleet to the Fire Department for the Mobile Support Team, so furlough the new police cars until next year to help fund the Mobile Support Team until we get the crisis levy.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, so let me just repeat that so that our City Clerk has it correct, \$130,000.00 you want to not fund the police fleet of two additional vehicles and instead move that money to the Mobile Support Team, correct?

Alderson Carlino Yeah furlough it, yep and then move it to the Mobile Support Team.

Acting Mayor Jones Great, second one.

Alderson Carlino Can we just discuss that one?

Acting Mayor Jones Well I'd like to put all these out here.... no it's let's just go through put them all out and then we can have questions because I bet there's overlap. Go ahead.

Alderson Carlino I'd prefer to do them one at a time just because they're so different. The other ones aren't furloughing or anything like that.

Acting Mayor Jones Why don't you just go ahead and put them out. Thank you.

Alderson Vasecka Point of order. I guess I don't really know what's in the City Council rules, but aren't we supposed to discuss amendments one at a time? I know that it's late, but we are elected officials, and this is our job.

Acting Mayor Jones Daniel, as a courtesy to everyone and the staff that are up this late, I'd appreciate if you would just put the amendments out so that we can look at it holistically, ask some questions of police. We can vote on them separately, all right?

Alderson Carlino That works.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you, appreciate that.

Alderson Carlino Okay, so the first one was the furlough the \$130,000.00 from the police new request for the increased department fleet and put that to the Mobile Support Team. I also move to amend the \$135,840.00 from miscellaneous professional services from the police budget to go towards the Fire Department for the Mobile Support Team. I also move to amend that we take the \$208,632.00 from miscellaneous operating, oh from miscellaneous professional services from the Police Department budget to go to the Fire Department for the Mobile Support Team. And the last one, let's see, I move to amend doing the \$214,380.00 for travel from the police budget toward the Fire Department for the Mobile Support Team.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Thank you. I think that actually works pretty well to discuss. So, you want to take all 4 of these items and put that money towards a Mobile Support Team under fire, correct?

Alderson Carlino Yes.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, thank you. I appreciate you putting them all out there for convenience's sake. So, questions to I believe we've probably got Chief White on still and any other staff from police that can answer these questions. We did cover a lot of this during budget and finance. Ms. West, you've got your hand raised.

Alderson West So, my first question is just about the police fleet. I, if I remember correctly from budget and finance last week these were replacement vehicles not new vehicles, correct? Because we are down, we are not fully equipped currently, correct?

Acting Mayor Jones Chief White, are you? Oh, there you are... Chief White are you able to chime in?

Chief White I am here. Yes, these are two additional patrol vehicles to our fleet. We currently have 25 patrol vehicles assigned to patrol. We operate on a daily basis with 20% of those vehicles down for

maintenance and repairs, which is five vehicles short. So, this is only 2 vehicles. Basically, what happens is if we run out of patrol cars, we take a very efficient schedule with two officers that were assigned to two different zones, and we put them in one patrol car. So, we lose the efficiency of the staffing study that we implemented back in February of 2021.

Acting Mayor Jones Right..

Chief White And it's only getting, it's only getting worse with the pandemic.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, thank you.

Chief White Because of supply chain issues [inaudible section] cars fixed.

Acting Mayor Jones Great, thank you for that. Dale has his hand raised. Dale did you have information?

Dale Bickell The way these patrol cars were funded in the budget was through our lease program. So, you'll see it's in you know on the new request and tax errors it's, it's non-tax funded because the we, we're not actually using current revenues. We are deferring those until (1) we get the cars, and we'll finance those. So, there isn't actually if, un-funding these won't provide another \$130,000.00 to the Fire Department.

Acting Mayor Jones Great. Thank you for that. Okay, let me see, Chief White, while we got you the \$135,000.00 for miscellaneous professional services. Can you expand on that please? I'm not sure if that's the correct phrasing for it.

Chief White I am not.... there's... so in, in our professional services budget that handles our sexual and violent offender registration that's paid through Missoula County. It also provides the examinations for victims of sexual assault at St. Patrick's. It pays for our towing bills when we are required to move vehicles from the City and things like that. So, a removal of all of that money, we would not have the ability to get sex assault kits done through the, through the hospital. We would lose our ability to partner with Missoula County on sexual and violent offender registration and follow-up of that, and we would not have money to tow vehicles.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Thank you. Thank you for that and then the other. So, that was the \$135,000.00 for miscellaneous, is that the one that you were talking about? They're kind of, it's a lot of similar language.

Chief White Yes.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. So, then there was \$208,000.00Go ahead....

Chief White Pull up another document to look at.

Acting Mayor Jones Yeah, we, I think we've got two more to go through. One is the travel and training I believe and then there's the two....

Chief White Correct. So, the, the 208...sorry the \$208,000.00 is miscellaneous operating. That comes out of our operating supplies, so that includes everything that we have at the Police Department except for our fuel and vehicle maintenance. So, that would be an ability to buy paper, take care of computers, any of that kind of stuff would all be gone.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, thank you.

Chief White That's, you know, officers' uniforms that are required by contract, our evidence and ID supplies, and that would remove our ammunition budget for the department and our ability to buy replacement firearms, just to name a few items.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. And then the \$214,000.00 for travel, you spoke to this previously in budget and finance, also includes training and could you speak to that?

Chief White Yes, absolutely, it...Accounting, several years ago, combined our training and travel budget into one budget. So, the, the vast majority of that money is spent on our training, everything from entry-level training at the academy through all the advanced training that we send our officers to. Part of that has to be travel. We don't live in a city that a lot of different training happens here. We have to send our folks out of the region in order to get the most modern and professional training.

Acting Mayor Jones Great, thank you. Okay, any other questions? Daniel.

Aldersperson Carlino Well with updated information about the police vehicles, I will revoke the first amendment and same with the miscellaneous professional services amendment, I'm also going to revoke that one just because of, after we got more details, that's the most details I've seen about these items. So, with more information, I learned that we should revoke those two since the first one can't fund the Fire Department and since the second, second one was helping with sexual assault cases and such and, but I will keep the other two amendments for the miscellaneous operating supplies and for the travel to have those go towards the Mobile Support Team, and it'd be great if we could just vote on them separately. And just to speak to it really quickly, the Police Department budget in Missoula has gone up about 88% in the past 10 years while our population has gone up about 12%, and I'm concerned about that because you see today that we didn't have any money for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. You saw we didn't have any money for the Mobile Support Team. No money for sidewalks. No money for all these other things that keep us safe, and it would be great if we had money for those things.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, is there any, any other questions from Council for staff? Ms. Vasecka.

Aldersperson Vasecka Yeah, Chief White, I see that for the miscellaneous operating supplies, it's \$200,632.00 this year and for this year's budget or I guess last year's budget and then fiscal year 23 as well as the exact same number. With supply chain issues and the cost of everything going up, can you kind of speak on why it's the exact same price both years?

Chief White That's what we're budgeted for and that's what I would have to be prepared to spend and make adjustments along the way to deal with any inflationary or price issues that come along.

Aldersperson Vasecka Okay. So, in an ideal world, it would be increased obviously? Okay.

Chief White I would, I would hope so to deal with inflation and cost of things, but....

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. I've got a couple other hands up. Ms. Sherrill and then Ms. Jordan.

Aldersperson Sherrill Yeah thanks. Daniel, I'm glad that you retracted those first two, especially the second and I, I'm not going to be supporting these. I want a really well-trained police force. I think that we owe that to our community, and I think we owe it to our officers. I think that's just a program, I, I think

needs to be fully funded, as well as mental health care for police officers. I think we got that in the budget, so I'm not going to be supporting this, but I am happy that you retracted your first two.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Jordan.

Aldersperson Kristen Jordan Thank you. Chief, could you maybe tell us some of the things that you didn't include in your budget that you wished you could have funded?

Chief White I asked for three additional patrol cars; we only got two funded. We asked for an additional commander position to help bridge the span of control issue we have, which is having a captain in patrol. We asked for expansion of the crisis intervention team to add a, a full-time FTE that would serve as a case manager, LCSW, to assist the clients that we try to serve there. So, those are, those are some of the things that came to top of mind. There was a few others too but those are the main ones.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Ms. West.

Aldersperson West I just have a general comment. We had the Police Department to budget committees I think twice, which I think offered ample opportunity to ask these detailed questions and probably get better responses than at two in the morning on our final budget evening.

Acting Mayor Jones Great. Mr. Nugent.

Aldersperson Mike Nugent Thanks. Mr. Carlino, your comment about the changes in the police budget over time, I saw you post that on social media and I didn't want to have the conversation then because I figured it would happen now, but I think it'd be really interesting to do that for all the other departments in the City budget because I don't think that that's just a universal indicator on how things have changed over time. I think that we've added positions, if you look at inflation and population growth, those numbers have gone up. So, I think that, that's, that's kind of an easy thing to say well this has changed but I think a lot more has gone into that and I'd just be curious if you had compared that to any other department budgets or was it only the Police Department you did that for?

Aldersperson Carlino Well comparing it to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, it looks like we only have \$250,000.00 there, sidewalks we're down to \$430,000.00. I haven't looked at and compared to other department budgets over the 10-year span no, but comparing it to the other things that we weren't able to fund today that help with safety, it looks like we've drastically underfunded a lot of other safety things such as sidewalks, bike lanes, Affordable Housing Trust Fund, and Mobile Support Team, alternative response unit, and many, many other things.

Acting Mayor Jones Mr. Nugent.

Aldersperson Mike Nugent Yeah, I, I appreciate that Mr. Carlino and I don't disagree with you. There's lots of things that I think we'd like to see from the budget. The question I was getting at, and this is probably a conversation for another day is just if we're gonna use single at the police and say they've changed this much over this time, I think that a fair comparison would be to compare our other major departments and see how they've changed over that time too. So, just, just kind of food for thought and kind of bigger conversation.

Acting Mayor Jones Yeah, I would agree. I would add that it always helps to look into the history and there's a lot of history with our Police Department in terms of 10-12 years ago, it was completely underfunded, and we couldn't retain officers, which is not a good way to have a quality police force. So, there was an intentional effort made to raise those salaries so that we would retain police officers instead of us training one up for one or two years and then recruiting elsewhere and going elsewhere. We also have a numerous different FTE's that have been added over the last 10 years at the request of the community over the last 10 years at the request of the community.... oh we're getting an echo in here now.... based on grant funding that would originally fund them and thensomebody maybe turn their sound on or Marty, I don't know somebody turn their sound off.

Marty Rehbein I'm looking. Jason White, can you please mute?

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, I think we're, I think we're better now. Anyway numerous different positions that have been filled over the years at the request of the community like school resource officers, Business Improvement District, special victim unit detectives and I think that a lot....Frankly there was a fair amount of intentional staffing based on the Department of Justice settlement agreement with, regarding sexual assault and Missoula is now a leader in that and then we have positions like internet crimes against children detective for investigation. So, there are things that have been expanded over the last 10 years because we live in a more complicated world, and I wish we didn't have to have those positions filled but we do. And so, I would just say I think it's a much more complicated topic than simply trying to discuss it on social media, and it doesn't do it justice at all. All right, Mr. Hess has his hand raised and then we'll go to public comment, and then we'll wrap this up.

Aldersperson Hess Thanks, I was fumbling to lower my hand. You, you mentioned exactly what I was going to mention that ten years ago we were under a Department of Justice consent decree for sexual assault investigation and, and we have, we have emerged as a, as a leader in that area. And there are so many ways that this department has grown to serve our community. Our community has grown, and the department has consistently risen to, to meet the challenges of the day over the past decade and I think it's inappropriate just to suggest that a percentage growth is, is meaningful without the, without the background context.

Acting Mayor Jones Thanks. Ms. Vasecka, you have your hand raised.

Aldersperson Vasecka Yeah, I had a question for Chief Whit. We, one of the previous questions that Kristen Jordan asked with some of the things that you did not have funded, this is kind of a segway, but I won't go into it but between the additional car or the, the commander a full time employee, which would be your, which would you prefer of those two?

Chief White So, I'm having trouble unmuting at this hour. I would prefer to have the patrol cars because it allows us to get officers to the public to meet the calls for service and provide service to the public.

Aldersperson Vasecka Council president or interim Mayor, I will be proposing an amendment after this.

Acting Mayor Jones For right now, let's call for public comment on this.

Henry Curtis I will keep this relatively short. This is also my last comment, I promise you because I have work in 5 ½ hours. So, in short, I'm going to kind of use. First off, Henry Curtis, for the record. I'm going to use this as kind of a slight jumping off point just for the sake of bringing things together. And I think that there was an interesting comment made about the use of the police as service and how that has expanded over the past few years, and this brings sort of a philosophical question about how you want to run our City that I think parallels a lot of other things ranging from housing to the use of the MRA, to the use of the mobile support unit. It's a question of how we want to address the problem. Do we want to attempt to address things at the symptomatic level or at the origin of the issue? Do we want to create a camp and staff the camp with people and all of that or do we want to address the housing problem? Do we want to wrap all of these like emergent front line services into police or do we want to, now that we have a mobile support unit is in fact actually tackling these issues, perhaps say that that is where we should probably realign some priorities whether that is physically moving people over or just acknowledging that that is perhaps a better frontline method to deploy a social worker than in a police setting. Fundamentally, if we look at how we are attempting to look at the budget in this setting, we're seeing a pursuit of the short term and not a pursuit of root causes. Let's break it, let's build housing to address homelessness. Let's reduce how much we spend on roads similarly by increasing what we spend on transport. It's a lot cheaper to put two rails down than it is to put a highway in every, to chip seal a road every three years. Let's attempt to think in a more long-term fashion and in one that will lead us to both something that's actually more sustainable and will actually give us like something we're not just trying to slap patches on again and again. Thank you. I would like to urge you guys to support Daniel's appointment, Daniel's amendments in this case; it seems like a good start. Good night.

Acting Mayor Jones Any other public comment?

Dylan Albans Hey, Dylan Albans. I was just wondering if anyone can speak to and maybe the number is wrong but from the detailed budget I saw that there was \$900,000.00 left over from the budget. If someone could just speak to when, what happens with the leftover budget, if that can go towards any of the things that we're paying for additionally this year or if like I, I could say that later but just a lot of things in the budget is vague. I don't know where to go to get the additional things like miscellaneous operating supplies. There's no drop down menu or anything to see what it is and if an item can have several hundred thousand dollars pulled from it, it's too vague for me to understand if that's something I should support or challenge. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones All right and seeing no other public to comment on this, Mr. Carlino.

Alderperson Carlino Yeah, let me pull up the amendment. Well I just hope that we can find some funding for the Mobile Support Team from somewhere and if we didn't have enough votes to take it from the ARPA funds, I think the police budget is an appropriate place to take it because the Mobile Support Team would be responding to calls that normally the police would have to respond to, and they would essentially be doing, you know taking over some of that burden. So, if we can't fund it, the Mobile Support Team from anywhere else, I feel like it would make sense to fund it from the department that

we're helping, that the Mobile Support Team would be helping answer all their emergency calls. And to the travel for the training point, I would like to know what kind of training and who's doing the training before I would feel comfortable doing that because you know our Police Department has done trainings with the notorious killology research group and it took quite some front page of the paper to get us to change that, but I just would like to see what kind of trainings we're doing before I feel comfortable funding that rather than funding something like the Mobile Support Team.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Aderson and then Ms. West.

Alderson Anderson Thanks madam chair and I won't be supporting either one of these budget cuts to the Police Department. I think having uniforms is a pretty basic thing that we should be providing for our Police Department. Also, I think that the training you know points one of the things that Chief White has instigated since coming on as Chief in 2020 was a change in training, in terms of looking at de-escalation, non-lethal use of force, anti-bias training, yet to Ms. Jones' point about there is a history to kind of explain to where we are at right now with the police budget and you know Missoula is a town that I think deserves to have a high caliber Police Department. And one of the basic things that a municipal government is charged with providing is basic public safety and having high quality police officers and first responders is integral to that. The other thing that Missoula is, is innovative and a leader so we unlike many of our other peer cities are also doing things like Affordable Housing Trust Funds and mobile support units and crisis intervention trainings and we're being a leader in those ways as well even though the funding mechanisms for the things that basic municipalities for a many decades were charged with providing service wise has not changed, but yet we have tried to be creative. And so, it's not an either or situation, it's a both, and in Missoula and I think that you know there is every single department has critical things that they ask for that are not getting funded in this budget, as it has been with every budget that I have sat in for this is my now fifth budget and but you know cutting basic you know things like uniforms for the Police Department, I just do not think that that is the right way to go and we are funding almost a million dollars to the mobile support unit. Would I like that to be double, triple? Absolutely but I'm not going to take uniforms off the police officer's backs to do so.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. West.

Alderson West It's really early in the morning. I am also not going to support this. I think it's an unreasonable ask. I don't think that it's accurate to say that that the police is working less because we have a Mobile Support Team on the ground. I think our domestic violence rates and calls related to those cases alone have, I can't remember what the number was, but I know we saw it during our presentation and maybe it was doubled in the last two years, which is terrifying, and I think we need to recognize that, that there is a need for someone to be able to respond to calls like this dressed. I would like them to have on uniforms when they come to my house or wherever they have to go, and I also think that just pull up defunding things like paper and computers is ridiculous. I think the last detective I talked to had 13 cases he was working. I don't know how someone would do that without office supplies. So, yeah I, I wish we'd

talked about these things during our committee meeting where we discussed the details of the budget at length. So, that would have been nice.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Jordan.

Aldersperson Kristen Jordan Thank you. Heidi, I just wanted to address something you just said because the mobile crisis team is definitely diverting work from the Police Department, as can be tracked by jail diversions and they've done many of those. So, the mobile crisis team is taking work load off of the police force and the second thing is, is that we tried asking questions, we haven't gotten answers that we wanted and so we're still trying to pick apart the police budget. We've tried asking and we haven't gotten what we wanted and so that's why partly we're here really late still trying to get answers.

Acting Mayor Jones Actually, we had a lot of committee meetings and police attended those and answered all questions asked. They came back, they came back to answer more questions and we actually had a very good discussion in committee on the fact that if they are answering, if they are spending less time on calls that the mobile support unit can take then they are able to spend more time having, being able to more proactively police instead of just reactively. So, actually it helps them meet their target for having a healthier balance in the community in terms of proactive versus reactive policing. All right, do we have another? Sandra did you have something? And then we need to wrap this up and move on.

Aldersperson Vasecka Yes, I did have a couple of comments. Heidi, yeah I, I agree with you but sometimes questions pop up in the moment in the last in the final countdown and I'm really sorry about that and I'm really sorry about that Chief White as well to keeping you up so late. And Stacie and I don't agree on a lot, but I agree with exactly everything that she said. I, she said it perfectly and Daniel, I, I am, I don't really understand why we would take funding away from the police to support the thing that's going to help the police. I don't know, I just, it seems redundant to me and so I respectfully will not be in support of your motion.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, so we've taken public comment and had all Council questions and comments. Let's go to a roll call vote and Marty, we have two amendments remaining \$2,008.00 from miscellaneous professional services to go to the Mobile Support Team and \$214,000.00 for travel and training to go to the Mobile Support Team. So, I think we need to do separate votes on those please.

Marty Rehbein Okay, so I have miscellaneous operating as the category for \$208,000.00 if that's okay?

Aldersperson Mike Nugent Will you state what we're voting on?

Marty Rehbein We are voting to remove \$108,000.00 from miscellaneous operating from the police and moving that over to fight fire level support. Shall we start again?

Aldersperson Mike Nugent No, I just wanted to make sure....

Aldersperson Vasecka Point of order...

Acting Mayor Jones I think it was, Marty it was \$208,000.00

Marty Rehbein Sorry, \$208,000.00. You're correct, that's what I've written down here.

Acting Mayor Jones And then there's the second one for \$214,000.00

Marty Rehbein I should have announced the vote tally, there that means that motion failed okay. And this is, this motion is the removing the \$214,000.00 in travel and training from police and moving that money over to fire for the Mobile Support Team.

Acting Mayor Jones Thanks. All right, Chief White hang on a second. Ms. Vasecka did you want to try an amendment that will impact police because I'll keep the Chief on for a minute?

Alderson Vasecka Yes, I do, because I will regret it if I don't do that tonight because I'm just because we're tired doesn't mean that we can't help the police out a little bit. So, I would like to make an amendment to kind of hold up here.... I would like to amend to include or to add the ongoing revenue of \$27,000.00 from, from property tax dollars and \$370,000.00 of capital lease proceeds, one-time funding, towards the five patrol vehicles and one motorcycle, unless he already received some of those vehicles and we need to amend my amendment.

Acting Mayor Jones So, I think two vehicles are in the budget, so you would mean three vehicles and a motorcycle correct?

Alderson Vasecka Is that Correct Chief White? Is that what you're asking? Yes that's correct.

Acting Mayor Jones He's nodding yes. Okay any questions from Council to staff regarding this? Ms. Anderson.

Alderson Anderson So, Dale, you said the capital, the \$130,000.00 that was in the Mayor's funded budget for the two additional police cars was capital lease? Meaning that we were leasing those vehicles and deferring those. I know in other departments, especially the Fire Department, there is a kind of master replacement schedule and so I'm wondering how this amendment affects our ability to provide other vehicles that are also in that capital program or that leasing program.

Dale Bickell It wouldn't. What this does is it, it increases the fleet. It would add it would add these additional cars and motorcycle to the replacement schedule in the future. It's essentially a promise to pay. So, what happens here is these are tax supported. So, these leases are, are paid out of this lease program and from for police it would be out of the General Fund property taxes. So, this is essentially a commitment to fund these lease payments from future property tax increases essentially.

Alderson Anderson May I have a followup?

Acting Mayor Jones Go ahead.

Alderson Anderson Because then with this, we are committing tax dollars to it in the future. So, what is the taxable yeah instead of you know buying them outright for \$500,000.00, they are spread out over how many years and what's the taxable implications for it going forward?

Dale Bickell Leigh you might be able to answer the question about the useful life, you know police cars have a lot of miles on them, 300,000 miles a year or something like that. It's a crazy number like that. Chief, if you could help with that? So, we, I think we usually we try to lease, tie the underlying lease payments to the life of a vehicle. So, I mean police cars have a short life and, and so, it is something like three years but Leigh, do you know that off the top of your head?

Leigh Griffing I believe it would be three years yes.

Chief White Yes, I'll confirm that fleet has us on a three-year replacement schedule for our patrol vehicles.

Alderson Anderson So yeah, like Ms. West is asking. I'll ask [inaudible]Madam chair....So three, \$500,000.00 over three years, is 170ish thousand, doing math on the fly at 2:30 a.m., but so are we able to absorb that? I mean from a taxable given that we're less than 200 or right around \$200,000.00 from our mill cap. How does this play into that?

Dale Bickell You know, so that eats up a bunch of it and we have all of the other inflationary pressure. So, it is a, I mean so this is essentially a promise to increase General Fund property taxes in the future. It's going to, I mean, but it, but we have you know other things in there as well such as you know cola increases and everything else. So, it is, I mean that's just that's part of it, that's one of the reasons the Mayor didn't fund it all the way is because we're trying to balance what we know what's going to happen in the future versus but also trying to get, replace some of the vehicles they need.

Alderson Anderson Thank you for the explanation, apologies for my clunky questioning.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, any other questions from Council? Ms. West.

Alderson West I'm not finding the exact thing you're looking at. What's the cost of just the motorcycle? Do you have that sitting in front of you?

Alderson Vasecka I have it in front of me. It's one motorcycle at \$45,000.00 American dollars.

Acting Mayor Jones Any other questions from Council?

[unknown Alderson] Okay, shoot me now if you want to.....

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Anderson.

Alderson West Thank you. Chief White, I, if I remember correctly in the 2020 budget, yes okay thank you... there was a request for a motorcycle. Ms. West admits that she took it out, is this, is this basically the same motorcycle that you're now asking for this year?

Chief White Yes, I've asked for this motorcycle every year. It was inadvertently removed from the fleet schedule back in 2019 and in 2020. We had to ask and because it had been inadvertently removed and not replaced, we had to bring it as a new item back in 2020 and it I've been asking for it ever since. We have four officers and a sergeant assigned to our traffic unit and we only have four motorcycles. So, the sergeant drives a patrol car, which takes from the other fleet.

Alderson West Ms. Vasecka would you possibly entertain a motion, a friendly, or an amendment to your amendment to keep, just to do the two, the two vehicles that are funded in the Mayor's budget given that there's long-term taxable income implications by expanding more, that put us too close to the middle cap and then adding in the motorcycle and not doing all of them this year?

Alderson Vasecka Yes.

Alderson West Okay. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, any other questions from Council on this matter? Seeing none, any public comment on this motion to amend?

Dylan Albans Dylan Albans. Was that just amended, so it's just the motorcycle?

Acting Mayor Jones Correct.

Dylan Albans I, just, okay. I, I understand the need for good equipment for the staff but I'm just wondering, and these are rhetorical I know, if the Police Department can buy used ones from other departments? Is this amendment for new vehicles? Does the department make any money back from selling used vehicles or are they junkers? I'm just thinking if we're just buying just new, just some ways to save some money, but anyways thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Alrighty. Any other questions from Council or comments? Ms. Vasecka and then Ms. West.

Alderperson Vasecka May I pass along the public comment question to staff for an answer?

Acting Mayor Jones You know, I can answer it, frankly, just to move it along, if that's all right? So, there's a lot to the fleet for the entire City and we always move cars down the chain, so that we use them until we cannot use them anymore. All right? And as for motorcycles, I'm not quite sure how it works but trust me it's, we ring every dollar out of them. All right? So, moving on, we had Ms. West next.

Alderperson West Yes, I took the motorcycle out of the 2020 budget. I think we, at the time were hearing very loudly especially from folks in my part of town and I responded, and then shortly after we passed the budget there was a kid that got hit on in a cross walk across from Lowell and then I heard a lot about why we didn't you know why didn't we, have, you know more traffic enforcement, and well it turns out we didn't have enough motorcycles. So, there are consequences to taking things out of budgets that maybe are the opposite of what you were hoping to do. So, I am, I would be glad for this motorcycle to go back and hopefully we'll have some more traffic enforcement on Phillips Street because it needs it.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay. Mr. Carlino. I won't be supporting this amendment. I would support the Police Department looking within their budget and buying a motorcycle, but I can't support extra funding to the department that already has the most funding. And we had a whole bunch of public commenters today that were asking us to please fund affordable housing and we didn't. They asked us please fund the Mobile Support Team and we didn't, and we hope, I was hoping to fund some climate things and I'm glad that we got the new AmeriCorps member, but we didn't fund that whole new climate program that our staff spent a lot of time making. So, to think that this is our biggest priority right now is a little bit shocking to me. I'll stop there.

Acting Mayor Jones Any other comments from Council? Ms. Jordan.

Alderperson Kristen Jordan Yeah, I'll echo that sentiment as well, that, that we've just found money for a brand new motorcycle, but we couldn't fund some of these other things that, I, I'm a little gob smacked at the moment to be honest.

Acting Mayor Jones Any other comments from Council? Mr. Nugent.

Alderperson Mike Nugent I actually tend to agree. I'm very supportive of, of the Missoula police but we did get two police cruisers back into the budget from the original one and a lot of our decisions tonight have been every department got some, nobody got everything, and it just seems to me that late at night we're changing course a little bit. That's, that's all.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Sherrill.

Aldersperson Sherrill Yeah, I was going to say very similar to what Mike just said. I'm, we've already, we've already put some back in the budget I would love to be able to get this motorcycle, but I'm also worried about bumping up against the cap, and we've already got a really large tax increase this year. I, I know that police work hard and I'd like to get that back in but I, I don't feel like it's the right time so I'm not going to be supporting it for that reason. I understand the need for it though and I really hope that we can do it in the future. I just, it's too big of a tax increase, I, I can't, I can't add any more.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Vasecka.

Aldersperson Vasecka Thanks and I, I apologize for bringing this out, out of the woodwork, but I didn't realize that he's been asking for this motorcycle for two years now, the sacrificial motorcycle as I call it. There has been a lot of increased crime lately. There are two kid, kidnap or attempted kidnappings in the past month, and it's terrifying. There's been property crimes. There has been violent crimes and we, we need to have the ability to go from place to place and have vehicles for the officers to go from place to place, and since they've been asking for this for such a long time and I did entertain a friendly amendment from my colleague Ms. Anderson, so I compromise with that. I would love to just fund this motorcycle, so I am in support of my own amendment, once again.

Acting Mayor Jones You guys okay over there? All right, any more comments?

Aldersperson West Thank you. I was just clarifying with Mr. Bickell, something. So, this basically the budget that we are looking at has two vehicles in it and we with them are adding a motorcycle, which because of the way we lease program or release things, it's \$47,000.00 divvied out over three years. So, it's about fifteen thousand dollars and change a year and yes there are good programs in every single department that we did not fund, but this was an error in 2019 and for the reasons that Ms. West stated, this will not increase taxes when you think one percent is about \$470,000.00. So, \$17,000.00 or \$15,000.00 and change is minimal at best.

Acting Mayor Jones Any other comments? All right, I'm just gonna add my two cents. I'm going to put this at the top of my list for next summer's budget. All right let's have a roll call vote on this item Marty.

Marty Rehbein There are 6 yeses and 6 nos, and I have, which modifies are you about how we proceed?

Acting Mayor Jones which means it fails....

Marty Rehbein It does fail? It fails on a tie vote, and we don't have a Mayor to cast.....

Acting Mayor Jones All right. Okay, we need to move forward with our last amendments. You had fire, so I would recommend you just put all of them on the floor and we'll discuss. All right? I'm sorry. Yes, Chief White, thank you. Thank you for your service tonight; we appreciate you being here so late. We'll get you a motorcycle next year, all right? We'll work on it. Alrighty.

Aldersperson Carlino Yeah, I guess my last amendment is, where did that go? Oh, I move to amend adding \$100,000.00 to fund the Mobile Support Team from our surplus ARPA funds.

Acting Mayor Jones Did we not already have this conversation at the beginning?

Alderson Carlino Earlier, I, we moved to amend the staff requested \$261,573.00 to the Mobile Support Team and I'm trying to compromise with \$100,000.00, so they could still fund at least one of those full-time employees or get a space to work out of.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, do you have any other amendments or is this the last one then?

Alderson Carlino I just one more after this and I'm all done.

Acting Mayor Jones For fire?

Alderson Carlino This is my last one for fire. This is my only one for fire.

Acting Mayor Jones What is the other one then? What department head? So, we know who to keep.

Alderson Carlino I was going to take one more shot at the affordable housing and climate action incentive program but for a compromise amount rather than the staff requested amount.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, that is your prerogative as a legislator. I have to tell you we've spent a lot of time on these issues and already discussed them thoroughly and this is a lot of people's time that we are all spending in the middle of the night here Daniel. So, are you really sure that you want to have these conversations because we still have another motion to get through before we can even conclude this meeting?

Alderson Carlino If we could get these two motions passed it would definitely save lives in Missoula and would lower our emissions and help the housing crisis. So, I think it's worth trying for a smaller amount compromising compared to what the staff asked for and let's just do these last two amendments and call it a day.

Acting Mayor Jones All right, \$100,000.00 for mobile support. Any questions from Council? Seeing none, any comments from the public.

Dylan Albans Dylan Albans again. Just, I'm unfamiliar with the, the other funds that the, the motorcycle was going to be coming from. So, if not this amount, is there any amount of even small, under \$50,000.00 that could go towards this? I would support. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Jones Okay, any other comments from Council? Seeing none, we'll have a roll call vote. Oh Ms. West.

Alderson West So that little, small, tiny amount that we're putting towards this is \$900,000.00, just for the record.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. We'll have a roll call vote please.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Put your second amendment on the floor please Mr. Carlino.

Alderson Carlino I moved to amend adding \$100,000.00 to the affordable housing and climate action incentive program from our surplus ARPA funds.

Acting Mayor Jones Any questions from Council. Ms. Anderson.

Alderson Anderson Do we know what the current balance of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund is at the moment? I know it's a fluctuating in and out.

Alderson Carlino This is for the affordable housing and climate action incentives program. I might have misspoke though, sorry.

Alderson Anderson As Ms. Pehan said, it is, it's money going into the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

Acting Mayor Jones Right. I'm not sure that we have Eran Pehan still on the....

Alderson Anderson Yes, we did unfortunately let her go....so

Acting Mayor Jones I think that's an email, that you can find that out, and I don't really want to have staff calculate that right now so.

Alderson Anderson No, if it was easy at someone's fingertips, if not totally understand and excited for the incoming income into the Affordable Housing Trust Fund that is yet that's on its way, just not there yet.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Mr. Carlino.

Alderson Carlino Yeah staff already spent time to create the affordable housing and climate action incentive program and staff time is taxpayer money spent and it would be a real shame to not start this program this year. The longer we wait to start this climate program/housing program, the worse our housing crisis and climate crisis will get and you know with having the surplus of ARPA funds, I think it would be a good time to launch the pilot program because fixing our housing crisis and fixing the climate crisis are two very important things to our community and it's important that we work to fund to try and alleviate those crises.

Acting Mayor Jones Mr. Hess.

Alderson Hess Thanks. I voted for the original amendment for \$300,000.00. I'm not going to support this one; the first one failed nine to three and I, I no longer have appetite to pursue this tonight.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Any other comments from Council or questions? Seeing none, any public comment? Seeing none, we'll take a roll call vote.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. So, we are back to the main motion, which we already took public comment on, and we've had all amendments on it. And any other comments from Council on the main motion? Mr. Carlino.

Alderson Carlino Yeah, I won't be supporting this tonight, mostly just because of you know I think our priorities could be a lot better in funding housing and climate and transportation and not funding private security forces and so on and so forth, but overall, I think there's a, the budget needs to be written to be much more transparent. When you read the budget, the 95 page budget online, there's hundreds of thousands of dollars going towards operating supplies or professional services for each different department and nobody in the public knows what that is. It would be great if the public could somehow read what was in the budget before we voted on the budget in the future.

Acting Mayor Jones Ms. Vasecka.

Alderson Vasecka I have a procedural question. What happens if the budget does not pass tonight?

Acting Mayor Jones, I don't know the answer to that, but it probably wouldn't be good since we have a statutory deadline that we have to meet, and we also have to calculate mills per the state regulations. So, I don't know, Leigh or Dale can you guys answer that question?

Dale Bickell Yeah, we would be in violation of, of, of our, our statutory deadlines to meet the budget and at risk of [inaudible] bills on the tax bills or delaying tax bills, affecting all the jurisdictions.

Aldersperson Vasecka May I have a followup?

Acting Mayor Jones Go ahead.

Aldersperson Vasecka With, I'm very conflicted, but I do not want to be in violation of any laws or any deadlines, so I will be in support of the budget tonight. I do wish that we that, even though it is 2:30 in the morning almost three o'clock in the morning, this only happens once a year. Everyone's prepared for it. Everyone knew it was going to happen and I, I bel, even though I was not in support of the rule four decorum of meetings back in February or January, I've seen a few things tonight that have been borderline bullying people not to pursue with, with amendments because this budget really affects everyone for the entire year. It is a very important document, and we need to discuss it. We need to make sure that we can actually come to an agreement or a compromise or at least make sure that everybody has been heard, and I I'm happy that I, I hope that everyone was able to provide all the amendments that they wanted to. I hope everybody was able to say what they wanted to and I, I'm sorry that we had to keep staff up so late. We had to keep everybody up so late I'm sorry I had to keep my mother up so late because she's watching my child right now, but I this happens once a year. This is our job as elected officials and well I don't, while I'm unhappy about some of the things that happened tonight, I, I'm very happy with the compromise that we did. I'm really happy with the discussions and so I will be in support.

Acting Mayor Jones Any other comments from Council? Ms. Anderson.

Aldersperson Anderson Thanks so much madam chair. I realized I've spoken quite a bit tonight and I apologize for my yammering, but I can't help but think of the fact that this is Mayor Engen's last proposed budget and we have been thinking a lot about him over the last week and he had a saying that I think is applicable here. Don't let perfect be the enemy of the good and there are some really good things funded in this budget. Is it perfect? No. Will it ever be? No, but I think that we do the best we can with what we have, and we can always strive to do better but some good important things like the mobile support unit is funded in this. The Affordable Housing Trust Fund is funded in this. Increase to staff to retain high quality people to serve the community is funded in this. Infrastructure and Public Works, could there always be more funding? Would every single department like every single request funded? Absolutely. Would we love to be able to do that without causing you know a tax increase that would be you know astronomically high? Absolutely. Do we need fundamental tax reform? Absolutely. It would make these conversations and our budgets a heck of a lot easier going forward, but you know I think that we have a basic charge in our community to provide public service and parks and snowplow and then we do a lot more. So, it's not an either or budget, it's a both and, and I think that we did not raise taxes for the last two years during the pandemic and I know that this tax increase will have a significant impact on everybody who lives in Missoula. I am not immune to that. I am not blind to that, but we had to, and we had to make tough cuts and we didn't get to fund everything we wanted and I recognize there are people in this community that this is hard to swallow, but it is a balancing act and until we get fundamental tax reform, we are going to continue to have really tough conversations but I appreciate everything that the

staff did to put into this budget, the discussions that we've had tonight, and you know we will continue to move forward and provide high quality services to the citizens of Missoula and do innovative things that we can be a leader for our peer cities and the rest of the state. So, I'll be supporting this budget tonight.

Acting Mayor Jones Any other comments from Council? I'll just say that I think staff and the administration work on this budget for months and it's based on our Strategic Plan, which is a reflection of our values in this community. If we had more resources, we would be doing a lot more in a lot more areas, but we have limited resources, so we have to prioritize and this year it is maintaining service levels and making sure our employees are paid enough so that we can retain them and honoring our collective bargaining agreements and other than that there's not a lot, not, not a lot of new things funded in this budget. So, we've had a nine hour meeting and I think people have had plenty of time to talk. We also have had many, many budget hearings. Next year will be in person. I think that really facilitates a more robust discussion during committee meetings instead of being virtual and I think people, I'm hoping there's lots of questions during the committee meetings because it really helps flush out those details. We've talked extensively about to what level we what level of detail we provide in our budget and if there are ever questions, staff always answer those. So, I see no other hands raised so we will have a roll call vote on the recommended motion with the amendments that were voted on. Marty.

Marty Rehbein Okay, so just so everybody's clear, this is on the City's FY23 budget, as amended.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. And Mr. Hess, I'll go to you for the last motion please.

Aldersperson Hess Thank you madam president. I move we adopt a resolution levying taxes for municipal and administrative purposes for the Fiscal Year 2023.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Any questions from Council regarding this? Ms. Vasecka.

Aldersperson Vasecka For the, our constituent's clarification, this is basically we, we just passed the budget, so this is agreeing to levy the taxes that of the budget that we just passed?

Acting Mayor Jones Correct.

Aldersperson Vasecka Okay. May I followup?

Acting Mayor Jones Go ahead.

Aldersperson Vasecka Yeah, I am upset with the, the tax increase, but we did, like I mentioned before, we had a very thorough discussion about it. When I ran for Council, I ran on public safety first, sidewalks, roads. I, we tried, I tried to do a lot of that. Daniel tried to do a lot of that but there's no sense beating a dead horse. So, I think that we had a really good discussion and anything after this if we vote no on this then it just made everything that we just did for the past 6, 7 hours, 9 hours a moot point, so I will be in support.

Acting Mayor Jones Thank you. Any public comment on this item? Seeing none, any other comments from Council or questions? Seeing none, we'll have a roll call vote.

Marty Rehbein Okay on resolution that fixes the tax levies.

9.1 Fiscal Year 2023 Executive Budget

Moved by: Alderperson Hess

Adopt a resolution of the Missoula City Council increasing the wastewater industrial interceptor variance permit fee set forth in 13.07.410 Missoula Municipal Code (MMC) and the waste hauler permit fee set forth in 13.17.210 MMC by 7% beginning on January 1, 2023.

AYES: (9): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, and Alderperson West

NAYS: (3): Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Jordan, and Alderperson Vasecka

Vote result: Approved (9 to 3)

Moved by: Alderperson Hess

Adopt a resolution of the Missoula City Council increasing fire inspection, plan checking, pyrotechnic display and police and special event fees increasing fees by 7% effective January 1, 2023 as shown in Exhibits E & F.

AYES: (9): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, and Alderperson West

NAYS: (3): Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Jordan, and Alderperson Vasecka

Vote result: Approved (9 to 3)

Moved by: Alderperson Hess

Adopt a resolution of the Missoula City Council increasing fees by 7% for Business Licensing and Land Use and Planning and Engineering services performed by Community Planning, Development and Innovation effective January 1, 2023.

AYES: (9): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, and Alderperson West

NAYS: (3): Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Jordan, and Alderperson Vasecka

Vote result: Approved (9 to 3)

Moved by: Alderperson Hess

Adopt a resolution of the Missoula City Council generally amending current Missoula City Cemetery fees as proposed by Missoula City Cemetery and Missoula City Cemetery Board of Trustees effective January 1, 2023.

AYES: (9): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, and Alderperson West

NAYS: (3): Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Jordan, and Alderperson Vasecka

Vote result: Approved (9 to 3)

Adopt a resolution fixing the annual appropriations and the Capital Improvement Program for the City of Missoula as set forth in the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget and Capital Improvement Program including: The Tourism Business Improvement District work plan and budget for Fiscal Year 2023. The Business Improvement District work plan and budget for Fiscal Year 2023. The Park District Number 1 work plan and budget for Fiscal Year 2023. The Road District Number 1 work plan and budget for Fiscal Year 2023.

AYES: (10): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, Alderperson Vasecka, and Alderperson West

NAYS: (2): Alderperson Carlino, and Alderperson Jordan

Vote result: Approved (10 to 2)

Amendment:

Moved by: Alderperson Carlino

Amend the budget to appropriate \$600,000.00 from surplus ARPA funds for the Affordable Housing Trust fund.

AYES: (2): Alderperson Carlino, and Alderperson Jordan

NAYS: (10): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, Alderperson Vasecka, and Alderperson West

Vote result: Failed (2 to 10)

Amendment:

Moved by: Alderperson Jordan

Appropriate \$261,573.00 to Fire Department for Mobile Support Team from surplus ARPA funds.

AYES: (4): Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Jordan, Alderperson Nugent, and Alderperson Savage

NAYS: (8): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Sherrill, Alderperson Vasecka, and Alderperson West

Vote result: Failed (4 to 8)

Amendment:

Moved by: Alderperson Carlino

Cut \$100,000.00 in funding for the parking commission jurisdiction expansion study.

AYES: (4): Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Jordan, and Alderperson Vasecka

NAYS: (8): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, and Alderperson West

Vote result: Failed (4 to 8)

Amendment:

Moved by: Alderperson Carlino

Cut \$630,318.00 for security services for shelters and the authorized camp site.

AYES: (3): Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Jordan, and Alderperson Vasecka

NAYS: (9): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, and Alderperson West

Vote result: Failed (3 to 9)

Amendment:

Add \$300,000.00 to fund the affordable housing and climate action incentives program from surplus ARPA funds.

AYES: (3): Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Hess, and Alderperson Jordan

NAYS: (9): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, Alderperson Vasecka, and Alderperson West

Vote result: Failed (3 to 9)

Amendment:

Cut the \$94,069.00 for justice, equity, diversity and inclusion specialist and \$100,000.00 for JEDI supplies and purchased services from the parks and recreation budget and return savings to ARPA surplus.

AYES: (2): Alderperson Contos, and Alderperson Vasecka

NAYS: (10): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Jordan, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, and Alderperson West

Vote result: Failed (2 to 10)

Amendment:

Moved by: Alderperson Carlino

Add \$25,000.00 for quick build neighborhood traffic management in Public Works Mobility from Road District 1.

AYES: (11): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Jordan, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, Alderperson Vasecka, and Alderperson West

NAYS: (1): Alderperson Contos

Vote result: Approved (11 to 1)

Amendment:

Moved by: Alderperson Vasecka

Remove Operation Shelter Projects in Housing for \$964,504.00 and move it to the ARPA surplus

AYES: (2): Alderperson Contos, and Alderperson Vasecka

NAYS: (10): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Jordan, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, and Alderperson West

Vote result: Failed (2 to 10)

Amendment:

Moved by: Alderperson Carlino

Add \$100,000.00 in ongoing funding for sidewalks funded from Road District 1.

AYES: (4): Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jordan, and Alderperson Vasecka

NAYS: (8): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, and Alderperson West

Vote result: Failed (4 to 8)

Amendment:

Moved by: Alderperson Vasecka

Remove non-department ARPA funding totaling \$37,500.00 for UM Women's Business Center contribution and return savings to ARPA surplus.

AYES: (2): Alderperson Contos, and Alderperson Vasecka

NAYS: (10): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Jordan, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, and Alderperson West

Vote result: Failed (2 to 10)

Amendment:

Moved by: Alderperson Vasecka

Fund \$20,000.00 from ARPA funds for disaster preparedness/continuity of business for Information Technology in Central Services

AYES: (10): Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Jordan, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, Alderperson Vasecka, and Alderperson West

NAYS: (1): Alderperson Anderson

ABSTAIN: (1): Alderperson Becerra

Vote result: Approved (10 to 1)

Amendment:

Moved by: Alderperson Vasecka

Remove \$12,000.00 for data gathering host compliance software for short term rentals

AYES: (2): Alderperson Contos, and Alderperson Vasecka

NAYS: (9): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Jordan, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, and Alderperson West

ABSTAIN: (1): Alderperson Becerra

Vote result: Failed (2 to 9)

Amendment:

Moved by: Alderperson Carlino

Add \$15,000.00 in one time funding from ARPA for Community Zero Waste Infrastructure, Incentives, and Capacity

AYES: (8): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Jordan, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, and Alderperson West

NAYS: (4): Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, and Alderperson Vasecka

Vote result: Approved (8 to 4)

Amendment:

Moved by: Alderperson Carlino

Add \$25,000.00 for Clean Energy state-wide advocacy from ARPA

AYES: (3): Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Hess, and Alderperson Jordan

NAYS: (9): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, Alderperson Vasecka, and Alderperson West

Vote result: Failed (3 to 9)

Amendment:

Moved by: Alderperson Carlino

Add \$30,000.00 to help subsidize bear resistant trash bins from ARPA funds.

AYES: (2): Alderperson Carlino, and Alderperson Jordan

NAYS: (10): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, Alderperson Vasecka, and Alderperson West

Vote result: Failed (2 to 10)

Amendment:

Moved by: Alderperson Carlino

Add \$25,938.00 for the maintenance and repairs for Red Fern park which was annexed a few years ago from ARPA funds

AYES: (2): Alderperson Carlino, and Alderperson Jordan

NAYS: (10): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, Alderperson Vasecka, and Alderperson West

Vote result: Failed (2 to 10)

Amendment:

Moved by: Alderperson Carlino

Add \$13,049.00 for developed parks MRL and Jeffrey Park maintenance and \$29,118.00 for Commuter trail expansions from ARPA surplus funds.

AYES: (2): Alderperson Carlino, and Alderperson Jordan

NAYS: (10): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, Alderperson Vasecka, and Alderperson West

Vote result: Failed (2 to 10)

Amendment:

Remove \$208,000.00 for Misc. operating from Police to Fire for Mobile Support Team.

AYES: (1): Alderperson Carlino

NAYS: (11): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Jordan, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, Alderperson Vasecka, and Alderperson West

Vote result: Failed (1 to 11)

Amendment:

Moved by: Alderperson Carlino

Remove \$214,000.00 in travel and training from Police to Fire for the Mobile Support Team..

AYES: (1): Alderperson Carlino

NAYS: (11): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Jordan, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, Alderperson Vasecka, and Alderperson West

Vote result: Failed (1 to 11)

Amendment:

Moved by: Alderperson Vasecka

Add funding for 1 motorcycle for the police fleet totaling \$45,000.00 to be funded by capital leases.

AYES: (6): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Vasecka, and Alderperson West

NAYS: (6): Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Carlino, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Jordan, Alderperson Nugent, and Alderperson Sherrill

Vote result: Tie vote failed (6 to 6)

Amendment:

Moved by: Alderperson Carlino

Add \$100,000.00 to fund the Mobile Support Team from surplus ARPA funds.

AYES: (2): Alderperson Carlino, and Alderperson Jordan

NAYS: (10): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, Alderperson Vasecka, and Alderperson West

Vote result: Failed (2 to 10)

Amendment:

Moved by: Alderperson Carlino

Add \$100,000.00 to affordable housing and climate action incentives program from ARPA funds.

AYES: (2): Alderperson Carlino, and Alderperson Jordan

NAYS: (10): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, Alderperson Vasecka, and Alderperson West

Vote result: Failed (2 to 10)

Adopt a resolution levying taxes for municipal and administrative purposes for the Fiscal Year 2023.

AYES: (10): Alderperson Anderson, Alderperson Becerra, Alderperson Contos, Alderperson Hess, Alderperson Jones, Alderperson Nugent, Alderperson Savage, Alderperson Sherrill, Alderperson Vasecka, and Alderperson West

NAYS: (2): Alderperson Carlino, and Alderperson Jordan

Vote result: Approved (10 to 2)

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS – None.

10.1 Budget and Finance (BF) committee report

10.1.1 Minutes from the August 10, 2022 Meeting

10.2 Climate, Conservation and Parks (CCP) committee report

10.3 Committee of the Whole (COW) committee report

10.3.1 Minutes from the August 17, 2022 Meeting

10.4 Housing, Redevelopment, and Community Programs (HRCP) committee report

10.4.1 Minutes from the August 10, 2022 Meeting

10.5 Land Use and Planning (LUP) committee report

10.6 Public Safety, Health and Operations (PSHO) committee report

10.7 Public Works and Mobility (PWM) committee report

10.7.1 Minutes from the August 10, 2022 Meeting

11. NEW BUSINESS – None.

12. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Acting Mayor Jones I will pass on communications from the Mayor.

13. GENERAL COMMENTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Acting Mayor Jones If anyone wants to give general comments of City Council, please raise your hand.

I'm going to do it a little bit differently tonight. Okay, I'm not seeing any hands raised, so I think there's no general comments from Council members.

14. MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS, REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – None.

14.1 Administratively approved agreement report

14.1.1 20220815 Administrative Approved Agreement Report

14.1.2 20220822 Administrative Approved Agreement Report

15. ADJOURNMENT

Acting Mayor Jones So, we will stand adjourned. Thank you for your service.

The meeting adjourned at 2:51 a.m. on August 23, 2022.

Martha L. Rehbein, CMC, Legislative
Service Director/City Clerk

Jordan Hess, Mayor

RESOLUTION 8612

A resolution fixing the annual appropriations and the Capital Improvement Program for the City of Missoula as set forth in the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget and Capital Improvement Program including: • The Tourism Business Improvement District work plan and budget for Fiscal Year 2023 • The Business Improvement District work plan and budget for Fiscal Year 2023. • The Park District Number 1 work plan and budget for Fiscal Year 2023. • The Road District Number 1 work plan and budget for Fiscal Year 2023

WHEREAS, the City Council of Missoula has deliberated on the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget and held public hearings for public comment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MISSOULA CITY COUNCIL:

SECTION I

That the total budgeted expenditures, transfers-out and year-end fund balance for the City of Missoula, Montana for Fiscal Year 2023 is hereby estimated at \$268,159,983

The breakdown of the funds and estimated local property taxes required are as follows:

Budgeted Expenditures \$187,674,211
Inter-fund Transfers Out \$28,894,322
Projected End-of-year Fund Balance \$51,591,449
Total Funds Required 268,159,983

Beginning-of-year Fund Balance \$46,527,178
Non-tax Revenues \$138,371,904
Inter-fund Transfers In \$28,894,322
Committed Expenditure Savings \$1,331,906
Sub-total Non-Tax Funds Available \$215,125,310
Estimated Property Tax Requirements \$53,034,673
Total Sources of Funds \$268,159,983

SECTION II

That annual appropriations and transfers out for various departments of the City of Missoula, Montana for the Fiscal Year 2023 will be controlled and monitored for budgetary compliance at the fund level.

SECTION III

Generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) require expenditures to be recognized in the fiscal year in which the goods or services are received. Previous fiscal year appropriations for incomplete improvements in progress of construction, or segments thereof entered into under contract or purchase order by the City, are hereby declared authorized appropriations provided they meet the following criteria:

- a. related financing was provided in the prior fiscal year;
- b. the appropriations were not obligated by year end;
- c. the purpose was not included, or rejected, in current budget financing or appropriations; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Missoula, Montana shall adopt the Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Years 2023-2027. For Fiscal Year 2023, the Capital budget shall be estimated at \$71,116,864 with funding sources as follows: \$1,119,712 in Tax and Assessments, \$67,436,208 in non-tax sources, and \$2,560,944 in Transfers.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Missoula City Clerk is directed to enter this resolution into the minutes of the meeting at which this resolution was adopted.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 22nd day of August, 2022.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:


[Martha L. Rehbein \(Sep 21, 2022 10:04 MDT\)](#)

Martha L. Rehbein
City Clerk


[Jordan Hess \(Sep 20, 2022 11:04 MDT\)](#)

Jordan Hess
Mayor



Resolution Number 8617

A resolution levying taxes for municipal and administrative purposes for the Fiscal Year 2023.

WHEREAS, The City Council of Missoula has deliberated on the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget and necessary mill levy of property taxes; and,

WHEAREAS, pursuant to House Bill 124 and Senate Bill 265 enacted by the 2001 Montana State Legislature, the City has carry-forward of unlevied tax millage equal to \$275,462 (1.70 mills); and,

WHEAREAS, the value of a city mill is \$162,036.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MISSOULA, MONTANA:

THAT there is hereby levied upon all taxable property in the City of Missoula, Montana, the following General and Special taxes for municipal and administrative purposes for the Fiscal Year 2023, to-wit:

All Purpose General Fund Levy be established at 183.39 mills;

Employee Health Insurance Levy (outside levy cap) be established at 46.86 mills;

2012 Aquatics Refunding G.O. Bond Levy at 3.52 mills;

2013 G.O. Refunding Bond Levy be established at 2.61 mills;

Conservation Lands Maintenance Levy be established at 4.00 mills;

Total Levy for the City of Missoula, Montana: 240.38 mills.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City Clerk is directed to enter this resolution into the minutes of the meeting at which this resolution was adopted.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 22nd day of August, 2022

ATTEST:



Martha L. Rehbein
City Clerk

APPROVED:



Jordan Hess
Mayor

(SEAL)

