

## **Missoula City Council Budget Committee of the Whole Minutes**

**July 24, 2019**

**1:45 PM**

**City Council Chambers**

**140 W. Pine Street, Missoula , MT**

**Members present:** Stacie Anderson, Michelle Cares, John DiBari, Heather Harp, Jordan Hess, Gwen Jones, Julie Merritt, Bryan von Lossberg, Heidi West  
**Members absent:** Julie Armstrong, Mirtha Becerra, Jesse Ramos

### **1. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**

#### **1.1 Roll Call**

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

##### **1.2.1 Minutes from the July 17, 2019 meeting**

Approved with no objections.

### **2. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

### **3. COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

#### **3.1 Fiscal Year 2020 Executive Budget**

##### Housing and Community Development

Eran Pehan, director of Housing and Community Development (HCD), presented the proposed Fiscal Year 2020 budget, including a PowerPoint presentation.

Chase Jones, also with HCD, reviewed the energy conservation and climate action accomplishments from Fiscal Year 2019.

Mrs. Pehan reviewed additional requests not in the proposed budget.

Mr. von Lossberg stated the administration recognizes there is a need, but much is yet to be done with the request related to partner organizations. He wants to make sure the city is in a position to support its partner organizations when possible.

Mayor John Engen stated the sustainability office has had lack of staff to support the additional initiatives approved, but would like to be strategic related to how things proceed. The Mayor stated he is happy to fund aging services and asks that the City meet with Aging Services' Susan Kohler with a plan that works for this year and coming years.

Stacie Anderson asked Mrs. Pehan to explain the housing grant and its "special revenue," to which Mrs. Pehan explained it is either federal or private funds to reimburse staff or move through HCD as pass-through funds - they are not general funds. Mrs. Anderson asked why is pass-through funding seen in the budget if it's passed through. Mr. von Lossberg explained that it is normal to see this type of funding even if it is not in

the General Fund. Often the City Council must provide its approval to authorize use of those funds.

Heather Harp asked Mayor Engen how requests are prioritized and put in budgets. Mayor Engen explained.

John DiBari thanked the public for their contributions.

Amy Cilimburg with Climate Smart Missoula provided comments toward the additional request for funding.

Katie Deuel with Home Resource provided comments toward the additional funding requests.

Council asked to flag Zero Waste CBO Request, Missoula Aging Services Increase, and ClimateSmart CBO Request as future discussion items in the budget process.

#### Parks & Recreation

Donna Gaukler and Ryan Applegate with the Parks and Recreation Department presented the proposed Fiscal Year 2020 budget and capital improvement projects.

Mrs. Anderson asked what Parks & Recreation would have been able to do with the \$51,000 allocated for the annexation area and Mrs. Gaukler explained how projects are prioritized.

Ms. West asked if the Loose Parts Playground is planned for replacement. Mrs. Gaukler explained it is a portable play feature and the Parks Department is looking for special funds to see if it can get those parts replaced.

Mr. DiBari questioned how the conservation land stewardship mill levy monies are used and stated he doesn't want the money co-opted for alternative things listed. This is money for stewardship and maintenance for public land and dog Parks and bike park are not conservation stewardship, those are developed parks, and he would push back using those funds for those uses. Mrs. Gaukler commented that the conservation stewardship mill levy was presented earlier this spring and she is happy to use park district funds for the expenses, but in the end there is still a whole of a system to maintain. He appreciates the distinction and he agrees there is only so much money, but lets make the commitment to use the money for what it was said it would be spent on.

Mrs. Gaukler presented the proposed CIP budget.

Mr. von Lossberg asked to flag the North Side Pedestrian Bridge as a future discussion item in the budget process.

A citizen had questions about the North Side Bridge and Mr. von Lossberg said he would discuss the questions with the citizen in detail after the meeting.

Mr. DiBari moved to make the recommended motion to set a date for a public hearing on Monday, August 19, 2019; there were no objections. The item will go on the City Council consent agenda for Monday, July 29, 2019.

**Moved by:** John DiBari

Set a public hearing for August 19 on:

- Preliminary fiscal year 2020 budget and capital improvement program
- Work plans and budgets for Road District #1, Park District #1, the Downtown Business Improvement District, and the Tourism Business Improvement District
- Permissive medical tax levy
- Increases to the following fee schedules:
  - Fire fees relating to fire inspection, plan checking, pyrotechnic display and special events
  - Development Services fees relating to the review and processing of land use applications pursuant to city adopted regulations pertaining to zoning, subdivision and floodplain services; business licensing; hazardous vegetation removal; and engineering fees and permits related to work and use of City public right-of-way
  - Public Works fees relating to waste hauler permits, wastewater industrial interceptor variance permits, and cemetery fees
  - Police fees relating to special events

**Vote results: Approved**

#### **4. ADJOURNMENT**