

City Council Work Session

5:30 PM
Council Chambers
May 15, 2017

ATTENDANCE:

Mayor/Council (please check) x Hanel, x Cromley, x Yakawich, Cimmino, x Brewster, x McFadden, x Friedel, x Swanson, x Sullivan, Clark, x Brown.

CM excused: Cimmino and Clark

ADJOURN TIME: 8:26 pm

Agenda

TOPIC #1	Planning and Community Service
PRESENTER	
NOTES/OUTCOME	

- Wyeth Friday, Planning Director: Planning and Community Services (PCS) – lots of public interactions. Describes what each division does. Impacts on City Council goals. PCS by the numbers. Revenues and expenses.
- Brewster: enough permitting to keep everyone working? Yes, but holding off hiring one bldg. inspector.
- Friday: PCS overall revenues and expenses. Supplemental budget requests; imaging, 1 dept. Facebook page, etc.
- Sullivan: Facebook page – how well used, etc.? Picking up.
- Friday: Abatement budget increase is important. Move code enforcement onto building eye. Asking for additional GF contribution to updating the unified zoning code. Division focus areas for FY 18; access, coordination,
- Cromley: building activity slowing. Worried? Not yet. Higher interest rates and material costs may be slowing things.
- Brown: O&M nearly half – what are big ones? Geo services. Charges for service, GIS services payments to the county.
- Brewster: on site storage? Dual storage sites required to meet state standards.
- Yakawich: total number of active cases? 100-200 cases carry over from month to month. Long term open cases as 40-50.
- **Public Comment:**
None

TOPIC #2	Parks, Recreation and Public Lands
PRESENTER	
NOTES/OUTCOME	

- Mike Whitaker, Parks Director: presentation and overview. Set budget to meet goals contained in several city plans. Challenges in FY18 and beyond.
- Brown: start using some of the collected PMD money to do playgrounds? Yes.
- Whitaker: FY18 CIP projects.
- Sullivan: Centennial Park master plan and dog park. Any way to accelerate improvements? If irrigation could be installed in phases, could get some of the park underway including dog park.
- Brewster: we should consider smaller and more dog parks. Minimal improvements.
- Hanel: want to see a more detailed list of park improvements and costs. \$1.8M is too much for the Rose Park pool house. Budget was revised in the most recent CIP.
- Sullivan, Brown: need to reduce price, not increase to or above \$1.8M.
- Brown: 3 PMDs with big cost increases – why?
- Tina Volek, City Administrator: SIDs and PMDs are created by citizen votes.
- Brown: High Sierra Park division into PMD and park general fund? Yes.
- Cromley: Parks could make donating easier online.
- Sullivan: law enforcement problems in parks – park ranger? May not be able to convince police employee to do it.
- Volek: will supply info on the last time we considered park ranger program.
- Swanson: dogs in parks rules? Yes.
- Brown: signage? Signs ordered but none installed.
- **Public Comment:**
- Connie Wardell, P.O. Box 21432, Billings, MT: suggest that City install more automatic irrigation systems. Annoyed that developers donate land but don't plan or install improvements. Artificial turf in dog parks. Disc golf people contributing anything? Instead of police officer in parks, hire youth to take photographs, post them on website and use peer pressure to control dog behaviors.
- Bill Cole, Chamber of Commerce Board: large regional parks needed to attract young people. Donations won't continue and City will have to buy the land. Do it when it's still cheap.

TOPIC #3	Aviation and Transit
PRESENTER	
NOTES/OUTCOME	

- Kevin Ploehn, Airport Director: introduces staff.
- Shane Ketterling, AMF/ARFF Supervisor: airport presentation. MDT study on economic impact - \$409M economic impact to this area. Challenges include new

concourse, conceptual plan. Airline contribution to airport revenues was over 50% 20 years ago and is now about 30%. Operating revenues comparison FY 17-18; same with expenses. AIP grants, local fees total \$6.2M. Concourse concept doubles the number of gates, estimating total of \$40M, \$4M in FY 18 for design. New snow removal equipment in the ERP.

- Yakawich: \$4M for design? Yes, 10% of const. cost is about normal.
- Swanson: specialized architectural companies do this work? Yes.
- Ploehn: MET presentation. FY 17 a pretty good year; \$600k surplus. West and southwest routes are challenging as city grows. Rider expectations increasing. FY 17 higher revenues than budgeted and lower expenses. \$2.9 M fund balance vs projected \$2M. Capital expenses are the ones that are hardest to meet – vehicles and building. Replacing only one coach vs 15 that should be replaced per ERP.
- Yakawich: last year’s route realignments and fare increases – how did they work? Some route changes have been very successful; south, Parkhill and Shiloh crossing. Heights routes have lower ridership due to middle school busing changes.
- Yakawich: worst case in 2 years, what will MET do? Reserves would soften the fall but will have to do things differently with vehicle replacements.
- Sullivan: considering using compress natural gas buses? Not considering it now due to equipment costs, same with electric buses.
- Swanson: explain the American Airlines deal. Revenue guarantees through grant and local donations.
- **Public Comment:**
None

TOPIC #4	Council Discussion
PRESENTER	
NOTES/OUTCOME	

- Yakawich: Big Sky Economic Development state of the workforce report given to all CMs.
- Swanson: report on negotiations for OBSC. June 5 report.
- McFadden: dates that we’ll meet in May? May 22, 23 and 30.
- Friedel: date for admin selection committee meeting? 22nd or 23rd and will be announced soon.
- Swanson: status of admin selection? Dozen responses from recruiters.
- **Public Comment:**
None

TOPIC #5	Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda
PRESENTER	
NOTES/OUTCOME	

None