



## **Budget Committee Minutes**

**May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

Members of the Budget Committee met this day in regular session at City Hall, Brownsville, Oregon at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order and resumed at 7:00 p.m.

**Present:** Councilor Shepherd, Councilor Chambers, Councilor Gerber, Councilor Cole, Councilor Neddeau (7:15 p.m.), Councilor Block, Mike McDaniel, Marilyn Grimes, Rick Dominguez, Kim Clayton, Kaye Fox, Don Andrews, Administrative Assistant Tammi Morrow and Budget Officer S. Scott McDowell.

**Absent:** Mayor Don Ware and Allen Buzzard.

**Public:** Phil Fox.

**Presiding:** Chairman Don Andrews.

Chair Andrews asked for a motion to reconvene the meeting and remove the business from the table. A motion was made by Carla Gerber, seconded by Mandy Cole to resume the business of the Budget Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Chair Andrews asked Mr. McDowell to perform roll call. Roll call was taken and is noted above.

*Councilor Cole made a motion to approve the May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017 minutes as presented. Councilor Shepherd seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT.** Chair Andrews called for public comment. No one was present to comment. Mr. Andrews closed the public hearing.

**PROPOSED USES OF STATE REVENUE SHARING.** McDowell indicated that the City has historically used State Revenue Sharing funds to help pay the power bill for street lights for public safety.

**BUDGET OVERVIEW AND QUESTIONS.** Chairman Andrews asked McDowell for an overview. McDowell said the Committee made it through the budget at the last session in record time. McDowell felt that the Committee had a full and robust conversation about the budget and the implications of the budget on operations. McDowell said that there was a question about the furniture line item that he had heard after the last meeting. McDowell said that the furniture items are related to the safety concerns for City Hall. Modification may need to be made to enhance employee safety. McDowell stated further that the intention is not to expend the entire amount. McDowell reported that he had received the safety report from CIS. Mr. Andrews asked if there were any other questions for Mr. McDowell. There were no questions brought forth.



APPROVE THE 2017-2018 BUDGET & RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL.

*Councilor Shepherd moved to approve the full permanent tax rate of \$6.9597 per \$1,000 assessed valuation. The motion was seconded by Kaye Fox and was approved unanimously.*

*Councilor Cole moved to approve the levy amount needed for the Wastewater Bond Debt in the amount of \$136,238. The motion was seconded by Councilor Shepherd and was approved unanimously.*

*Kaye Fox moved to approve the levy amount needed for the Water Bond Debt in the amount of \$49,770. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gerber and was approved unanimously.*

*Councilor Shepherd made a motion to approve a 3% Utility Rate increase for the upcoming fiscal year. The motion was seconded by Councilor Chambers and was approved unanimously.*

*Councilor Cole moved to approve the historic use of State Revenue Sharing levy for public safety needs, specifically street lighting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Shepherd and was approved unanimously.*

*Councilor Shepherd moved to approve the 2017-2018 Budget as presented and to recommend the same to Council. The motion was seconded by Kaye Fox and was approved unanimously.*

Mr. McDowell stated that Mrs. Fox had a concern she wanted to address from last meeting. Mrs. Fox said that she did not appreciate the way she was treated last week. She stated that mistreatment of members has happened on Council, on the Budget Committee and at Canal Company meeting.

Mr. Andrews offered his apology for not recognizing the problem and addressing it last week. Mrs. Fox indicated that it was the conversation involving the vector. She said that Councilor Shepherd hurt her feelings with the way the discussion went. Marilyn Grimes said that she did not recognize the situation as it was happening in real time last week or she would have intervened.

Councilor Shepherd said that he did not mean to offend Mrs. Fox. He just wanted to express his view point based on his years of service with Linn County working on that kind of machinery. Mr. Shepherd did not mean any disrespect. Mr. Dominguez added that in meetings it can get heated from time to time. Dominguez continued, "sometimes, it is hard to avoid, ... during meeting things are said that offend others." Mr. Dominguez said that he thought it got a little heated last week.



Mr. Andrews asked Mrs. Fox if she accepted Mr. Shepherd's apology. She said she did. Mr. Andrews asked if she was still resigning from the Committee. Mrs. Fox said that she would not resign.

Carla Gerber spoke to good debate and heated conversation being the reason for public meetings. She stated that it is healthy to ensure that all voices are heard in a safe environment, but that it can lead to fairly vigorous debate. McDowell said that it is important to recognize the difference between personal & professional conduct and passionately advocating a position or discussing a topic.

In closing Mr. McDowell asked members to return their binders for use next year. McDowell thanked everyone for sharing their time to review the City budget. McDowell thanked Don Andrews for serving as Chairman.

***ADJOURN.*** *Councilor Cole moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilor Shepherd and was approved unanimously.*

**ATTEST:**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "SM", written over a horizontal line.

S. Scott McDowell  
Budget Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Don Ware", written over a horizontal line.

Don Ware  
Mayor