

Budget Committee Meeting Minutes

THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2025, 6:00PM
COLUMBIA CITY, CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY, COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

AGENDA ITEM 1 CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:

CONVENED:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Alex Reed at 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Alex Reed
Gordon Thistle
Rob Forman
Connie Quick
Lyle Bluhm
Barbara Gordon
Rebecca Pickering
Kit Gardes
Jeff Caldwell
Logan Gilbert-Renner

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None.

ALSO PRESENT:

Kim Karber, City Administrator/Recorder

A quorum was present and due notice had been published.

AGENDA ITEM 2 ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Mayor Reed opened the nominations for the position of Chair.

MOVED (THISTLE) AND SECONDED (FORMAN) TO NOMINATE BARBARA GORDON AS CHAIR.

There being no further nominations for the position of Chair, Mayor Reed closed the nominations and called for a vote. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR OF BARBARA GORDON SERVING AS CHAIR. Mayor Reed declared her duly elected.

Mayor Reed turned the meeting over to Chair Gordon.

Chair Gordon opened the nominations for the position of Vice-Chair.

MOVED (QUICK) AND SECONDED (REED) TO NOMINATE REBECCA PICKERING AS VICE-CHAIR.

There being no further nominations for the position of Vice-Chair, Chair Gordon closed the nominations and called for a vote. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR OF

REBECCA PICKERING SERVING AS VICE-CHAIR. Chair Gordon declared her duly elected.

Chair Gordon opened the nominations for the position of Secretary.

MOVED (GORDON) AND SECONDED (PICKERING) TO NOMINATE KIT GARDES AS SECRETARY.

There being no further nominations for the position of Secretary, Chair Gordon closed the nominations and called for a vote. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR OF KIT GARDES AS SERVING AS SECRETARY. Chair Gordon declared her duly elected.

AGENDA ITEM 3

BUDGET MESSAGE 2025/26:

Committee Members indicated they had read the budget message prior to the meeting. The Budget Committee reviewed the budget in detail with Kim and noted a minor correction to page 33. They requested that if the miscellaneous expense of any fund was greater than 5% of the materials and service then an explanation be provided. They also requested that a sample of the resolution that goes before council be provided.

AGENDA ITEM 4

PUBLIC HEARING: To receive comments from the public on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2025/26.

Public Hearing opened.

No comments were heard from the public.

Public Hearing closed.

AGENDA ITEM 5

PUBLIC HEARING: To receive comments from the public on the proposed use of revenue sharing funds for fiscal year 2025/26.

Public Hearing opened.

No comments were heard from the public.

Public Hearing closed.

AGENDA ITEM 6

REVIEW OF PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025/26:

Barbara Gordon voiced her concern with the transfer of \$13,000 from the Parks Development Fund to pay towards the Parks Masterplan Update, in her research she does not believe we are authorized to use the funds that way. She is looking for a written statement from a legal type of entity that it is okay to use the Park Development Funds for it. Logan Gilbert-Renner verified that the development funds are separated from other funds and that they are tracked, which they are. Kim explained that Leahnette Rivers has used development funds for master plans in the past and with her 40 years City Administrator experience would not train Kim to spend restricted funds for costs not allowed. Kim also explained she did not find in her research where the ORS's prohibited the use of development funds to be used for masterplans and recommended leaving the transfer as is from the Park Development Fund to the Parks Fund to pay for the Park Masterplan update. Rob Forman also voiced his concerns and explained that in his research he could not confirm one way or the other in plain text on whether or not it can be used for masterplans. He does not want to be out of compliance by

mispending the funds which could lead to penalties for being out of compliance, so he would also like confirmation in writing.

AGENDA ITEM 7 APPROVAL OF BUDGET OR ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING DATE, TIME, AND LOCATION:

MOVED (FORMAN), SECONDED (GORDON) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE ADOPTION OF THE 2025/26 PROPOSED BUDGET WITH THE CONTINGENCY THAT AFFIRMATIVE CONSENT IS RECEIVED FROM A RECOGNIZED BODY STATING THAT SDC FUNDS CAN BE USED TO FUND THE PARKS MASTERPLAN, IF AFFIRMATIVE CONSENT IS NOT RECEIVED THEN THE FUNDS NEEDED FOR THE PARKS MASTERPLAN WILL BE SPENT FROM THE GENERAL FUND CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT.

AGENDA ITEM 8 AUTHORIZE PERMANENT TAX RATE LEVY EQUAL TO \$1.1346 PER \$1,000 ASSESSED VALUE AND LOCAL OPTION LEVY EQUAL TO \$0.90 PER \$1,000 ASSESSED VALUE AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE PROPOSED 2025/26 BUDGET:

MOVED (CALDWELL), SECONDED (PICKERING) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO LEVY A PERMANENT TAX RATE OF \$1.1346 PER \$1,000, AND TO LEVY A LOCAL OPTION TAX RATE OF \$0.90 PER \$1,000 AS PROVIDED IN THE 2024/25 PROPOSED BUDGET.

AGENDA ITEM 9 ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

APPROVED:

Barbara Gordon
Budget Committee Chair

Kit Gardes
Budget Committee Secretary

ATTEST:

Kim Karber
City Administrator/Recorder
Budget Officer