

Budget Committee Meeting Minutes

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2026, 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 6:01 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Alex Reed
Gordon Thistle
Rob Forman
Connie Quick
Rebecca Pickering
Kit Gardes
Logan Gilbert-Renner arrived at 6:09

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Lyle Bluhm
Jeff Caldwell
Beverly Markstrom

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 (QUICK) AND SECONDED (FORMAN) TO NOMINATE REBECCA PICKERING 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 REBECCA PICKERING SERVING AS CHAIR. Mayor Reed declared her duly elected.

Mayor Reed turned the meeting over to Chair Pickering.

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

MOVED (QUICK) AND SECONDED (PICKERING) TO NOMINATE KIT GARDES AS VICE-CHAIR.

There being no further nominations for the position of Vice-Chair, Chair Pickering closed the nominations and called for a vote. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR OF KIT GARDES SERVING AS VICE-CHAIR. Chair Pickering declared her duly elected.

Chair Pickering opened the nominations for the position of Secretary.

MOVED (PICKERING) AND SECONDED (GARDES) TO NOMINATE ROB FORMAN AS SECRETARY.

There being no further nominations for the position of Secretary, Chair Pickering closed the nominations and called for a vote. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR OF ROB FORMAN SERVING AS SECRETARY. Chair Pickering declared him duly elected.

AGENDA ITEM 3 BUDGET MESSAGE 2026-27:

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 minor corrections on page 10, 37, 38, 41, 52, 68, & 76. Chair Pickering stated she appreciated everyone taking the time to read the budget before the meeting and having all her questions answered.

AGENDA ITEM 4 PUBLIC HEARING: To receive comments from the public on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2026-27.

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 2026-27.

Public Hearing opened.

No comments were heard from the public.

Public Hearing closed.

AGENDA ITEM 6 REVIEW OF PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-27:

Members needed no further review and had no further questions at this time. Councilor Forman complimented Kim and the team for putting the budget together, stating it was clean and the numbers tied out everywhere.

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

MOVED (PICKERING), SECONDED (REED) TO APPROVE THE ADOPTION OF THE 2026-27 PROPOSED BUDGET.

MOTION PASSED (8-0). AYE (REED, THISTLE, FORMAN, QUICK, PICKERING, GARDES, GILBERT-RENNER); ABSENT (BLUHM, CALDWELL, MARKSTROM)

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 2026-27 BUDGET:

MOVED (GILBERT-RENNER), SECONDED (THISTLE) TO LEVY A PERMANENT TAX RATE OF \$1.1346 PER \$1,000, AND TO LEVY A LOCAL

3 - Budget Committee Meeting
May 28, 2026

OPTION TAX RATE OF \$0.90 PER \$1,000 AS PROVIDED IN THE 2026-27
PROPOSED BUDGET.
MOTION PASSED (8-0). AYE (REED, THISTLE, FORMAN, QUICK,
PICKERING, GARDES, GILBERT-RENNER); ABSENT (BLUHM, CALDWELL,
MARKSTROM)

AGENDA ITEM 9 ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

APPROVED:

Rebecca Pickering
Budget Committee Chair

Rob Forman
Budget Committee Secretary

ATTEST:

Kim Karber
City Administrator/Recorder
Budget Officer