



COUNCIL WORK SESSION

City Hall Council Chambers, 10501 SE Main Street
& Zoom Video Conference (www.milwaukieoregon.gov)

MINUTES

APRIL 16, 2024

Council Present: Councilors Adam Khosroabadi and Rebecca Stavenjord, and Council President Robert Massey

Council Absent: Councilor Shane Abma and Mayor Lisa Batey

Staff Present: Ryan Burdick, Police Chief
Justin Gericke, City Attorney
Brent Husher, Library Director

Michael Osborne, Finance Director
Emma Sagor, Acting City Manager
Scott Stauffer, City Recorder

Council President Massey announced that Mayor Batey had been excused from the meeting and called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

1. Neighborhood District Association (NDA) Program – Update

Wachs provided an overview of the NDA grant program, its history, annual reports, and shared feedback on the program from NDA leaders. **Council President Massey** and **Wachs** commented on how the NDAs spend their funds.

Wachs and **Sagor** discussed NDA and city efforts to maximize event and program funding and looked into changes for how NDAs are insured. **Wachs** reviewed proposed programmatic changes, including renaming the NDA program to the Milwaukie Neighborhood Enhancement Program (MNEP), revising funding eligibility requirements into defined categories, and adopting different distribution and reporting processes. The group remarked on how NDAs report their expenses and what changes might be proposed, including a requirement that funds be spent within two years.

Wachs noted staff would revisit the changes in two years and outlined next steps to implement them. **Council President Massey** advocated for using plain language in the wording of program requirements.

Councilor Stavenjord supported the general direction of the proposed changes and commented on growing pains that NDAs had experienced with events and multi-cultural programs. **Sagor** noted the possibility of tying NDA grant funding to the city's equity and inclusion goals. The group remarked on challenges of the current grant process.

Council President Massey announced that agenda item 3. Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) Project had been removed from the agenda and the Clackamas 800 Digital Radio report had been added to the agenda.

Clackamas 800 (C800) Digital Radio – Update (added to the agenda)

Burdick introduced Mark Buccholz, Washington County 9-1-1 Center executive director, and provided an overview of the C800 project, its record of costing more than originally thought, and the work to get the project back on track.

Buccholz explained how the Washington County center had been brought in to help the C800 project get back on track and deal with a \$4 million budget overrun which had been caused by inflation, the COVID-19 pandemic, annual forest fires, and a doubling of the operational size without consideration for increased costs with more sites to maintain.

Buccholz discussed steps taken to review C800’s contracts and suggested the future of C800 should be stable. **Council President Massey** and **Buccholz** remarked on what the region and county could learn from, including how to accurately estimate the cost of maintaining capital assets.

The group remarked on how C800 was structured and who was responsible for the project and whether the project would need additional funding in the future. **Buccholz** observed that better project management and reporting to the board could have prevented much of the cost overruns. **Burdick** thanked **Buccholz** for cleaning-up the project.

Councilor Stavenjard and **Buccholz** noted the C800 project cost increases for the next five years and capital work needed at project sites on Mount Hood. They also noted that the result of an ongoing litigation and possible Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) natural hazard reimbursements may generate revenue for the project.

The group noted that **Burdick** was the city’s representative to the C800 project and that the C800 website was out of date and would be updated.

2. Budget Process Overview – Discussion

Sagor explained staff wanted to provide Council with a budget process preview and review a question about a line item in Council’s budget.

Osborne reviewed the budget process timeline and **Council President Massey** and **Osborne** commented on desired outcomes of the budget process. **Osborne** observed that all governments were dealing with budget shortfalls.

Stauffer provided an overview of Council’s recent budget for lobbying services and asked for Council feedback on including the lobbyist funding in the next biennium. **Councilor Stavenjard** and **Stauffer** noted the city’s use of lobbyist services provided through the Metro Mayor’s Consortium and the League of Oregon Cities (LOC).

Councilor Stavenjard and **Council President Massey** supported leaving the lobbyist funds in the budget and were not comfortable deciding to change course with two Council members absent. They commented on how the lobbying funds could be used to help the city shape its lobbying goals and messaging.

Stauffer summarized that funding for lobbyist services would remain in the budget and Council would have a chance to discuss it again during the Budget Committee meetings and again later in the year. The group discussed the value of Council receiving regular updates on its budget and use of lobbyist funds.

3. Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) Project – Update
(removed from the agenda)

4. Adjourn

Council President Massey adjourned the meeting at 5:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott Stauffer, City Recorder