

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
September 18, 2017
Council Conference Room

Present: Councilmembers Bullock, O'Malley, and Nowlin

Also Present: Councilmembers Marx, Anderson, Litten, and O'Leary, Finance Director Pae, Human Services Director Gelsomino (6:20 p.m.), Police Chief Malley (6:20 p.m.)

Call to Order: 6:00 p.m.

Resolution 8945-17 to formally identify agreed-upon priorities that Council would like to see reflected in the 2018 budget

Referring to the Webb Park proposal, Councilmember Anderson remarked that he recently saw caution tape around an area of Webb that had fallen away. He noted that circumstances such as this could contribute to which proposals are priorities.

Councilmember O'Malley expressed his interest in ensuring that progress keeps moving forward on Cove and Wagar Parks. It was discussed whether or not the Council budget priority process is the vehicle through which that should be accomplished.

The Committee discussed what is already known about the progress of Cove and Wagar and how much money was budgeted in 2017. The Capital Budget has \$700,000 reserved in 2018 for Wagar Park. Director Pae stated that the design plans for both parks have been completed.

It was agreed that Public Works and Planning Departments can provide a more thorough update on the timelines of these projects.

Councilmember O'Malley raised another potential Council priority – he noted that signals at Detroit and Ridgewood and Detroit and Coutant are on wires while other intersections have them on the new poles and asked for the City to invest in the streetscape.

Committee members remarked that per state traffic studies, these intersections were deemed to not need signals and so installing the signals on poles would cost the City \$110,000 each.

Councilmember O'Malley remarked that he would continue this conversation with Director Beno.

The Committee referred to and discussed a handout provided by the Mayor outlining the City's 2018 Strategic Objectives with Council Budget Priorities included.

Council budget proposals were discussed further:

Project SOAR

It was stressed that this money is being requested as a safety net and will only be used if needed. Since this is the Project's inaugural year, some costs are unknown. Director Gelsomino stated that SOAR may launch later than expected due to the timeline of the grant funding.

Public Arts

Councilmember Bullock explained that the public arts proposal calls for a public arts plan and 2-3 public art projects in 2018. He explained that ultimately he hopes to have the City establish a public art program that empowers artists and stakeholders to propose and fund projects but that in the meantime the City will have to play a central role. The point was made that this is a small financial investment. The Planning Department will have to be consulted to ensure that have enough staff capacity to carry this out.

Shade Equipment at City Pools

Councilmember Bullock briefly remarked that the need for shade persists despite progress on this issue in 2017.

Traffic Calming

Councilmember Bullock explained that this proposal builds upon the success of traffic calming on Woodward by identifying two additional streets on which to focus efforts in 2018. He further explained that the work in 2018 can be spent evaluating traffic patterns and building a custom approach for the streets involved.

Chief Malley remarked on how the average speed on Woodward has dropped since chicanes were added and the number of accidents decreased. Speed did not increase on the neighboring streets. The Chief remarked that he could work with the Mayor to identify additional streets that would benefit from traffic calming but that none stand out to him as of now. He pointed out that many streets have natural traffic calming features like narrow lanes and on-street parking.

Councilmember O'Leary suggested that speed and storm water issues could be addressed simultaneously with the right design. He also suggested speed tables.

Councilmember Bullock observed that the proposal seems to have a lot of council interest and support.

Kauffman Park

Councilmember Bullock clarified that his proposal regarding Kauffman is in response to being told different things by different people in the administration over the years. He stressed that the most important thing to him is that the administration commits to a comprehensive re-design of the playground area and tennis courts before investing in park improvements that may send the City down a permanent path.

Councilmember Bullock asked the Committee to be prepared in two weeks to vote on each proposal. A substitute Resolution will be prepared based on the Committee vote.

Finance Committee adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

2018 Strategic Objectives draft 9-11-17 with Council Priorities

1. Hospital site redevelopment
 - a. Plans solidified
 - b. Demo/construction to begin
2. Resiliency and Sustainability strategies developed
 - a. Benchmark Eco District Template vs Lakewood plans
 - b. Set priority to gaps
 - c. Seek funding/assemble/empower citizen led task force
 - d. Council Priorities:
 - i. Clean Power- increase % of energy purchased (\$0- may pay higher rates)
 - ii. Bike Promotion (\$50,000 to \$100,000) Sloane/Detroit Gateway grant project
 - iii. Electric Vehicle infrastructure (\$25,000)
 - iv. Lkwd park recycling (minimal \$)
 - v. Outdoor Basket Ball full court (\$70,000))
3. Employee Healthcare plans developed
 - a. Bargaining unit committee to develop proposals
 - b. Due Sept 2018
4. New Wellness Foundation launched
 - a. Governing documents agreed to
 - b. Leadership appointed
 - c. Funds received
5. Integrated Wet Weather Plan finalized- EPA Clean Water Act/ NPDES permit application
 - a. Final plans due march 2019
 - b. Investments
6. Opiate Overdose reduction & elimination plan
 - a. Implement full year of project SOAR Council Priority (\$10,000)
 - b. Expand education
 - c. Continue drug interdiction
7. Human Service Facility Improvement
 - a. Look for improved Community service center to improve program quality and quantity
 - b. Evaluate transportation strategies post FHC opening
8. Quality of Life Initiatives
 - a. Parks improvement initiative- Cove park, Wagar park, Cove park
 - b. Winterhurst Contract Expiration- August 2018
 - c. Council Priorities
 - i. Public Art Investments (\$5,000)
 - ii. Swimming Pool strategy and short-term improvements (shade- \$10,000-\$14,000)
 - iii. Traffic Calming expansion (\$50,000/street)
 - iv. Park improvements
 1. Webb park plans (\$25,000 estimate)
 2. Kaufman park continued investments (\$?)
 - v. Curb Replacement program (\$90,000)
9. Core Service Excellence improvements- Clean, Safe, healthy, vibrant
 - a. LEAN
 - b. Building Dept Software conversion to Citizen Serve
 - c. Police Computer Aided Dispatch upgrade finished
 - i. Infrastructure improvement- Lake Ave resurfacing- Belle to W117th