

**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2020  
MEETING HELD VIRTUALLY**

**Present:** Councilmembers Bullock (Chair), Litten, Neff

**Also Present:** Councilmembers Shachner, Kepple & Rader, Mayor George, Acting Police Chief Stone, Planning Director Leininger, Deputy Clerk Lascu, Clerk Bach taking minutes

**Call to Order:** 6:32 p.m.

**Communication from Councilmember Bullock regarding Council budget process.**

Chairman Bullock made introductory remarks to kick off the annual council budget priorities process. He explained that the Finance Committee will have a series of meetings throughout September that will culminate in a resolution to approve the agreed upon council budget submissions. The resolution will be adopted by the first meeting in October in order to provide the administration enough time to incorporate the priorities into the annual budget book. He further explained that the budget will be discussed by Finance Committee in November and December. The purpose of the Council budget priorities process is to daylight ideas, priorities and projects that councilmembers have been developing. He noted that the submissions signal just the beginning of a lot of work between Council and the administration to implement the ideas. He announced that the Committee received 10 submissions and the committee will begin reviewing them now.

**Consideration of budget priorities submitted by council members.**

**Traffic Calming & Speed Analysis**

Councilmember Neff presented her proposal to implement traffic calming measures on three Ward 1 streets. She explained that she worked with the ward 1 neighborhood officer to come up with the list of streets. She proposed that the City conduct an in-house traffic/speed analysis. She estimated that the total cost would be \$45,000. She noted that the proposal is in line with the City's priorities and similar to projects that have been completed in the past.

Chairman Bullock expressed support for the proposal, stating that speeding is a real issue that merits attention and that similar projects have been successful.

**Speed Tables & Speed Management**

Councilmember Litten explained that his proposal consists of implementing the speed table project on Marlowe incrementally across the City. He explained that he used cost estimates (\$40,000 - \$50,000) prepared by former Public Work Director Beno. He remarked on the process of implementing the speed tables on Marlowe, noting that they were supported by more than 60% of residents. He reported that accidents and speed have declined since the implementation of the speed tables.

Councilmembers observed the similarities between Councilmember Neff's proposal and Councilmember Litten's proposal. Chairman Bullock stated that the committee could discuss if and how the two proposals interact at a future meeting of the Finance Committee.

Chairman Bullock expressed support for the proposal, stating that it builds on past success and that adding traffic calming to 2-4 streets per year is a good goal. He praised the City for its thoughtful and successful implementation in the past.

### **HAWK Crosswalk on Madison between Westwood & Warren**

Councilmember Shachner presented his proposal for a HAWK crosswalk between Westwood & Warren. He noted that there is no crosswalk on this stretch of about half a mile and several popular destinations that have people crisscrossing the street. He explained that the City currently has two HAWKs and discussed the costs of those. He explained that he is not advocating for placement of the HAWK at any specific street, but wherever the need is greatest.

Councilmember Litten warned that he has received complaints regarding the Manor Park HAWK and that they take time for people to get used to and must be preceded by thorough traffic studies.

Chairman Bullock expressed support for the proposal and remarked on the importance of walkability to residents.

Councilmember Kepple asked if Councilmember Shachner was committed to a HAWK signal or possibly another traffic device.

Acting Chief Stone stated that there used to be a full traffic signal at Arthur & Madison twenty years ago. Director Leininger explained that ODOT has very specific criteria as to when a traffic signal is warranted. If a traffic signal is not warranted, then a HAWK may be used.

### **Anti-Racism Task Force Launch & Integration**

Councilmember Kepple presented her proposal for funding of the new Anti-Racism Task Force. She further explained that the funds would be used to bring in a professional consultant to help make the Task Force a success. The funds could also be used to pay for subject matter experts. Councilmember Litten added that this is especially important given that Council is an all-white leadership group and must ensure the proper tools are in place.

The Committee discussed the cost estimates provided. Councilmember Kepple explained that her estimates were based upon the contracts for the Resiliency Task Force consultant, the Charter Review Commission consultant, and an estimate from a professional in the field.

Chairman Bullock expressed support for the spirit of the proposal to support the task Force in its work. He suggested that any revisions to proposals can be made before Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **Tree Canopy**

Councilmember Kepple presented the submission requesting additional funding for tree planting in line with previously stated goals and continuing the work that has been going on.

Councilmember Rader noted there may be outside resources and grants that could help Lakewood meet its tree canopy goals. He noted that the Tree Board has identified a need for additional funds and has formally requested this.

Chairman Bullock remarked that expansion of the tree canopy has been an ongoing consensus topic for several years and that this is an affirmation of the administration's ongoing commitment to this. He thanked the administration for its work with the Tree Board.

### **Zero Emissions**

Councilmember Rader referenced the commitment the City made in 2019 to operate with 100% clean energy by 2019. This proposal will help the City meet that ambitious goal by funding a climate action plan which will require the City to work with outside consultants. The proposal requests a maximum amount of \$60,000 with hopes that outside funding may be identified.

Chairman Bullock made supportive remarks and noted that the zero emissions goal was adopted unanimously by Council in 2019. He stated that by following through in a plan the City is investing in health and future cost savings.

### **Approval of the minutes of the August 3, 2020 meeting of the Finance Committee.**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the August 3, 2020 meeting of the Finance Committee.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Yea: Bullock, Litten, Neff

Nay: none

Motion adopted. Minutes approved.

Without objection, the Finance Committee adjourned at 7:29 p.m.