

Public Safety Review Committee Subcommittee

August 18, 2022 at 4:15 pm

Present: Aisha Moe, Matthew Giesfeldt, Alder Heck, Brenda Konkel, Bonnie Roe

Absent: Alder Bennett

Minutes –

Aisha Moe made a motion to approve the last minutes June 30, 2022. Alder Heck seconded the motion. There was unanimous consent.

Discussion on the draft budget report

Public comment

Bonnie Roe said it would be a great idea to voice recommendations to fund ideas in the police budget such as cctv cameras that are audio equipped, a more uniform radio system with extra radios available so that agencies responding for mutual aid would have access to those, and body cameras so those in the command post can see what's happening and to help with coordination.

Committee discussion began on Agenda Item 1.

City Finance provided information to the committee to assist with creating the draft budget.

Brenda Konkel reviewed old budgets in order to develop a history and longer-term trends and worked on some of the language. The current state of the document is 'messy' with tracked changes; when the committee was asked, Matthew Giesfeldt advised he would prefer a document without tracked changes, which would result in a cleaner document. Brenda estimated there are approximately five more hours of work needed on the budget. Eliminating tracked changes would be helpful. She expressed frustration that committee members are doing this work rather than staff and is not interested in preparing future budgets. Ald Heck offered to review the current draft document with Brenda together within the next couple of weeks if their schedules allow. Brenda would like to focus on statistics of police calls and would welcome that help. Alder Heck will communicate with Brenda what he can do to assist. If more than 2 subcommittee members are going to collaborate, Brenda suggested scheduling a meeting for next week to avoid violating the open records laws.

Scheduling and next steps

A report from the subcommittee is scheduled to be sent out prior to the Sept 14 PSCR meeting when public comment is scheduled. At the October PSCR meeting, the committee would develop their recommendation to Council. The group determined they would schedule one more budget subcommittee meeting before the next PSCR committee. Brenda and Ald Heck will provide their collaborative draft to the group before the next subcommittee meeting, scheduled for Aug 31, 4:00 PM.

Brenda suggested adding committee staff to the budget.

The subcommittee plans to explore asking fire department staff to pull data to assist this group with the fire dept budget. Getting data from the police department for budget preparation has been challenging in the past.

In preparation for public comment portion of the PSCR meeting, Brenda suggests releasing a PowerPoint presentation to highlight specifically what input they are seeking. The subcommittee will address this at the 8/31 meeting, and Matthew will work with Emily to get items on next PSCR committee. In addition, a press release could go out prior to the 9/14 PSCR meeting to solicit public input. Ald Heck suggested the Council Office can assist with a press release.

Discussion regarding the Sept 14 meeting of the PSCR / public hearing, format... release staff for the public hearing portion of the meeting. Could the public hearing portion be scheduled to begin at 6:00 pm.? Matthew will communicate this information to Emily and PSCR chair Johnny.

Brenda will distribute the draft budget to the group.

Ald Heck moved to adjourn, Brenda seconded the motion. There was unanimous consent.

Meeting ended at 5:09 pm.