

MINUTES

**Eugene Budget Committee
Harris Hall, 125 East 8th Avenue
Eugene, Oregon 97401**

**March 5, 2014
6:00 p.m.**

Committee Members Present: City Council Members George Brown, Mike Clark, , Chris Pryor, Claire Syrett, George Poling, Betty Taylor; Budget Committee Citizen Members Laura Illig (Chair), Mark Rust (Vice-Chair), Marshall Wilde, Ken Beeson, Robert Clarke, Chelsea Clinton, Will Shaver, Jill Fetherstonhaugh

Committee Members Absent: City Council Members Alan Zelenka, Greg Evans

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Illig called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CITY MANAGER'S FY15 GENERAL FUND BUDGET STRATEGY

1. *Linda Agu* – requested the use of one time funding to maintain the Sheldon branch and downtown library hours.
2. *Bob Siegmund* – expressed concern about potential increases in stormwater rates if parks maintenance activities were funded, in any amount, with stormwater funds.
3. *Jane McCowey* – urged the Committee to continue funding for the Sheldon branch library.
4. *Joy Marshall* – stated that all library services in Eugene are important to the quality of life of all segments of the community.
5. *Cindy Clarke* – spoke about the City's Comprehensive Annual Finance Report (CAFR) and asking the Committee to use the reserves mentioned to fund services until the budget is balanced.
6. *Sandy Lodomon* – urged the Committee to continue funding for the Sheldon branch library.
7. *Howard Bonnett* – agreed with the recommendation to move some of the park services into the stormwater fund.

In response to a question about reserves, Finance Director Sue Cutsogeorge noted that the amount shown as “unassigned” on page 47 of the CAFR represents dollars that the City Council has subsequently allocated on supplemental budget #1 this past December. Those dollars are no longer “unassigned” but have been appropriated.

II. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS

Chair Illig opened the discussion to offer Committee members the opportunity to place motions on the table.

MOTION: Councilor Clark, seconded by Councilor Poling, moved to approve the Manager's full recommended budget strategies and additional recommendations, with one change, to fund the \$250,000 for Human Services Commission (HSC) from Reserve for Revenue Shortfall (RRSF) rather than the Manager's recommendation to wait until December, 2014.

MOTION TO AMEND AND VOTE: Councilor Syrett, seconded by Councilor Clark, moved to amend the motion to include ongoing \$30,000 in Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA) funding. PASSED 12:2, Councilor Poling and Vice-Chair Rust opposed.

MOTION TO AMEND AND VOTE: Councilor Taylor, seconded by Councilor Brown, moved to amend to sunset the use of Stormwater funds for parks maintenance after 2 years.

City Attorney Glenn Klein advised the Committee that they cannot take any action that would bind a future Budget Committee, City Council or City Manager by directing a budget action for a future year. After an inquiry from Chair Illig, he advised that the Chair of the Committee could rule the motion out of order.

RULED OUT OF ORDER BY CHAIR ILLIG.

Citizen Member Shaver asked for clarification of the motion with regard to the Library proposal. City Manager Ruiz clarified that the motion included his recommendation that the Sheldon Branch Library be funded with one-time dollars in FY15 to allow time to explore a local option levy.

VOTE: On the main motion, move to approve the Manager's full recommended budget strategies and additional recommendations, with the following changes:

1. \$250,000 for Human Services Commission (HSC) from Reserve from Revenue Shortfall (RRSF) rather than the Manager's recommendation to wait until December, 2014.
2. Include ongoing \$30,000 in Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA) funding.

PASSED 13:1, Ms. Fetherstonhaugh opposed.

Chair Illig thanked the Committee members and staff for their work. The Budget Committee meetings scheduled for March 6 and March 11, 2014, are no longer necessary and have been canceled. The Committee will resume meeting in April with dates yet to be determined, when the FY15 Proposed Budget is presented by the City Manager.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Mumme,
Program Coordinator, Finance Division