

**BUDGET COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
140 WEST PINE STREET
MISSOULA MONTANA
August 19, 2009, 2:35pm**

Members present: Ed Childers, President; Stacy Rye, Marilyn Marler; Renee Mitchell; Pam Walzer; Jason Wiener; Dick Haines; Lyn Hellegaard; John Hendrickson; Dave Strohmaier; Jon Wilkins; Bob Jaffe.

Members absent:

Others present: Brentt Ramharter, Marty Rehbein.

I. Administrative Business

A. Approve committee minutes dated: [July 8, 2009](#) and [August 5, 2009](#)-approved as submitted.

B. Public Comment on items not listed on the agenda-none

Regular Agenda

A. [Resolution](#) fixing the appropriations for the fiscal year 2010 budget, Capital Improvement Program, and Downtown Business Improvement District work plan and budget. ([Final spreadsheet](#)) ([Updated memo](#)) ([Tickler List 08/18/09](#)) ([BCOW](#)) (Returned from Council floor: 08/17/2009) **REMOVE FROM AGENDA**

Motion: The committee recommends the City Council adopt a resolution fixing the appropriations for the fiscal year 2010 budget, Capital Improvement Program and Downtown Business Improvement District work plan and budget.

Ed Childers began the discussion by asking Mr. Hendrickson what his concerns were regarding the Community Based Organizations (CBO's).

John Hendrickson said his main concern today was the Missoula Art Museum (MAM) janitorial contract. He said given the current and possible future economic climate, all of the CBO's should be advised that they may need to come up with alternative sources of funding for next year, because the City may not be able to continue to fund these organizations at the current level. He expressed frustration with the MAM for hiring a door greeter that had previously been staffed by a volunteer. That salary could have gone toward the janitorial contract that they had agreed to take over last year.

Mr. Childers pointed out that the agreement states MAM will come forward each year to submit a request for funding the janitorial contract.

Brentt Ramharter, Director of Finance, stated the contract amount is for \$22,605.50.

Mr. Hendrickson said if door greeters can be done by volunteers, he would like to see that amount go towards park maintenance or tree pruning.

Jon Wilkins said that as he recalls, MAM committed to taking this contract over and questioned the fact that they have recently hired a door greeter.

Jason Wiener asked if that \$22,605.50 is for just the janitorial contract or does it also include the elevator contract.

Mr. Childers said it is for the janitorial contract only.

Mr. Strohmaier stated that it is very difficult to weigh the value of Parks maintenance against free admission to an art museum. It seems that they have hired a door greeter whose salary could

have gone toward the janitorial contract, but we don't know the rationale behind that decision. He said he was in favor of funding the contract.

Mr. Wilkins moved to amend the motion in favor of taking the \$22,605.50 from MAM janitorial contract and putting it towards Parks maintenance which is long overdue.

Mr. Wiener commented that the MAM contract is an extra service that doesn't fit with our role as landlord. He does not like to weigh Parks against the museum and questioned the hiring of the door greeter.

Lyn Hellegaard asked if MAM bids this contract out and can't get the same rate can they subcontract through the City for these services.

Mr. Ramharter said he would consult with Jack Stucky who knows that contract much better.

Mr. Strohmaier said he was in support of parks but expressed his disappointment at the lack of funding allocated to art and cultural programs in our community. He would not support the amendment.

Mr. Wilkins wanted to make clear that he feels MAM should pay their own janitorial costs.

Pam Walzer suggested MAM explain their decision to hire a door greeter, she said we shouldn't assume it was a frivolous decision. She added that we should keep MAM on the tickler list and also have a decision with them regarding their future options.

Mr. Wilkins said they have known for years they would need to take this contract over. Let's vote on the amendment.

Mr. Wiener added that the total request from MAM is \$42,202. A portion of that is the janitorial contract, but the City is also providing adequate funding for mechanical equipment and heating and cooling maintenance, grounds keeping and property insurance. He suggested going forward by reducing the City's contribution for the janitorial contract by $\frac{3}{4}$ so MAM wouldn't have to pay for services already provided.

Mr. Childers said he would agree to that and asked Mr. Ramharter to figure that dollar amount.

Mr. Ramharter stated that the reduced contribution would be \$18,337.00

Upon a voice vote the motion passed to reduce the City's contribution to the MAM janitorial contract by \$18,337 and allocating that money to Park's maintenance.

Mr. Hendrickson pointed out that Parks has a priority list that we should fund from, funding the highest priority first and then work down from there.

Mr. Childers said they should vote on where the money is going in the Parks priority list.

Renee Mitchell requested aquatics revenues and expenses and expressed concerns on how much money that department has spent on poor decisions.

Mr. Ramharter offered to go over the revenues and expenses with her separately.

Mr. Hendrickson suggested that the remaining CBO's be made aware that for next budget year, the City may not be in a position to fund at the present level.

Mr. Childers asked Mr. Ramharter if he would contact them and let them know.

Mr. Ramharter agreed and recapped the \$18,337 would be moved from the MAM janitorial contract to Parks maintenance to allocate from their priority list. He also noted the \$7,000 removed from the Streets Division to be held in reserve for future allocation.

Ms Walzer requested that all items on the tickler wait until we have the final figures from the state to allocate.

Mr. Childers agreed.

Mr. Hendrickson said he wants to know if the City would save money by outsourcing some or all of its tree pruning and requested more information on that.

Mr. Childers asked for the vote to adopt the resolution to pass the 2010 budget

Upon a voice vote the motion carried.

II. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:35pm

Respectfully submitted,

Dee Krevey
Administrative Secretary