

**BUDGET COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
140 WEST PINE STREET
MISSOULA MONTANA
April 20, 2011 1:05 pm**

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

Others present: John Engen, Ginny Merriam, Kaila Szpaller, John Hendrickson, Steve King, Brentt Ramharter, Bruce Bender, Dee Andersen.

I. Administrative Business

A. Approve committee minutes dated: [March 30, 2011](#)-approved as submitted.

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

II. Regular Agenda

A. Mayor's presentation of the FY 2012 Budget. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Brentt Ramharter) (Referred to committee: 03/21/11) **HOLD FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION**

- [Link to FY12 Preliminary Budget](#)

Mayor John Engen presented the [Introduction to the FY12 Budget](#).

Ed Childers called for questions or comments.

Bob Jaffe asked about the health plan premium, and what the full cost is per employee.

Mr. Engen said the premium will be \$767 per employee.

Ms. Mitchell said in light of rising fuel and energy costs, she is surprised that the budget is adequate.

Mr. Engen said in prior years many departments identified ways of cutting fuel costs. It has been adequate this year so we don't anticipate any changes.

Bruce Bender said there is some flexibility in those budgets we think we can manage.

Mr. Strohmaier asked if the \$500,000 estimated growth is factored in on the revenue side of the budget.

Mr. Engen said yes that's one of the ways to hold down a general fund levy.

Ms. Rye asked about funding for the Best Place Project.

Mr. Engen said we are asking for 100,000 this year and we will not fund MAEDC.

Jason Wiener requested the Budget files be uploaded to the FTP server.

Public comment:

John Hendrickson asked when the fee study will be made public.

Mr. Ramharter said we are prepared to release it very soon.

Mr. Engen said he would prefer it will be provided to Council first.

Mr. Childers suggested the fee study be presented next week at BCOW

Mr. Hendrickson asked in the General Fund, if the \$1 million plus, is that from un-levied mills.

Mr. Bender said no, its growth in tax value.

Mr. Hendrickson asked with the proposed increases, if someone owns a \$200,000 home what will that mean to the tax payer.

Mr. Engen said on a \$225,000 home it's a .07¢ a day or \$25.00 a year.

Mr. Hendrickson asked about the \$130,000 increase in the CIP, is that the interest and principal on delayed purchases?

Mr. Bender said it's the equipment lease purchases.

Mr. Wiener said he was looking through expenditures and he is interested in how the revenue was generated for that.

Mr. Jaffe said for the increase in the tax base, how much is that from new construction?

Mr. Ramharter said his assumption is that the majority is from new construction.

The committee continued to discuss new growth and property taxes.

III. Held in committee

- A.** Review and make recommendations on a proposal to create two City-wide maintenance districts for the purpose of funding a portion of the costs to provide public street and park maintenance ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Carla Krause) (Returned from council floor: 06/21/10) (*Tabled 06/23/2010*)

IV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:43 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Dee Andersen
Administrative Secretary