

**ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
140 WEST PINE STREET  
MISSOULA MONTANA  
May 19, 2010, 1:05pm**

**Members present:** Stacy Rye, Chair; Ed Childers; Renee Mitchell; Pam Walzer; Jason Wiener; Dick Haines; Lyn Hellegaard; Roy Houseman; Dave Strohmaier; Jon Wilkins; Bob Jaffe.

**Others present:** Brentt Ramharter, Donna Gaukler, Dee Andersen, Nancy Harte.

**I. Administrative Business**

**A.** Approve committee minutes dated: [May 12, 2010](#)-approved with corrections.

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

**II. Consent Agenda**

**A.** Approve claims (accounts payable). -Consent Agenda (Brentt Ramharter)

**Motion: The committee recommends the City Council approve [claims](#) totaling \$844,709.73 ([Detailed claims](#))**

**III.**

**B.** Approve an amendment to Home Investment Partnerships program (HOME) Contract Number H-10-01 with the District XI Human Resource Council for a total amount of \$325,000.00 for assistance to low- and moderate-income first-time homebuyers in the form of down payment assistance, closing costs, and homebuyer education per [Resolution Number 7524 \(memo\)](#).—Regular Agenda (Nancy Harte) (Referred to committee: 05/17/2010)

**REMOVE FROM AGENDA**

**Motion: The committee recommends the City Council approve and authorize the Mayor to sign an amendment to Home Investment Partnerships program (HOME) Contract Number H-10-01 with the District XI Human Resource Council for a total amount of \$325,000 for assistance to low-and moderate-income first-time homebuyers in the form of down payment assistance, closing costs, and homebuyer education per Resolution Number 7524**

Nancy Harte, Office of Planning and Grants, requested approval for this second contract.

John Wilkins asked Ms. Harte if they are seeing more applicants to the program.

Ms. Harte replied that is staying steady.

Pam Walzer moved to approve the contract.

Upon a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**C.** Reimbursement resolution for curb and sidewalk projects to be constructed in FY 2011 ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Brentt Ramharter) (Referred to committee: 05/17/2010)

**REMOVE FROM AGENDA**

**Motion: The committee recommends the City Council consider a resolution declaring the official intent of the City of Missoula, Montana to reimburse certain original expenditures related to sidewalk curb, gutter and alley approach improvements from the proceeds of tax-exempt bonds to be issued by the City after payment of such original expenditures.**

Brentt Ramharter, Finance Director, explained that this is a standard resolution the City passes each year in advance of undertaking the curb & sidewalk projects that will be financed next year. The IRS requires that the City disclose our financing intent. We indicate that we will reimburse ourselves up to \$2.0 million in costs which should cover the maximum amount of projects undertaken.

Dave Strohmaier moved to approve the resolution.

Upon a voice vote the motion carried unanimously.

### **Regular Agenda**

IV.. A. Review the FY 2011-15 capital improvement projects (CIP). ([memo](#)) – Regular Agenda (Brentt Ramharter) (Referred to committee: 04/19/2010)

**HELD IN COMMITTEE**

Donna Gaukler, Director of Parks and Recreation reviewed the following CIP requests:

➤ [PR-01](#) Aquatics Projects-

This is just an update. We waited until the final construction projects were done, all the way to the completion of the 50m pool. All the invoices and contracts were closed out and we had a small balance remaining. The balance was used to purchase the *Virginia Graeme Baker* pool drain grates. The installation is going in now. Two fiscal years ago we were approved to install UV at Currents; we delayed some of these projects to make sure we had enough funds to purchase the federally mandated pool grates.

We were given the re-directive from the Department of Health and Human Services to install UV and fencing around every spray deck. There has been a significant amount of protest from municipalities and City-County Health Departments across the state because of the costs and the way the regulations were written. It appears that there will be a re-write on those rules. Both the Parks Department and the Health Department feel strongly that the costs relative to the supposed increased health benefits are unbalanced. She said they question whether there is a health benefit at all.

Mr. Strohmaier asked Ms. Gaukler to explain the rationale for fencing.

Ms. Gaukler said she thought the Department of Public Health's primary goal is to reduce the opportunity for Crypto. By fencing the splash decks they would reduce the dogs that could access the area, we don't agree with it and feel like it will make a really cool dog park. There is also an issue of access; parents want to be able to access their children without a fence barrier in their way.

Mr. Strohmaier said he agreed.

Bob Jaffe asked if there any off setting cost savings to having the UV systems.

Ms. Gaukler replied that UV system will reduce the amount of chemicals used but then we have to replace the UV bulbs regularly, so it's a net balance.

Ms. Rye asked about the creation of mini golf area at splash.

Ms. Gaukler said it's was just one way her staff is looking at bringing in other sources of revenue to offset growing costs. There are also certain slides that are revenue generators. These are projects for the future.

Ms. Mitchell pointed out that there is a big difference between mini golf and a golf course. She said originally when Splash was created there was a suggestion that every few years you should do a reinvestment into the facility. Are you aware of what other water parks in our area are doing to increase revenue?

Ms. Gaukler said she didn't have specifics, but she could look into it. One of the things we have added is inner-tube water polo for 18-60- year olds. It has been very popular. We have tried to do smaller things because it's been a tight budget.

➤ [PR-03](#) Fort Missoula.

There is a slight balance of Impact fees from prior years. The rest of this is spent out. As you know we have developed a master site plan for the area. We have a \$300,000 application in for a joint millsite wood reclamation grant.

Mr. Childers asked what the status is of Knife River ponds, do we make sure the shoreline remains where they should be.

Ms. Gaukler responded we do. We work closely with DEQ.

Mr. Jaffe asked can you update us on the compost project.

We received a 50,000 grant to research all the wood waste and submitted our final report to DNRC and it is very economically feasible to produce our own compost for parks or public developments. She said she had a disc with all the science that she could provide. It is particularly feasible if we work with WWTP. They could provide product to Eco and to us. We could create enough top soil/ growth medium for Silver Park, Fort Missoula Park and some others over a three year period.

Lyn Hellegaard asked about Phase I and when the other \$6 million will be put into the athletic fields.

Ms. Gaukler said she doesn't have a plan for the \$6 million.

➤ [PR-05](#) Maintenance & Replacement.

There are no new funds here; we did have a small balance remaining. What we have done with the declining budget is to address our potential risks and meet all the standards for playground safety.

We are using \$20,000 to do the surfacing of the riverfront trail from the Orange Street Tunnel to the Van Buren. Last year was one of the worst years for keeping that pathway free of ice.

We will use \$5,000 for the Sacajawea Park splash deck as the plumbing is very old.

Ms. Mitchell discussed the park paths and that she has heard the Parks Department uses vehicles on the paths to pick up garbage and it destroys the paths. She said she didn't think the paths were reinforced for vehicle traffic.

Ms. Gaukler said when we know we will be using vehicles on paths we do reinforce them. Often there are times when removing garbage or performing maintenance requires the use of a vehicle, when driving on the paths they use care and small lighter vehicles. We try and balance speed and efficiency with Workman's Comp issues. Ms. Gaukler suggested getting the license plate number if they see a large vehicle on park paths and she will address it with the staff member.

➤ [PR-06](#) McCormick Park.

There are no proposed projects at this time. The parking lot needs repair and we are looking at adding some energy efficient lights. The only other request is some ADA funds for trail accessibilities. We have had some heartfelt requests from families with children who have extreme disabilities for a fully accessible playground.

Ms. Walzer asked for an update on PR-04 Grant Creek which was not on the list.

Ms. Gaukler said the easement is looking good. Now we are waiting on a response from one Home Owners Association and we need to find funding to build the trail.

➤ [PR-07](#) New Park Development.

Lafay Park will be complete this summer, other than a picnic shelter. The 44 Ranch Park was a development agreement and it's been going well. We held out a portion of the payment until the project met our standards for bare spots and rocks.

Ms. Mitchell asked who goes out to inspect the project to make sure the standards have been met. She said she has heard there a lot of big rocks left out there that should have been removed.

Ms. Gaukler said we use our staff and the County Extension Office to inspect the sites. We do core soil samples. We do try to be reasonable with the developers, if large rocks surface we will hold back payment until the projects meet our standards.

Mr. Strohmaier asked when the playground at Pineview Park will be installed.

Ms. Gaukler said in mid June. The House Bill 645 playgrounds will be installed in the following order; Marilyn Park, Boyd Park, Lafay Park, Sacajawea Park.

➤ [PR-08](#) Playfair Park

This is an update on what's happening on the ground this construction season with funds that were approved in prior years. A lot of this is CTEP money, some of it is matched by ADA funds and a very small part is matched by Impact Fees where it relates directly to growth. We are almost complete with the last phase of the CTEP sidewalk that goes from Bancroft to Russell through Playfair Park past Russell School.

The parking lots were installed and we have increased parking significantly for the groups who use the park. We will renovate how the well systems work so we can irrigate the park and not use Mountain Water.

Ms. Walzer asked if gray water can be used for irrigation.

Ms. Gaukler said the original designs were designed for that, but we have to follow Health Department Regulations as it pertains to gray water. We will fill the 50m pool with well water and it will be a huge cost savings, but we are trying to be intelligent about what kind of water we can use where. Those are things we are still pursuing.

➤ [PR-09](#) White Pine Park.

This is an update. This project was made possible from a CDBG grant and a \$50,000 donation from the Watkins family, a \$50,000 donation of top soil from Bretz, and a lot of hard work from the College of Technology and City Streets and City Parks Departments. This project is coming together and we will be seeding grass in 3 weeks.

➤ [PR-13](#) PSC Mandated Meters Conversion.

This was taken care from project funds from a year ago. It is behind schedule, we delayed it as we went through the JCI contract on water conservation and energy savings to see what projects they might pull out into energy conservation versus which ones we would have to meter.

Ms. Mitchell asked Ms. Gaukler if she could describe the process on why this was mandated, as she said it she felt it was preceded by some action on our part and she doesn't understand why this was ever mandated.

Ms. Gaukler apologized and said she was sorry but she not sure she was the one who could answer that question and said she didn't want to provide Ms. Mitchell with any misinformation .

Ms Rye asked how much does parks budget for police in parks.

Ms. Gaukler said \$6-12,000

Ms Rye asked Mr. Ramharter if he could provide a summary of how much money is going into each CIP projects in each dept.

Mr. Ramharter agreed.

**Held in committee**

1. Approve claims. (Ongoing) (Consent Agenda)
2. Approve journal vouchers. (Ongoing) (Consent Agenda)
3. Approve budget transfers. (Ongoing) (Consent Agenda)
4. An ordinance amending the municipal code as it relates to bike licensing. ([A&F](#)) (Returned from council floor: 12/15/08)
5. Implications of establishing maintenance districts. ([memo](#)) – Regular Agenda (Bob Jaffe) (Referred to committee: 05/11/09)
6. Clarify position of council member who also serves on the board of a non-profit agency that has dealings with the city. ([memo](#)) – Regular Agenda (Ed Childers) (Referred to committee: 07/20/2009)
7. [Resolution](#) of the Missoula City Council establishing a tourism business improvement district consisting of non-contiguous lands within the City of Missoula for the purpose of aiding tourism, promotion and marketing within the district. ([Exhibit A](#)) ([Exhibit B](#)) ([memo](#)) ([A&F](#)) (Returned from Council floor: 10/05/09)
8. Review the FY 2010-14 CIP projects in committee ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Brentt Ramharter) (Referred to committee: 03/23/09)
9. Ratification of recommended refunding of the 2001A General Fund Obligation Bond issue in order to save future interest costs ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Brentt Ramharter) (Referred to committee: 04/05/10)

**D. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50pm

Respectfully submitted,

*Dee Krevey*

Administrative Secretary