

BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE

OCTOBER 25, 2021

A meeting of the Budget Review Committee was held Monday, October 25, 2021, at 7:30 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber and via Zoom which meeting link can be found on the agenda.

Alderman Richard A. Dowd, Chairman, Chairman, presided.

Members of Committee present: Alderman Richard A. Dowd, Chairman
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons, Vice Chair
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien
Alderman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman Ernest Jette

Members not in Attendance: Alderman Jan Schmidt

Also in Attendance: Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright
Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director
Jennifer Deshaies, Risk Manager

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

COMMUNICATIONS - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-21-177

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman Skip Cleaver
Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright

RELATIVE TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$250,000 OF FY2021 ASSIGNED FUND BALANCE INTO FUND #6500 "PROPERTY & CASUALTY SELF INSURANCE FUND"

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE
MOTION CARRIED**

R-21-178

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Jan Schmidt
Alderman Skip Cleaver
Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

**CHANGING THE USE OF FUNDS FOR A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT FROM MASTER PLAN TO LAND USE CODE UPDATE
MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE**

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Jette

Yeah just to understand this a little better. I think the purpose of this is to provide money to convert the recommendations in the Master Plan to legislation to amend the Land Use Code. I'm wondering why do we need money? Are we going outside to do this that our Legal Department is not capable or they don't have the staff necessary?

Chairman Dowd

Yeah it wouldn't be the Legal Department. They do have a consultant to help them through the Land Use Code. It's sort of just to clarify the use of the funding and that's about it. The Master Plan always had in effect that they were going to undertake the Land Use Code, which is the Zoning. Now we're just going to focus. They've done the Master Plan and now they're going to focus on the Land Use Code part of it. So when they address the different items in changing zoning and everything, they have a consultant I believe. For the life of my I can't remember his name to help them with that.

Alderman Jette

Okay. Thank you.

Chairman Dowd

Any other questions?

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES - None

TABLED IN COMMITTEE - None

GENERAL DISCUSSION - None

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

REMARKS BY THE ALDERMENChairman Dowd

Just one thing. The city has numerous departments that deal with hazardous things all the time. I'm sure Alderman O'Brien can mention that the Fire Department if you're in a building and the roof above you collapses, a lot of people can get hurt. We've been very fortunate that that doesn't happen that often. Police officers when they're making arrests can get severe injuries from somebody that doesn't like the fact that they're getting cuffed. Of course, Public Works. They're working with heavy equipment every single day. So there's a lot of places where people can get hurt and I think we've done a really great job managing those. I just wanted to say that.

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you. I wasn't going to say anything Alderman Dowd but I'd like to thank you for bringing that point up. Usually my career on the Fire Department has been based upon the premise probably right now at this given moment, somebody out there may think that there's too many firemen but then when there's a fire in this community, there isn't enough. When it comes down to these guys do superhuman things at times, maybe if there was a construction company and they could look at things and probably get adequate staffing and though they do call on the help but at those times, it's the necessity. I think Alderman Dowd remembers how at one time during a budget hearing people were discussing here how they were going to look to possibly even cut some money from the Fire Department and guess what happened down the street? They were out fighting a 3 to 4 alarm fire. So it goes to prove it's usually Murphy's Law when you don't expect it. Thank you Alderman Dowd for bringing that point home. I appreciate it.

Chairman Dowd

Well it hit me because I remember when the roof collapsed on top of you one evening and you're Irish so you didn't get hurt.

Alderman O'Brien

We can discuss that if the good people want to hear that story. I'm willing to share it sometime.

POSSIBLE NON-PUBLIC SESSION - None

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN TO ADJOURN
MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting was declared closed at 7:37 p.m.

Michael B. O'Brien, Sr., Committee Clerk