

A meeting of the 2017-18 East and West Urban Renewal Districts Budget Committee was held in City Council Chambers at 6:05 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Mayor LaMear, City Councilors Nemlowill, Jones, Price, and Brownson. Richard Hurley, Loran Mathews, Shel Cantor, David McElroy, Janet Miltenberger.

Committee Members Excused: None.

Staff Present: City Manager Estes, Finance Director Brooks, Public Works Director Cook, Community Development Director Cronin, Parks Director Cosby, Police Chief/Assistance City Manager Johnston, and Fire Chief Ames.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor LaMear.

Election of Officers

Mayor LaMear called for nominations for Chairperson. Motion made by Richard Hurley, seconded by Dave McElroy, to nominate Loren Mathews as Chair of the FY 2017-18 East and West Urban Renewal Districts Budget Committee. (Motion carried by unanimous vote.)

Mayor LaMear passed the gavel to newly elected Chair Mathews.

Chair Mathews called for nominations for Secretary. Motion made by Councilor Price, seconded by Arline LaMear to nominate Janet Miltenberger as Secretary of the FY 2017-18 East and West Urban Renewal Districts Budget Committee. (Motion carried by unanimous vote.)

Budget Committee Review Schedule

Chair Mathews noted the Budget Committee consented to the meetings scheduled for April 25th and 26th at 6 pm.

BUDGET MESSAGE

a. City Manager's Opening Comments and Budget Message

City Manager Estes explained that the Astoria Development Commission deals with the Astor East and Astor West Urban Renewal Districts. He described each district's boundaries and reviewed the General Fund balances, estimated tax increment, and major expenditures of both the East and West Urban Renewal Districts, as well as the key projects of the West Urban Renewal District. In the East Urban Renewal District, the debt service for the Heritage Square/Garden of Surging Waves project was retired this last fiscal year and had included the refinance portion of the bond for the Liberty Theatre. The East Urban Renewal District did not anticipate a specific project, but funds could be used toward City Council's goal to for developing a RFQ with regard to housing options on Heritage Square.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ASTORIA EAST AND ASTORIA WEST URBAN RENEWAL DISTRICT BUDGETS AS PROPOSED

Chair Mathews opened the public hearing on Astoria East and Astoria West Urban Renewal District Budgets and called for public comment. Seeing none, he closed the public hearing.

INDIVIDUAL BUDGET CONSIDERATION

City Manager Estes and Finance Director Brooks responded to key questions from the Budget Committee as follows:

- Finance Director Brooks said she would research why the amounts for the Ending Fund Balance for Fiscal Year Ending (FYE) 2015 was significantly higher than the Beginning Fund Balance for FYE 2016 in both Urban Renewal Districts. As recommended by the City's new auditor, some prior period

adjustments were necessary as the City had not been accounting for some items according to Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) standards. The bigger items from the prior year included capturing PERS assets and liabilities which had not been properly reported in prior year financial statements.

- The Professional Services Funds in each district were placeholders for funds to be used to pay for consultant services as needed for various projects. Next fiscal year, the City anticipates using funds from the Astor East Urban Renewal District to assist with Council's goal for developing the scope of work for RFQ related to housing at Heritage Square. Currently, no specific project was identified for the East Urban Renewal District.

a. Astoria East Urban Renewal District General Fund

Committee Action: Motion made by Mayor LaMear, seconded by Councilor Brownson to tentatively approve the Astor East Urban Renewal District Budget. (Motion carried.) City Councilors Nemlowill, Jones, Price, and Brownson, Richard Hurley, Loran Mathews, Shel Cantor, David McElroy, Janet Miltenberger, and Mayor LaMear voted yes.

b. Astoria West Urban Renewal District General Fund

Committee Action: Motion made by Councilor Price, seconded by Janet Miltenberger, to tentatively approve the Astor West Urban Renewal District Budget. (Motion carried.) City Councilors Nemlowill, Jones, Price, and Brownson, Richard Hurley, Loran Mathews, Shel Cantor, David McElroy, Janet Miltenberger, and Mayor LaMear voted yes.

Chair Mathews adjourned the meeting at 6:20 pm to convene the City of Astoria Budget Committee meeting.

ATTEST:


Secretary