



**MINUTES
YAKIMA CITY COUNCIL
STUDY SESSION
October 11, 2022
City Hall – Council Chambers
12 noon – Meeting conducted in person and virtually via Zoom**

1. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Janice Deccio, presiding, Assistant Mayor Soneya Lund and Councilmembers Matt Brown, Patricia Byers, Holly Cousens, Danny Herrera and Eliana Macias (attending via Zoom)

Staff: City Manager Robert Harrison, City Attorney Sara Watkins, Director of Finance and Budget Jennifer Ferrer-Santa Ines and City Clerk Sonya Claar Tee

2. Public comment (allow 15 minutes)

None.

3. Council Review of Proposed 2023-2024 Budget - 3 of 3

City Manager Robert Harrison introduced the budget study session agenda for this meeting.

Jennifer Ferrer-Santa Ines, Director of Finance and Budget, opened the study session with the following ARPA funded projects presentations:

- Stephanie Hsu, Founding Executive Director of Yakima Music en Accion (YAMA), provided background and history of this program. She reported YAMA is interested in the potential space available for its program through the Arts Commission and the Yakima Arts Center being planned for the former Bank of America location.
- City Engineer Bill Preston and Water & Irrigation Manager Dave Brown provided information on utility improvements near the Mill Site being funded in conjunction with LIFT funds.
- Cheri Kilty of the YWCA and Isabel Garcia of Office of Rural and Farmworker Housing spoke about plans to expand Emergency Domestic Violence Shelter facilities at the former St. Elizabeth's School of Nursing building. Ms. Garcia stated the additional location will include many amenities including options to assist men and their children experiencing domestic violence.
- Assistant City Manager Rosylen Oglesby and Community Development Director Joan Davenport shared some initiatives, projects, and potential future funding options for the City Council's Strategic Priority related to Affordable Housing.
- Yakima Fire Department Chief Aaron Markham and Lt. Ira Cavin of the Yakima Police Department provided status of the public safety vehicles purchased using ARPA

funds.

- Ms. Oglesby returned to discuss technology purchases for the City.
- Ms. Ferrer-Santa Ines mentioned assistance to the Yakima Convention Center.
- Ms. Watkins spoke about hiring an additional Domestic Violence Advocate in the Legal Department.
- Mr. Harrison provided additional information regarding programs and community partnerships that are still being discussed and modified.

City Engineer Bill Preston reported on the Engineering Division budget.

John Cooper, President & CEO of the Yakima Valley Visitors and Convention Bureau, discussed Yakima Valley Tourism and the Yakima Convention & Event Center.

City Attorney Watkins gave a report on the GRIT program, which is now being funded through a federal grant and no longer requires City funding.

Council recessed at 1:36 p.m. and reconvened at 1:48 p.m.

4. Proposed fee increase for City of Yakima Parks and Recreation Division programs and services

Parks & Recreation Manager Ken Wilkinson presented the amended proposed fee increases which reflect Council's requests regarding youth programs.

MOTION: Lund moved and Cousens seconded to adopt the fees as presented. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

5. Presentation by FCS Group regarding preliminary study results for fees related to land use, building permits, and fire inspections

Joan Davenport, Community Development Director, provided brief comments regarding the fee study previously presented for Council's consideration. She noted further analysis will be performed to create a fee schedule for Council's future consideration.

Fire Chief Aaron Markham responded to Council questions regarding that portion of the study relating to fire inspection fees.

MOTION: Lund moved and Deccio seconded to direct staff to prepare legislation for 100% fee recovery. The motion carried by 5-2 vote, Brown and Byers voting no.

6. Adjournment

MOTION: Lund moved and Cousens seconded to adjourn to a City Council study session on October 11, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The motion carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

CERTIFICATION

READ AND CERTIFIED ACCURATE BY

COUNCIL MEMBER DATE

ATTEST:

COUNCIL MEMBER DATE

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

DRAFT