



City of Cincinnati

801 Plum Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Meeting Minutes 2 - Final

Budget and Finance Committee

Councilmember David Mann, Chairperson
Councilmember Chris Seelbach, Vice Chair
Councilmember Jan-Michele Kearney
Councilmember Greg Landsman
Councilmember Jeff Pastor
Councilmember P.G. Sittenfeld
Councilmember Betsy Sundermann
Councilmember Wendell Young

Monday, September 14, 2020

1:00 PM

Council Chambers, Room 300

ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Chairperson David Mann
Vice Chair Chris Seelbach
Jan-Michele Kearney
Greg Landsman
P.G. Sittenfeld
Betsy Sundermann
Wendell Young

Absent: 1 - Jeff Pastor

Also in attendance was Mayor Cranley (3:00 p.m.) Assistant City Manager Chris Bigham, Director of Finance Karen Alder, Assistant City Solicitor Emily Woemer and Clerk to the Committee Robert Neely.

PRESENTATIONS

SHELTERS FOR WINTER "In Our Age Of Pandemic"

Executive Director of Homeless Coalition Josh Springs

The following filled out a Speakers Card to speak during the meeting:

Aliah Englemon, Chinedum Ndikue, Pam Schirmer, Josh Springs, Rae Vuic, Tony Fizllum, Drew Gores, Kam Mislett, Peterson Mingo, Christina Mihalek

Also the following registered to speak remotely during the meeting:

Christina Mihalek, Andrea Money Penny, Richard Boydston, Bryan Corder, Stephen Dronen, Dreis Van Landuyt, Chris Frutkin, Marilyn Richey, Peter Hames, Richard Wildermuth, Rebecca Rettenaier, Christina Mihalek.

AGENDA

1. [202001445](#) REPORT, dated 9/10/2020, submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, regarding FY 2020 Carryover to FY 2021.
Sponsors: City Manager
Held
2. [202001447](#) REPORT, dated 9/10/2020, submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, regarding Department of Finance Reports for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020 (unaudited).
Sponsors: City Manager
Approve & File
3. [202000970](#) ORDINANCE, submitted by Councilmember Mann, from Andrew Garth, Interim City Solicitor, ESTABLISHING a City Council policy relating to the expenditure of payments in lieu of taxes received by the City of Cincinnati from tax increment financing incentive districts established pursuant to Section 5709.40© of the Ohio Revised Code.
Sponsors: Mann
Recommend Passage
4. [202001430](#) MOTION, submitted by Councilmembers Sunderman and Kearney, WE MOVE that the City Administration create guidelines for consulting with community councils when Tax Increment Funding (TIF) funds are requested for development projects within their boundaries. City staff should ensure that appropriate community council representatives have been adequately briefed before a project is presented to City Council for consideration. (STATEMENT ATTACHED)
Sponsors: Sundermann and Kearney
Filed
5. [202001169](#) REPORT, dated 8/31/2020, submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, regarding Tax Incentive Review Council Status of Property Tax Agreements Year End 2019.
Sponsors: City Manager
Approve & File

6. [202001189](#) ORDINANCE, dated 9/2/2020, submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, LEVYING assessments for unpaid costs for necessary sidewalk, sidewalk area, curb and gutter construction, reconstruction and emergency repairs conducted at miscellaneous locations by the City of Cincinnati through its Sidewalk Safety Program, made in accordance with Cincinnati Municipal Code Sections 721-149 through 721-169.
Recommend Passage
7. [202001193](#) MOTION, submitted by Councilmember Sittenfeld, dated 8/17/2020, WE MOVE that Findlay Playground - which was closed and gated for a period of nearly two years due to safety concerns - should be a flourishing, shared public space that increases safety, quality of life, and recreational opportunities for the surrounding community. WE FURTHER MOVE that with the recent re-opening of Findlay Playground, in order to ensure a successful, sustainable, equitable future, that the City Council supports and commits to investing in a course of action which includes and accomplishes the following: (BALANCE ON FILE IN CLERK'S OFFICE).
Sponsors: Sittenfeld, Young, Seelbach, Kearney and Landsman
Referred to CM for a Report
8. [202001240](#) REPORT, dated 9/2/2020, submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, regarding FY 2019 Single Audit Report and Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).
Sponsors: City Manager
Approve & File
9. [202001327](#) MOTION, submitted by Councilmember Sundermann, dated 8/31/2020, WE MOVE the City Administration prioritize the payoff of the \$50 million operating debt for emergency financing which was incurred by the City of Cincinnati for unforeseen and other necessary expenses that have arisen due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Prioritization means earmarking any available closeout monies for the payment of the loan after the Funds Stabilization Policy distributions have been made to the General Fund Carryover Balance and Reserve for Weather and One Time Events per City Council Ordinance, then to the Economic Downturn Reserve Fund, Working Capital Reserves, and Additional Reserves. (STATEMENT ATTACHED)
Sponsors: Sundermann
Held

10. [202001340](#) ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY) submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, on 9/2/2020, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant in an amount of up to \$998,863 from the Ohio Department of Health to support the City's efforts to address COVID-19 by providing funding for contact tracing and case investigations to slow the transmission of COVID-19, minimize morbidity and mortality, preserve healthcare, workforce and infrastructure functions, and minimize social and economic impacts; and **AUTHORIZING** the Finance Director to deposit the grant funds into Public Health Research Fund 350.

Sponsors: City Manager

Recommend Passage Emergency

11. [202001344](#) ORDINANCE submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, on 9/2/2020, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept and appropriate a grant in the amount of up to \$3,000,000 from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Healthy Homes Production Grant program for the purpose of helping to remediate properties with lead hazards and for the promotion and development of Healthy Homes Supplemental funding.

Sponsors: City Manager

Recommend Passage

12. [202001345](#) ORDINANCE submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, on 9/2/2020, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept and appropriate a grant in the amount of up to \$200,000 from the America's Healthy Food Financing Initiative Targeted Small Grants program, for the purpose of improving access to healthy foods in underserved areas, creating and preserving quality jobs, and revitalizing low-income communities.

Sponsors: City Manager

Recommend Passage

13. [202001351](#) ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY) submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, on 9/2/2020, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant in the amount of \$75,000 from the Greater Cincinnati Foundation for COVID-19 Pop-Up Testing; and authorizing the Finance Director to deposit the grant funds into Public Health Research Fund 350.

Sponsors: City Manager

Recommend Passage Emergency

14. [202001372](#) ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY) submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, on 9/2/2020, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to execute an Amendment to Lease with Cincinnati SMSA Limited Partnership to extend the term of an existing lease pertaining to space on the City-owned water tower located at 701 Covedale Avenue in Delhi Township.
- Sponsors:** City Manager
Recommend Passage Emergency
15. [202001373](#) ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY), submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, on 9/2/2020, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept an in-kind donation from Compliant Technologies of equipment valued at \$7,769.50 for use by the Cincinnati Police Department's Civil Disturbance Response Team.
- Sponsors:** City Manager
Recommend Passage Emergency
16. [202001374](#) ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY), submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, on 9/2/2020, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant in the amount of up to \$50,000 from the Gary Sinise Foundation First Responders Grant Program for the purchase of CordicoShield, a customized law enforcement wellness app, aimed at strengthening workforce resilience, well-being, and retention for high-stress professions.
- Sponsors:** City Manager
Recommend Passage Emergency
17. [202001375](#) ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY) submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, on 9/2/2020, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to execute an Amendment to Lease with New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC to extend the term of an existing lease pertaining to space on the City-owned water tower located at 6141 Campus Lane in Mt. Washington neighborhood of Cincinnati.
- Sponsors:** City Manager
Recommend Passage Emergency
18. [202001377](#) ORDINANCE submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, on 9/2/2020, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for a grant in the amount of up to \$391,950 from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's Diesel Mitigation Trust Fund for the purpose of replacing a select number of diesel vehicles within the City fleet.
- Sponsors:** City Manager
Recommend Passage

19. [202001378](#) ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY) submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, on 9/2/2020, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant in an amount up to \$250,000 from the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Office of Criminal Justice Services, FY 2020 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Grant (CFDA #16.034) for the purpose of reimbursing the Cincinnati Police Department for overtime expenses related to Coronavirus preparation, prevention and response; and **AUTHORIZING** the Finance Director to deposit the grant funds into Law Enforcement Grant Fund 368, Project Account No. 20CERF.

Sponsors: City Manager

Recommend Passage Emergency

20. [202001380](#) ORDINANCE submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, on 9/2/2020, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager or her designee to apply for, accept, and appropriate Water Supply Revolving Loan Account loan funding in the approximate amount of \$8,000,000 from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and the Ohio Water Development Authority for the purpose of replacing aging water mains as well as planning, designing, and constructing drinking water facilities for Greater Cincinnati Water Works.

Sponsors: City Manager

Recommend Passage

21. [202001381](#) ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY), dated 9/2/2020, submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to vacate and sell to 100 Medpace Way, LLC; 200 Medpace Way, LLC; 300 Medpace Way, LLC; 400 Medpace Way, LLC; and the Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority certain portions of the public right-of-way known as Medpace Way in the Madisonville neighborhood of Cincinnati.

Recommend Passage Emergency

22. [202001382](#) LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION, dated 9/2/2020, submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, **DECLARING** the intent to appropriate to public use property required for the Auburn Avenue Improvement Project.

Recommend Passage

23. [202001385](#) ORDINANCE, dated 9/2/2020, submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to execute a Property Sale Agreement with BMC Vision, LLC for the sale of City-owned real property located at the southeast corner of the intersection of Bloor Avenue and Beechmont Circle in the Linwood neighborhood of Cincinnati.

Recommend Passage

24. [202001394](#) MOTION, submitted by Councilmember Kearney, WE MOVE for the City Administration to deliver a report to City Council, outlining all current city government activities and programs aimed to promoting and enabling homeownership for low-income individuals and families in Cincinnati, along with an update on the impact and effectiveness of these activities. WE FURTHER MOVE for this report to include a feasibility analysis for providing low-income homeowners with forgivable loans to make necessary repairs and home improvements, such that the loan becomes forgivable (in full, or part) upon five (5) years of residing within the home. If such a program (or set of programs) already exists, we ask that the report outline in detail how to program(s) work, who the program(s) have served (e.g. by income-level, age, household size, and neighborhood), and recommendations for expanding such program(s) to increase impact. WE FURTHER MOVE for the city administration to identify funding sources that could be used to enable either the city, or a city partner organization, to complete small repairs for low-income homeowners, such that homeowners would be liable to pay back the cost of repairs on a sliding scale, depending on level of household income. Most middle-class families cannot come up with a one-time sum of \$20,000 for a new roof, for example, but could very well make important investments in their homes if granted the option to pay back the sum of repairs over time. WE FURTHER MOVE that this report be delivered to City Council within 14 days. (STATEMENT ATTACHED)

Sponsors: Kearney

Referred to CM for a Report

25. [202001401](#) MOTION, submitted by Councilmember Kearney, WE MOVE for the City Administration to cease adding fines associated with code enforcement violations to the property tax bills of residential property owners. WE FURTHER MOVE that the City Administration provide recommendations to City Council to create a program (or set of programs) similar to what was formerly known as the "Harbor Fund", which provided low-income homeowners with grants to resolve code violations. WE FURTHER MOVE for this report to be delivered within 14 days following passage of this motion. (STATEMENT ATTACHED)

Sponsors: Kearney

Filed

26. [202001429](#) MOTION, submitted by Councilmembers Seelbach, Kearney, Landsman, Sittenfeld and Young, WE MOVE that the Administration declare the East Walnut Hills Two-Way Conversion Project a FY22 Capital Priority Project, allowing it to receive full funding in the Capital Budget before it is introduced to Council. ~~The Community has worked with the City for years on this project which has received broad support and is ready to begin construction as early as next summer.~~ For the purpose of reimbursing up to \$ 1 million in funds from the East Walnut Hills TIF that are projected to be used for the Two-way Conversion Project. The Community has worked with the City for years on this project which has received broad support and is ready to begin construction as early as next summer. (AMENDED ON THE FLOOR OF COMMITTEE ON 9/14/2020)

Mr. Seelbach moved to amend the motion.

Adopt

- Yes:** 5 - Vice Chair Seelbach
Councilmember Kearney
Councilmember Landsman
Councilmember Sittenfeld
Councilmember Young
- No:** 1 - Councilmember Sundermann
- Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Pastor
- Abstain:** 1 - Chairperson Mann

27. [202001539](#) ORDINANCE, (EMERGENCY) dated 09/11/2020, submitted by Mayor Cranley, from Andrew W. Garth, Interim City Solicitor, AUTHORIZING the transfer and appropriation of the sum of \$2,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of "East Walnut Hills Equivalent Fund 486" (East Walnut Hills TIF District) to existing capital improvement program project account no. 980x232x212387, "East Walnut Hills Two-Way Conversion," to provide resources for the conversion of William Howard Taft Road, E. McMillan Street, and Woodburn Avenue to two-way streets in the neighborhood of East Walnut Hills; and further AMENDING the description of the existing capital improvement program project account no. 9o80x232x212387, "East Walnut Hills Two-Way Conversion."

Sponsors: Cranley

Held

- Yes:** 2 - Vice Chair Seelbach
Councilmember Kearney
- No:** 5 - Chairperson Mann
Councilmember Landsman
Councilmember Sittenfeld
Councilmember Sundermann
Councilmember Young
- Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Pastor

Recommend Passage

Yes: 7 - Chairperson Mann
Vice Chair Seelbach
Councilmember Kearney
Councilmember Landsman
Councilmember Sittenfeld
Councilmember Sundermann
Councilmember Young

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Pastor

28. [202001435](#) MOTION, submitted by Councilmembers Young and Kearney, WE MOVE that the Administration amend the existing CRA agreement with 2347 Reading Road, LLC, an affiliate of Kingsley & Co., for its 2347 Reading Road hotel project to: (1) extend the project completion deadline through December 31, 2024, and (2) extend the outside tax year by which the abatement would commence through 2024. (STATEMENT ATTACHED)

Sponsors: Young and Kearney

Referred to CM for a Report

29. [202001299](#) ORDINANCE submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, on 9/10/2020, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to execute a *Grant of Easement* in favor of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., granting a utility easement over a portion of City-owned property generally located at 1600 Gest Street in the Lower Price Hill neighborhood of Cincinnati.

Sponsors: City Manager

Recommend Passage

30. [202001448](#) ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY) submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, on 9/10/2020, **AUTHORIZING** the payment of \$7,152.91 as a moral obligation to the Urban League of Greater Southwestern Ohio for services provided to the City as part of the Cincinnati Initiative to Reduce Violence related to the continued and uninterrupted deployment of Community Engagement Specialists to targeted neighborhoods affected by gun violence.

Sponsors: City Manager

Recommend Passage Emergency

31. [202001449](#) ORDINANCE submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, on 9/10/2020, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant from the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center in the amount of \$12,750 for the purpose of providing funding in support of Hirsch Recreation Community Programming to increase the programming capacity of the Hirsch Recreation Center for members of the Avondale community; and further **AUTHORIZING** the Finance Director to deposit the donated funds in Fund 319, "Contributions for Recreation Purposes."

Sponsors: City Manager

Recommend Passage

32. [202001450](#) ORDINANCE submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, on 9/10/2020, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant from the National Recreation and Parks Association Summer Meals Support Program in the amount of \$10,000 to provide emergency funding relief to support sustained operations of meal programs that have been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic throughout the summer of 2020; and further **AUTHORIZING** the Finance Director to deposit the donated funds in Fund 319, "Contributions for Recreation Purposes."

Sponsors: City Manager

Recommend Passage

33. [202001451](#) ORDINANCE submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, on 9/10/2020, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to accept and appropriate monetary donations from the Cincinnati Recreation Foundation on behalf of the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center in an amount up to \$15,000 for the purpose of providing financial resources for Cincinnati Recreation Commission's summer camp activities for youth and families; SALT Ministries in the amount of \$3,200 for the purpose providing financial resources in the form of swim admission passes for Avondale community youth to swim at Hirsch Recreation Center Pools; the Rock By the Sea in the amount of \$5,000 for the purpose of providing financial resources for Avondale community youth to swim at Hirsch Recreation Center Pool; and the Avondale Development Corporation in the amount of \$4,000 for the purpose of providing financial resources for the Avondale Community youth to attend Cincinnati Recreation Commission summer camp activities; and **AUTHORIZING** the Finance Director to deposit the donated funds in Fund 319, "Contributions for Recreation Purposes."

Sponsors: City Manager

Recommend Passage

34. [202001452](#) ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY) submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, on 9/10/2020, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant of up to \$253,800 from the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, FY 2020 Local Solicitation (CFDA #16.738); and further AUTHORIZING the City Manager to appropriate the grant proceeds in the total amount of up to \$253,800 for purposes of funding the Police Visibility Overtime Program, the Sexual Assault Advocate Program contract with Women Helping Women, and Hamilton County Pre-Trial Services.

Sponsors: City Manager

Recommend Passage

35. [202001528](#) ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY), dated 9/14/2020, submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, AUTHORIZING the City Manager to execute a Grant of Easements in favor of Great Parks of Hamilton County granting easements over City-owned land near the Beechmont Avenue Bridge, on either side of the Little Miami River, in the Linwood and Mt. Washington neighborhoods of Cincinnati.

Recommend Passage

36. [202001538](#) ORDINANCE (EMERGENCY) submitted by Paula Boggs Muething, Interim City Manager, on 9/14/2020, **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to execute any and all agreements and take such other steps as may be necessary in order to sell City-owned real property at 835-847 Oak Street in the Walnut Hills neighborhood of Cincinnati to Melrose IHNGC Limited Partnership, an affiliate of The Model Group, Inc. and Interfaith Hospitality Network of Greater Cincinnati, Inc.

Sponsors: City Manager

Recommend Passage

ADJOURNMENT

The Budget and Finance Committee adjourned at 4:45 p.m.