

SAINT PAUL LONG-RANGE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Monday, Monday, August 12, 2024, 5:00 – 7:00 pm | Rondo Community Library

- I. Call to Order at 5:10 by Chair Tobolt
Roll Call
 - a. Members in attendance: Lauren Dees-Erikson, Raymond Hess, Robert (Brian) Jackson, Pat McQuillan, Carl Johnson, Demetrius Shaw, Darren Tobolt, Pang Yang
 - b. Members excused: Makayla Cox
 - c. Members Absent: William (Liam) O'Brien
 - d. City Staff and Community Members in Attendance: Nichelle Bottko Woods, Shannon Forney, Neal Younghans, Shane Wurst - Office of Financial Services; Anne Weber- Parks and Recreation; Jeramiah Melquist, Jill LaCasse, Jamie Smith – Saint Paul Fire Department; Jane McClure - Villager / Monitor; Ellie Beaver, Matt Beaver, Tom Bowman, Jenna Bowman, Stephen Katz, Stephanie Pinkalla, Kevin Dahlin, Meg Duhr – Community Members.
- II. Approval of Meeting Agenda: Hess moved to approve the agenda, Dees-Erikson seconded, motion passed.
- III. Approval of July 22 Meeting Minutes: Johnson moved to approve the minutes, Hess seconded, motion passed.
- IV. Budget Amendments
 - a. **RES PH 24-179 Fleet Roof Contingency** – Nichelle Bottko Woods recapped Shane Wurst's July presentation on Fleet budget resolution. Shane Wurst from OFS Fleet described that this project is to repair the roof at the 891 Dale Street Public Works municipal garage and PW campus. The roof is 40 years old. The project was originally approved by the CIB in 2021 but was delayed due to supply chain stresses and existing roof solar panels that made access difficult. The project has returned to an active state and PW procured 5 contractor bids that were all considerably more than the original budgeted amount. PW is requesting additional funds from contingency to complete the project.
Nichelle Bottko Woods explained that contingency funds would come from eldest CIB contingency amounts from 2022 for this project, of which there is \$1,202,994 available. She also explained that CIB projects of this nature were expected to be completed within 5 years, as it concurs with the 5 year bond terms that support these projects. Hess moved and Shaw seconded to recommend approval of the motion.
Motion Passed
 - b. **RES PH 24-178: Sale of GO CIB Bonds** - Neal Younghans of OFS Treasury, presented the budget amendment resolution for Treasury to reflect the sale of G.O. Capital Improvement Bonds and G.O. Street Reconstruction Bonds, allowing existing debt to

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be paid earlier. Hess moved and Shaw seconded to recommend approval of the motion. Motion Passed

- c. **RES PH 24-203 Fire Station 7 Funding** -Assistant SPFD Fire Chief Melquist presented on the budget amendment to increase funding from bonds and federal earmark for the construction of new Fire Station 7. Hess moved and Yang seconded to recommend approval of the motion. Motion Passed
 - d. Public Works Budget Amendments -Anne Weber from Public Works presented on the following budget amendments:
 - i. **RES PH 24-194 2024 Bicycle Facility** -Transferring designated funding from the General Fund to the 2024 Bicycle Facility Improvements Program. Yang moved and Dees-Erickson seconded to recommend approval of the motion. Motion Passed
 - ii. **RES PH 24-195 Downtown Paver Replacement Project** - Using CIB bond interest income to replace pavers in the downtown. Hess moved and Johnson seconded to recommend approval of the motion. Motion Passed
 - iii. **RES PH 24-196 Fourth and St. Peter** - Amending the financing and spending plans for the Fourth and St. Peter Pedestrian Improvement, Kellogg/Third Bridge, Shepard Road Bridge near Otto and the West Side Pedestrian Improvement Projects. Dees-Erickson moved and Johnson seconded to recommend approval of the motion. Motion Passed
- V. Public Hearing: 2024 – 2024 Community Proposals
- Chair Tobolt invited community members to use the sign in sheet at the back of the room to signal their interest in speaking. Speakers were limited to two minutes each, and provided the following testimony:
- a. Ellie Beaver - represented the proposal for traffic calming on Jefferson Avenue in the West 7th Neighborhood. She lives near the specified intersection and has noticed increased volume and speed of traffic. She has witnessed multiple crashes and more near misses. Curb improvements have been made, but additional traffic calming measures are needed. She testified to finding the Community Proposal process confusing and overwhelming and was disappointed by the high dollar amount of the cost estimate. The group would like to find other ways to address the need, if this proposal isn't successful. However, many neighbors have already invested time and resources in the CIB Community Proposal process already.

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- b. Kevin Dahler - represented the proposal for traffic calming at Thomas and Griggs, which was supported by the Hamline Midway Coalition. He restated that traffic calming is critical to neighborhood safety and advocated again for the project.
- c. Meg Duhr spoke on behalf of the West 7th/Fort Road Federation. She described that the Community Proposal Process was confusing and redundant, and that the cost estimate was incredibly high at 1.5 million dollars. She described that her group put in the work for badly needed traffic calming, which was time intensive, while some of the projects recommended for funding don't seem as critical to public safety. She described the poll rankings as being very confusing and raised concerns about the transparency and accountability of the CIB score and ranking processes.
- d. Jenna Bowman spoke to the traffic calming proposal on Jefferson Avenue. She agreed with previous speakers about the critical need for improved safety, as she described cars doing rolling stops on the avenue. She also described frustration with the Community Proposal process.

Chair Tobolt ensured all community members who were interested had the opportunity to speak. He then closed the public hearing portion of the meeting with some final observations about the Community Proposal Process. He acknowledged that many proposals for this process were specifically targeted to increase pedestrian safety, and that it merits examination whether a competitive process is the best way to go about these safety improvements. He also acknowledged the frustrations applicants had with the process and committed to improving the process and communications with applicants.

VI. New Business

- a. Community Proposal Funding History and Polls -Nichelle Bottko Woods describes the Community proposal rankings, scores and poll data. Out of 28 Community Proposals, 7 were tentatively recommended for available funding based on the highest-ranking proposals. There was discussion about the degree to which the polling of projects informs the rankings of the projects, and the CIB committee scores are the primary scores by which the rankings are created.
- b. 2024 – 2025 Community Proposal Recommendation - Chair Tobolt reminded the committee that the 2024-2025 Community Proposal Recommendations required a final discussion and vote. He presented the 2024-2025 Community Proposals in order of rank by highest to lowest scores. Discussion followed about urgent safety needs,

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specifically around pedestrian safety, as a significant theme in many of the proposals. A point was raised that the recommended funding for the Mounds Park Restoration project was already significantly less than the project costing indicated, and that perhaps those funds were more strategically used by directing funds to the traffic calming at Jefferson Avenue project, even though it scored lower. Tolbolt made the motion to remove the Mounds Park Restoration project from the recommended list and replace it with the Jefferson Ave project. McQuillan seconded. Motion passes. A motion to send the amended 2024-2025 Community Proposal Recommendations to the Mayor was made by Hess and seconded by Dees-Erickson. Motion passes.

- VII. Announcements
 - a. Next Meeting: Monday, September 9, 2024 Rondo Community Library
- VIII. Meeting Adjourned at 6:58pm