



City of Maricopa

Meeting Minutes - Final Budget and Finance Council Subcommittee

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Tuesday, March 9, 2021

1:00 PM

Executive Conference Room

1. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 1 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Mayor Price, Vice-Mayor Smith, and Councilmember Manfredi were present.

3. Agenda Items

3.1 BFCS 21-01

The Budget and Finance Subcommittee will meet to discuss general budget and finance items including, but not limited to, items related to any and all City programs.

City Manager Rick Horst gave a presentation on the Maricopa Express Transit (MET) Program. He reviewed the local circulation route and the dial-a-ride program, including revenues and expenses. He recommended exploring the possibility of a digital format for reservations and payment, adjusting the fee structure, reducing the regional trips to one stop at the Ahwatukee Hub, moving the program to in-house and eliminate contract services, and restructuring dial-a-ride criteria. Discussion ensued regarding MET services. There was consensus on making the circulating route a free service, exploring digital formats for payment and reservations, to revise advertising and sponsorships and to look into taking it in-house. They discussed re-evaluating stops for the circulating route and adding the new library and hotel.

Next, City Manager Host gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Storm Water Utility Program. He stated that a storm water program was needed to meet a number of federal, state and local regulations and elaborated. He discussed recommended funding options including:

- General Fund*
- Utility Fees*
- Impact Fees*
- Special Assessment*
- HOA (Home Owner Associations) Assessments*

He presented a four part plan that included 1. Creation of a Storm Water Utility for construction and maintenance of new and existing storm water infrastructure. 2. Assumed responsibilities for flood plain administration from Pinal County. 3. Assuming responsibilities of the Maricopa Flood Control District and 4. Hiring a Civil Engineer who can manage the utility, flood administration and Capital Improvement Plan to include the upcoming Flood Mitigation Project. He detailed the revenue options to support the utility needs including collecting permit fees currently paid to the Pinal

County for flood administration, creating a utility with a fee assessment, and consider not reducing the current tax levy and use those funds to support the utility but eliminating the MFCD tax levy while at the same time the Maricopa Fire Bond is eliminated. Discussion ensued on the pros and cons of a General Fund approach via Tax Revenue and a utility fee approach. Next he discussed credit card surcharge and recommended to allow the city to recoup the full cost of all credit card transactions and grant staff the flexibility to adjust the rates according to market. He also recommended assessing an additional .25% to cover staff cost related to credit card administration. Lastly, he discussed technology fees and recommended applying a technology assessment of 1% to all fees collected within the City.

Councilmember Manfredi asked for clarification of the tax levy and stated he would still like to see a reduction. Discussion ensued. Consensus was to move forward with the recommendations.

4. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:26 p.m.