



**BOARD OF MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION
SEPTEMBER 27TH, 2023
21 N. AVONDALE PLAZE
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING REGULAR MEETING**

MINUTES

Members Present: Jonathan Elmore, Mayor
Brian Fisher, Mayor Pro Tem
Lisa Shortell, Commissioner
Lionel Laratte, Commissioner
Dee Merriam, Commissioner

Staff Present: Patrick Bryant, City Manager
Shannon Powell, Asst. City Manager
Ellen Powell, Communications Manager
Gina Hill, City Clerk
Stephen Quinn, City Attorney
Helen Menefee, Admin Assistant
Kristen Moretz, Capital Projects Manager
Harry Hess, Police Chief

Item #1 Meeting Called to Order

Item #2 Adoption of Agenda
Commissioner Laratte moved to adopt. Commissioner Merriam seconded. All eyes.

Item #3 **Draft 2024 Operating Budget and Draft 24-25 Capital Program**
City Manager Bryant introduced the budgets and budgeting process. He then went over the draft capital program item by item, covering several funding sources and projected capital expenses. Mr. Bryant then fielded some questions from members of the BOMC. Commissioner Shortell noted how much the cost of stormwater projects has increased. She also wanted to make sure everyone remembers that there's a chance SPLOST could not pass in the November election. Commissioner Laratte asked about the cost of certain stormwater projects and the plaza renovation across from city hall. Mayor Pro Tem Fisher asked about the improvements planned for Laredo Drive. Mr. Bryant said that is now a GDOT project. Mr. Fisher reminded the audience that these budgets are not etched in stone. Discussion continued about funding sources and project costs.

Item #4 **Discussion of Special Event Ordinance Contents**

City Manager Bryant said that City Attorney Quinn shared a special events ordinance used by the city of Clarkston. Assistant City Manager Powell explained why staff feels such an ordinance is needed, especially with the addition of the Town Green. She talked about what would be included in an ordinance, such as a parking plan, permitting information, trash and police plans, community impact, as well as reasons an event could be denied. Ms. Powell answered questions about the process being online. Mr. Bryant told the BOMC that he and Ms. Powell will be at a conference in Austin, Texas much of the following week.

Item #5 **Stormwater Project Discussion**

- **Hydrologic Model**
- **Dunwick Drive**
- **Washington and Pine**
- **Kensington Road**
- **Lakeshore Drive**

Capital Projects Manager Moretz started by explaining why the North Woods project is dormant. She said that some engineering has to be redone and she expects it to take another couple of weeks before work can get started again. She gave a presentation illustrating proposed solutions to each of the stormwater problems listed above. She fielded questions and concerns from members of the BOMC. The group also discusses fixing issues along Hess Drive and when that might happen. City Manager Bryant gave a status report on these projects and process moving forward.

Item #6 **Public Comment**

Jan Hover asked about plans for Fletcher Park. Mr. Bryant said the funds reflected in the capital project plan are from a grant the city received for improvements to the park. There are currently no specific plans in space. Barbara Seal urged the BOMC and staff to think about long term maintenance of green stormwater infrastructure. Rob Hopek had a question about some of the stormwater work to be done at Washington and Pine Streets.

Item #7 **Adjournment**

Commissioner Merriam motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Laratte seconded. All ayes.

APPROVED OCTOBER 11TH, 2023



Gina Hill, City Clerk