



CITY OF OREGON CITY

CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION

MINUTES

Commission Chambers, Libke Public Safety Facility, 1234 Linn Ave, Oregon City
Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at 6:00 PM

CONVENE WORK SESSION AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Lyles Smith convened the meeting at 6:01 PM.

PRESENT: 5 - Commissioner Frank O'Donnell, Commissioner Denyse McGriff, Commissioner Rocky Smith, Commissioner Adam Marl, and Mayor Rachel Lyles Smith

STAFFERS: 10 - City Manager Tony Konkol, City Recorder Jakob Wiley, Interim Community Development Director Aquilla Hurd-Ravich, Asst. to the City Manager Lisa Oreskovich, Police Chief Jim Band, Finance Director Matt Zook, Library Director Greg Williams, Asst. City Engineer Josh Wheeler, Parks and Recreation Director Kendall Reid, and Public Works Director John Lewis

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Update on the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) funding received by the City of Oregon City

The Commission was presented with an estimated award amount and proposed uses during the 2021-23 biennial budget adoption process in May 2021. On January 6, 2022, the U.S. Treasury released the much-anticipated final rule governing spending guidelines, effective April 1, 2022. The Commission will have the opportunity to formally approve future expenditures as necessary through the presentation of contracts over \$50,000 and a supplemental budget.

Matt Zook, Finance Director, provided the staff report. The American Rescue Plan Act (2021) (ARPA) is expected to provide the City with \$8,293,549.00, which is more than expected in the adopted budget. Mr. Zook reviewed the four eligible uses:

- *Response to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- *Premium pay to eligible workers performing essential work*
- *Investment in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure*
- *Provision of government services to the extent of reduction in revenue due to the pandemic.*

Tony Konkol, City Manager, asked for clarification on the changes in the final rules related to the ARPA funds. Mr. Zook identified that the restrictions on funds were waived for allocations below \$10,000,000.00, like the City. There was discussion on the actual revenue loss experienced by Oregon City and the Federal calculation.

Commissioner O'Donnell cautioned about making quick choices with such large sums of money. Mr. Konkol provided some background on items in the budget identified as receiving the proposed ARPA funds.

Commissioner McGriff suggested using some of the money for securing the Municipal Elevator, due to several break-ins recently after-hours and traffic improvements at 10th and Main Street. She suggested increasing the amount allocated to premium staff pay for essential workers.

Mayor Lyles Smith asked why all of the funds weren't allotted to water services? Mr. Konkol and Mr. Zook provided information on how the funding breakdown was arrived at. Mayor Lyles Smith commented on some of the proposed expenditures and felt some of the funding amounts were too much.

Mayor Lyles Smith noted that she did not support premium employee salaries, as requested by the Oregon City Police Employee Association. Mayor Lyles Smith asked about the specific items for the Library. Greg Williams, Library Director, discussed the expenses related to COVID-19 and reestablishing services.

Commissioner O'Donnell asked about the end date of using the funding and would like to see the justifications for any department requesting funds. Mr. Konkol and Mr. Zook provided information on the end dates of using the funds by 2026. Commissioner O'Donnell did not support premium employee pay for COVID reasons. Commissioner O'Donnell supported using funding for increased security in City parks and other facilities, including the Municipal Elevator. Commissioner Smith would like to discuss the items more in-depth at another work session.

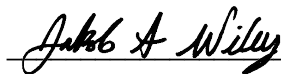
Commissioner Marl commented he was not aware the City was proposing contributing funds to relocating the Father's Heart homeless facility and that the funds proposed for the Cayuse Five Tribute were too much.

Mr. Konkol asked the Commission what they wanted to see come back for further discussion. Commissioner O'Donnell commented on the Cayuse Five Tribute and that the tribes have a distinct role in the project and that the City has not received definable input from the tribes on the memorial. Mayor Lyles Smith asked Mr. Konkol to come back with more narrative for each proposed item. Commissioner McGriff would like to see additional information presented to the Commission on premium pay for essential employees. Chief Band expressed his support for the premium pay for essential employees and cited examples from the law enforcement officer perspective.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Lyles Smith adjourned the meeting at 6:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Jakob S. Wiley, City Recorder