

## MINUTES

City of Concord Finance Committee Meeting  
June 9, 2022 @ 5:30 PM  
City Council Chambers

**Present:** Mayor James Bouley, City Councilors Brent Todd, Jennifer Kretovic, Erle Pierce, Karen McNamara, Stacey Brown, Amanda Grady Sexton, Byron Champlin, Fred Keach, Paula McLaughlin, Keith Nyhan, Gail Matson, Candace White Bouchard, and Zandra Rice Hawkins.

**Excused:** Councilor Nathan Fennessy.

The Mayor opened the meeting at 5:33 PM and stated that the purpose of this meeting was to hold a work session to discuss potential changes to the FY 2023 proposed budget, followed by a City Council meeting for a public hearing and adoption of the proposed budget.

Mayor Bouley suggested making the following changes to the proposed FY 2023 budget:

### Operating Budget:

- In General Overhead, adding \$10,000 for food for the Friendly Kitchen. Mayor Bouley noted that The Friendly Kitchen is in a good financial position and explained that the reason for this request is due to the fact that The Friendly Kitchen has expanded on their services. They are serving more meals than ever; they have added delivery service to seniors; they are working with the schools and the Boys & Girls Club to identify those children who are in need of food; they have constructed a family dining area for those they serve who have children; and they are reaching out to the refugee community to learn about their dietary needs.
- In General Overhead, adding \$2,500 to the League of NH Craftsmen Special Programs, increasing the amount from \$5,000 to \$7,500.
- In the Police Department, adding \$150,000 for two new police officer positions for nine months. This will increase the General Fund Operating Budget by \$162,500, changing the General Fund Budget Appropriation from \$74,477,264 to \$74,639,764.
- To offset these increases, in the City Manager's proposed budget, reduce the transfer-in from the Recreation reserve by \$200,000 to offset costs for the Citywide Community Center. Mayor Bouley recommends increasing this transfer by \$162,500 so that the tax rate increase will remain at 4.8%.

### Capital Budget

- CIP #641, Interactive Police Simulator: Eliminate \$50,000 in FY 2025 and bring it forward in July for approval using repurposed funds from other completed or revised capital items. The simulator allows for a variety of live trainings for police officers, which is important for our officers on the streets. There is no impact to the FY 2023 budget, as this is in the out-years.
- CIP #642, Forensic Laser Scanner: Eliminate \$60,000 in FY 2025 and bring it forward in July for approval using repurposed funds from other completed or revised capital items. The scanner also qualifies for grant funding, which, when awarded, will also be brought forward for Council approval. The simulator is a computer system that will improve officer training related to use of force, de-escalation, and other scenario-based training, which will improve safety for the community at large and police officers. This also achieves a recommendation

from the Governor's Commission on Law Enforcement, Accountability, Community and Transparency to increase law enforcement scenario-based training. The scanner will allow police to quickly and accurately process major crime scenes, including homicides, and fatal and serious bodily injury accidents. This has become the standard for accident reconstruction and 3D crime scene mapping and will enhance the Police Department's processing of major crime scenes. There is no impact to the FY 2023 budget for this item, since it is in the out-years.

- CIP #51, White Park: Move \$800,000 for the Monkey Around Playground from FY 2024 to FY 2023. All three funding sources will be asterisked and the funds will be approved at a later date.
- CIP #595, Parking Meters: Eliminate \$180,000 for the replacement of 165 meters. Mayor Bouley noted that the Parking Committee is currently in the process of reviewing meters that were put in and they are finding that many are not producing the amount of revenue we had projected. Therefore, the Mayor proposes we repurpose and re-designate some of those meters we currently have, which aren't being used, instead of purchasing new ones.
- CIP #432, State Street Parking Garage: Move \$1 million for design and permitting from FY 2023 to FY 2024. Mayor Bouley noted that there are a lot of unknowns about the future needs of this garage (i.e., what's the State going to do; what's the YMCA going to do; etc.), therefore it makes sense to hold off on this.
- CIP #40, Langley Parkway: Eliminate CIP #40 and authorize the City Manager to take the necessary action to negotiate the release of any property rights the City may possess relative to Langley Parkway Phase III-B, as identified in the City's CIP #40, and return to the City Council to formally approve such action via Resolution or other appropriate City Council action.

The above actions will reduce the bonded portion of the Capital Resolution from \$15,082,000 to \$13,902,000, and the total CIP Resolution from \$19,433,020 to \$18,253,020.

Councilor Grady Sexton asked if the additional \$10,000 proposed for food for the Friendly Kitchen would be earmarked for new, expanded services; or just for general operations. Mayor Bouley responded that it would be for the new services the Friendly Kitchen is providing.

Councilor Kretovic indicated that she was pleased to see the Mayor's proposal to add funding for two new police officer positions. Although four positions were requested, she said she is happy to see that two are being added, and hopes that maybe next year the City Manager/City Council will consider adding the other two positions. Mayor Bouley indicated that he tried to add four but that he just couldn't find the offsetting dollars to do so.

Councilor Nyhan expressed his concern about the increasing cost of fuel and asked if the City has enough funds set aside for fuel assistance for the upcoming year. Mayor Bouley indicated that we have \$100,000 in contingency, which is the source of funds that we traditionally draw from if we run out of funds in our Human Services budget. Councilor Brown echoed Councilor Nyhan's concerns, as she said she is hearing concerns from many of her constituents who are very concerned about the high price of gas and other items.

Mayor Bouley indicated that he made every effort to make cuts to the budget, going line by line. He stated that if we wanted to make budget cuts, we would be looking at having to cut personnel, as it is a very tight budget.

Councilor Rice Hawkins stated that she will not be supporting the addition of two new police officer positions. She said she would rather see that money be used for preventive outreach work to lower crime before responding to it. She feels that this could be done using current police department personnel, not necessarily police officers, who are trained to do social service outreach.

Councilor Keach responded to Councilor Rice Hawkins' comments, indicating that he feels adding two new police officers will actually prevent crime and allow for more proactive policing, rather than reactive policing, and allow for the officers to point people with mental health and/or substance abuse problems to the resources that exist.

Councilor Champlin echoed Councilor Kretovic and supports the proposal of adding two new police officers.

Councilor Grady Sexton spoke about moving up the funding for the Monkey Around Playground and indicated that she feels this is more of a want than a need. She asked if there is a cost savings to constructing the Monkey Around Playground at the same time that the splash pad is installed. Manager Aspell noted that it will most likely be two different contractors doing the work, but feels that it would be better to have both projects done at the same time so as to not have to limit the public from different parts of the park over multiple years. Manager Aspell stated that while it will be difficult to coordinate the two projects, if we can do so it will be worth the effort. Councilor McNamara agreed with Manager Aspell, as she also had concerns with having these two projects done in separate years.

Councilor Brown advocated for leaving the Monkey Around Playground (CIP #63) in FY 2024 and moving the splash pad to FY 2024, because of the costs. She commented that the poorest in our community suffer more with the hot weather and are in need of our pools and library as places to go to cool off.

Councilor Rice Hawkins proposed moving CIP #107, Beaver Meadow Golf Course Clubhouse, out two years. Specifically, she would like to move the design phase from FY 2023 to FY 2025, and construction from FY 2024 to FY 2026. She feels that BMGC should have some sort of fundraising group, similar to the Friends of White Park, Friends of the Audi, etc. to help raise funds for this project. She also stated her concern that we aren't adequately providing Concord residents with perks, compared to out of town users, especially considering our residents subsidize the golf course. Lastly, she feels that with this year's budget climate for families, and the need for the City to invest in public safety, it would make sense to hold off on this.

At this time, the Mayor asked for a motion on his proposal to increase funding by \$10,000 for The Friendly Kitchen. Councilor Bouchard motioned, Council Matson seconded. Councilor Grady Sexton requested that we ensure that the funds are used for new, expanded programming. Councilor Grady Sexton's request was added to the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

The Mayor asked for a motion on his proposal to increase funding for the League of NH Craftsmen from \$5,000 to \$7,500. A motion was made by Councilor Keach, seconded by Councilor Todd, and the motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

The Mayor asked for a motion on his proposal to add \$150,000 to the Police Department budget for two new police officer positions for nine months. Councilor Rice Hawkins motioned to amend the proposal by allocating the funds, but sending the matter to the Public Safety Advisory Committee to discuss the best use of the funds before we hire new police officers, with prevention and outreach being the focus. There was no second and Councilor Rice Hawkins' amendment failed. A motion was made and seconded to add \$150,000 to the Police Department budget for the addition of two new police officer positions. Councilor Nyhan asked for a roll call vote, and the motion passed by a vote of 12-1, with Councilor Rice Hawkins being the dissenting vote. Councilor Brown recused herself from the vote.

A motion was made and seconded to offset the increase to the Friendly Kitchen, the League of New Hampshire Craftsman and to the Police Department budget for two new police officer positions, with a transfer-in of \$162,500 from the Recreation reserve. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

The Mayor asked for a motion on his proposal to eliminate \$50,000 in FY 2025 of CIP #641 for the Interactive Police Simulator. A motion was made and seconded and passed with a unanimous voice vote.

The Mayor asked for a motion on his proposal to eliminate \$60,000 in FY 2025 of CIP #642 for a Forensic Laser Scanner. A motion was made and seconded and passed with a unanimous voice vote.

The Mayor asked for a motion on his proposal to move \$800,000 for the Monkey Around Playground (CIP #51) from FY 2024 to FY 2023. A motion was made and seconded and passed with a voice vote.

The Mayor asked for a motion on his proposal to eliminate \$180,000 for the replacement of 165 parking meters (CIP #595). A motion was made and seconded and passed with a unanimous voice vote.

The Mayor asked for a motion on his proposal to move \$1 million from FY 2023 to FY 2024 for design and permitting of the State Street Parking Garage (CIP #432). A motion was made and seconded and passed with a unanimous voice vote.

The Mayor asked for a motion on his proposal to eliminate Langley Parkway / CIP #40 and for the City Manager to take the necessary action to negotiate the release of any property rights the City may possess relative to Langley Parkway Phase III-B, as identified in the City of Concord's Capital Improvement Plan #40, and to return to the City Council to formally approve such action via resolution or other appropriate City Council action. A motion was made by Councilor Champlin, seconded by Councilor McNamara. Discussion ensued.

Councilor Pierce asked the question, if this proposal passes, does it mean that the possibility of putting a road in at that location will never happen. Manager Aspell responded that the City Council could, at any time, decide to do so. As a follow-up, Councilor Pierce asked if we would be giving up the rights to the land to do so. Manager Aspell responded that, if this motion passes, we will not be able build the road the way it was originally envisioned.

Councilor Pierce commented that he feels a lot of misinformation has been floating around. He stated that we are here to discuss the FY 2023 budget and that there are no dollars allocated in the FY 2023 budget for Langley Parkway III. He recognized that there are many citizens that reside in the area who are passionate about not having the road built in their backyards, as well as many citizens that do not live in the area who are against it. However, doing away with CIP #40 does not mean a road will never be built along the current designated route and by voting to do away with it means nothing with regards to possible future plans. Councilor Pierce indicated that he will be voting to keep CIP #40 on the books so as to not tie the hands of a future City Council that may need to build an access road of some type along this route.

Councilor Brown suggested adding Langley Parkway Phase A to the motion, in addition to Phase B, and stated that she is in favor of this motion. Mayor Bouley responded that Phase A is the section of land that the City owns, and he didn't feel it was necessary to include, as the City Council won't be negotiating with itself. Councilor Brown then asked if it could be changed to Langley Parkway Phase III, without the A and the B, and leave it at that. Mayor Bouley said this was fine, but that the City would not be negotiating with itself. A motion was made to change the wording in the original motion to "Phase III".

Councilor Kretovic commented that she was surprised to see the City's leisure activities being the focus of this year's and next year's budgets, when she feels the focus should really be on public safety, especially considering there was a double murder on one of our hiking trails, and an ambulance was eliminated from the Manor Station. She stated that maybe not now, but at some point in the future, another access point to the Concord Hospital campus might be needed. She commented that the city is possibly going to be adding more than 600 housing units between Ward 3 and Ward 10 along Sewalls Falls Road, and those residents, along with the current residents, might benefit from a new access road to Concord Hospital someday. She also expressed her opinion that we should be utilizing our City Advisory Committees and requesting their review and input. She said she doesn't understand why we are not involving TPAC, the Trails Committee, the Conservation Committee, the Public Safety Committee, etc. in this discussion. She noted that she is not opposed to hiking and the trails. However, she wants the Council to be inclusive and listen to all points of view, and since that has not happened, she feels that due process has failed.

Councilor Rice Hawkins asked Councilor Kretovic if at any time over the last several months she had referred the matter to TPAC or any of the other committees she mentioned. Councilor Kretovic responded that, until budget hearings began and members of the community began coming forward in opposition to this, it had not risen to the level of referral to a committee. Councilor Kretovic also noted that since Langley Parkway III is not in the FY 2023 budget, it's in the FY 2024 budget, we could refer it to TPAC and any of the other committees today.

Mayor Bouley commented that an advisory committee doesn't have to wait until something is referred to it, they should be proactive in addressing things, as advisory to the Council. He also said he disagrees with Councilor Kretovic's comment that there is not a ticking clock. He feels that there is a clock ticking, which involves housing, improvement of blighted properties and economic development in this community. Mayor Bouley stated that greater growth in this community, particularly around the area of Rumford Street, Penacook Street and the Lincoln Financial property, will allow us to help pay for the new ambulance and other large expenses that have resulted in a 4.8% tax rate increase in FY 2023, which is about 2% higher than in recent past years.

Councilor Bouchard said she has empathy for the residents of Ward 5, and the others who are in opposition of Langley Parkway III. She noted that back when she and her husband bought their property on the Heights, there was a lot more open space. After the Steeplegate Mall was built, things changed drastically on the Heights and the area became much busier. Therefore, she does understand where the people of Ward 5 are coming from. She recalled a constituent whose husband had to be brought to Concord Hospital frequently. The constituent contacted Councilor Bouchard because she was frustrated that no matter which way she went to Concord Hospital, she never knew how long it would take her to get there, as it depended on the time of day, regardless of the various routes she took. Councilor Bouchard agrees with the Mayor that we need to look at this and we need to move fast, but she noted that we have potential housing growth coming and we also aren't sure what's going to happen with the Lincoln Financial and Concord Monitor properties. She asked that we keep CIP 40 where it is and do a comprehensive study for all parts of the City over the next year, and not assume that access to health care isn't an issue in the city due to short distances, because it's not true for Ward 9 and some of the other areas of the City.

Councilor Keach expressed concern that if we do away with CIP 40 we will be releasing the property rights and, once we do that, we can't recover them again. If there was a way to remove CIP 40 tonight without releasing the property rights, he would be all for it.

Mayor Bouley explained that by releasing the property rights to Section 3B, it will allow for increased density, a development project, and revitalization of the blighted properties like Santander Bank and the former Irving property. City Manager Aspell explained that if we focus on Section 3B, it pertains to the easterly portion only, from Auburn/Penacook Street to Boutin Street. The other portion of Langley Parkway III (Section A) is the section from Auburn Street to Pleasant Street.

Councilor Champlin explained the purpose of his motion was to remove impediments to the development of the Lincoln Financial property. He noted that after Irving razed its property, they decided not to go forward with redevelopment of the site due to the fear of Langley Parkway being built. He stressed that without the removal of Section 3B from CIP #40, nobody will be able to develop the Lincoln Financial property to its full potential. By removing Section 3B, it will allow City Administration to move forward and remove these impediments to development of these really critical pieces of property. He stressed the importance of maximizing the development of these properties for residential and commercial use so that we can broaden our tax base and take the pressure off our property taxpayers by creating more commercial property opportunities, and, hopefully creating more housing to meet the critical housing shortage that we have.

Councilor Todd commented that, having been a member of TPAC, Langley Parkway has always been a topic of discussion, primarily because no real viable alternate has been found to alleviate traffic issues that may occur in the future. He indicated that if we were only focusing on removing Section 3B, he would support it. He said he doesn't want to decide on something that will tie the hands of a future City Council.

Councilor Rice Hawkins spoke in support of removing all of Langley Parkway Phase III and stressed that we should listen to our residents and not keep revisiting this issue.

At this time the Mayor asked for a vote. There was considerable discussion about what exactly the committee members were voting on. After continued discussion about the wording of the motion, it was clarified that the vote would be for the original motion, which had been made by Councilor Champlin and seconded by Councilor McNamara, to eliminate Langley Parkway CIP #40 and for the City Manager to take the necessary steps to negotiate the release of any property rights the City may possess relative to Langley Parkway Phase III-B, as identified in the City of Concord's Capital Improvement Plan #40, and to return to the City Council to formally approve such action via resolution or other appropriate City Council action. The motion passed by a roll call vote of 8-5. YES: Councilors Brown, Champlin, Grady Sexton, Keach, Matson, McNamara, Nyhan, and Rice Hawkins. NO: Councilors Bouchard, Kretovic, McLaughlin, Pierce, and Todd. Mayor Bouley recused himself from the vote.

Councilor Rice Hawkins made a motion to move the Beaver Meadow Golf Course Clubhouse design (CIP #107) out two years to FY 2025, and construction of the clubhouse and parking lot out from FY 2024 to FY 2026. Councilor Brown seconded the motion.

Councilor Kretovic mentioned that the Golf Fund has ending working capital of about \$538,000 and suggested that we take funds out of the ending working capital and have BMGC fully fund the design of the clubhouse. The needs assessment report suggests that we could lose the building by FY 2026, so she feels we should at least get the design assessment done. She suggested that this is our opportunity to have a community center on the west side of the city. She also mentioned that the NH Golf Association is interested in space at the golf course, as well as the cross country ski club. She expressed her opinion that the clubhouse is an asset that we're going to lose if we don't invest in it.

Councilor Rice Hawkins asked why there hasn't been a booster club established for the golf course, like some of the City's other programs, and feels that we're asking a lot of our taxpayers in supporting a program that isn't accessible to all. Councilor Kretovic responded that the golf course falls under the Parks & Recreation Department, and that the Parks and Recreation Department already has a number of fundraising entities, one being "Ski the Beav". She also noted that, due to recent tax changes, there is no tax benefit to donating more than \$600, and, therefore, it would be impossible to raise the kind of money that is necessary for the design and/or construction of the clubhouse. She also noted that there are other facilities/programs in the City, such as the library and the pools, that receive support from taxpayers, whether they utilize them or not. Councilor Kretovic commented that golfers pay to play golf and those funds support the operations of the golf course and have for years. She expressed her opinion that the clubhouse is a monetary asset that we are going to lose if we do not invest in it.

Councilor Pierce commented that it is very difficult to raise funds for governmental entities. He looks at the golf course as being self-funded; people pay to play. He feels that the Library and the pools add to the quality of life for our citizens, just like the golf course, and they all need taxpayer help.

Councilor Brown noted that the committee had heard testimony from many people who love BMGC, and she feels that by taking a pause, it will allow for those people to show how much they really love BMGC by investing in it. She noted that many of the people who spoke in favor of the golf course indicated they would be willing to help raise funds.

Councilor Bouchard stated that people show their love for BMGC by paying to play; and if they aren't playing, they could be having lunch there, or using the putting greens, or the driving range. She stated that we don't ask citizens to show their love for the pickleball courts that were installed; not everyone uses the trails, but we support the maintenance of them; we don't ask people to show their love for the pools before we'll consider renovating them; and we don't ask people to show their love for basketball in order for the basketball courts to be maintained or improved. She said she feels that what makes Concord special is that there is something for everyone, and that the golf course is a great asset to the community.

Councilor Keach commented that he looks at the golf course as just one of the many recreational opportunities available to the citizens of Concord and we don't ask those programs to fundraise. He feels that we shouldn't be referring to the building as just a clubhouse, because that infers that it is just for golfers. We should be looking at it as a multi-use community center in a part of Concord that doesn't have one.

Councilor Todd agreed with Councilor Bouchard, and asked what the financial impact would be to taxpayers this year if Councilor Rice Hawkins' motion were to pass. Mayor Bouley responded that there is no impact to this year's tax rate.

Councilor Rice Hawkins mentioned the skate park, and the fact that the City asked the skate park users to show their investment in the skate park by becoming a non-profit; and feels we should be asking users of the golf course to do this. She also noted that she had requested a comparison of area golf course rates and that City Administration only provided a few. She reiterated that she would like a pause on this project for a couple of years so that the Golf Course Advisory Committee can review the matter and provide a comprehensive report in response to her concerns; i.e., how do our rates compare to other courses; how many Concord residents use the course; why don't we offer perks to Concord residents; etc. She also stated that she feels the expenditures of the golf course far outweigh the revenue, and that she finds it difficult to explain to constituents why the City is investing so much money in a program that is not accessible to all citizens because of its expense.

Councilor Champlin asked if a delay would jeopardize bringing in the NH Golf Association as a tenant to help defray the cost of a new clubhouse. City Manager Aspell stated that he feels it would.

Mayor Bouley commented that this building has become much more of a community center. He noted that the BMGC clubhouse is now a polling location for elections, as the Beaver Meadow School, which used to be the polling location for that ward, is not ADA accessible. He also commented that if we move the design out to FY 2025, it doesn't affect the tax rate, and its already



been pushed out three years. He noted that the building is in bad shape and that we won't be bonding until FY 2025 or FY 2026. He also mentioned that maintenance of the West Street Ward House is a capital improvement project and that nobody even uses it. He stated that the clubhouse at BMGC is used, and it is used year-round by a variety of different users, and that he feels it is an asset we should invest in.

A roll call vote was held and the motion failed 2-12. YES: Councilors Rice Hawkins and Brown. NO: Mayor Bouley, Councilors Bouchard, Champlin, Grady Sexton, Keach, Kretovic, Matson, McLaughlin, McNamara, Nyhan, Pierce, and Todd.

Councilor Brown motioned to add \$331,000 in GO Bonds in FY 2023 to CIP #68 for the purpose of adding gates, a sidewalk connector, pavers, fill to grade and WiFi to the north side enclosed patio area at the Library; and remove \$325,000 of GO Bonds from CIP #235, BMGC Irrigation Project for the 1<sup>st</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup> holes. Councilor Rice Hawkins seconded the motion.

Councilor Rice Hawkins asked City Manager Aspell what the impact would be of pausing the irrigation project. Manager Aspell asked Deputy City Manager LeBrun and Golf Pro Phil Davis to speak about the impact. Deputy City Manager LeBrun commented that we've done a lot of work on our greens and fairways and a delay in the irrigation project will hurt the course. Golf Pro Davis indicated that the back 9 has struggled to grow grass, and the tree project has helped with that, but irrigation is an important factor. Golf Pro Davis spoke about two area golf courses that lost their irrigation systems and had to spend thousands of dollars to truck in water in order to keep their courses running. Manager Aspell noted that we've put a lot of money into our greens and a delay in the irrigation project will hurt the quality of the course. The irrigation system is old and in dire need of replacement. Due to the overall expense, it is being done in phases. Manager Aspell indicated that about 2-3 times a year there's a blowout which causes excessive damage to those areas of the course where the blowout occurs.

Councilor Kretovic recalled that every year the City receives a grant from the NH Charitable Foundation and asked how much that grant is. Deputy City Manager LeBrun responded that we receive about \$22,000 to \$23,000 annually. She suggested we allocate some of those funds for the patio area at the Library.

Councilor McNamara shared her concern that the Penacook Library is only open 5 hours a week, therefore, she doesn't support putting \$340,000 into a patio at the main branch of the Library.

Councilor Grady Sexton asked if we would need to add more staffing if we were to open up the patio area at the library. Manager Aspell indicated that we would likely have to add staffing.

Councilor Rice Hawkins asked Councilor Brown if she would be willing to hold off on this, given the high cost. Mayor Bouley suggested putting it into the CIP for next year, as he isn't confident in the cost estimates.

Councilor Rice Hawkins withdrew her second, and Councilor Brown withdrew her motion.

Councilor Brown motioned to add \$12,343 so that the Penacook Library could be open for an additional 5 hours. The motion was seconded. Mayor Bouley suggested we take an additional \$12,343 from the Recreation reserve to fund this.

Councilor Todd said he appreciates Councilor Brown's motion and feels that his constituents will be pleased with this. He asked Manager Aspell if there was another way to add additional hours to the Penacook Branch without adopting this motion. Manager Aspell said it's possible. He said that we also have to consider the collaboration we are working on with the Boys & Girls Club to house the Penacook Library, which will have a cost. He noted that the cost for the two part-time Library Technicians will most likely be less than the cost to house the Penacook Library at the Boys & Girls Club.

The motion passed with a roll call vote of 11-3. YES: Mayor Bouley, Councilors Bouchard, Brown, Champlin, Kretovic, Matson, McLaughlin, McNamara, Pierce, Rice Hawkins, and Todd. NO: Councilors Grady Sexton, Keach, and Nyhan.

Councilor Brown indicated that she would like to see the Economic Development Marketing position have a heavy emphasis on sustainability. She suggested changing the title of the Economic Development Marketing position to Economic Development Marketer/Sustainability Director. Manager Aspell stated that, should the Council vote to do this, he would need to come back to City Council with a new job description and salary for the position. He also stated that he doesn't see any overlap between the two positions. No motion was made.

Councilor Brown motioned to pause the tree removal project at BMGC (CIP #235) and remove \$50,000 in GO Bonds from FY 2023. There was no second on the motion.

With no other discussion, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The Mayor indicated that they would take a break and reconvene as the City Council for a public hearing and adoption of the budget.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue Stevens, Executive Assistant