

**BILLINGS CITY COUNCIL**

**Budget Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

**March 15, 2023**

**9:00 a.m.**

**Conference Room, First Floor, City Hall**

1. **00:00:58 Call to Order** Chair
  
2. **00:01:48 Approval of March 1 Meeting Minutes** Chair
  - Mike Boyett moved, Ed Gulick seconded
  - Both voted to approve.
  
3. **00:02:07 Public Comment** Chair
  - No members of the public present
  
4. **00:02:15 FY23 Budget Amendment** Finance Director
  - Repairs for Dehler Park infield—address drainage issues
  - Estimate is \$70K, proposed budget amendment is \$80K
  - There is an annual maintenance fund; City puts \$60K/yr, Mustangs puts in \$30K/yr. The fund has reserves that could cover this.
  - Discussion—would these repairs be moot after the proposed astroturf is completed? Or should this fund be preserved for an astroturf project? (Astroturf does not currently have a funding source.)
  - Decision at 00:28:15: Budget committee need more information from affected parties before it can make a recommendation to Council. The subject will be addressed at next meeting when there is someone with expertise on the issue can present.
  
5. **00:30:10 FY24 Budget Discussion** Finance Director
  - **Insurance issues in FY24 Budget**
    - Property insurance and liability insurance are increasing 40-50% over past three of years
    - We have an insurance fund that each of the departments pay into based on formulas for their property value and FTEs, but the fund is now depleted; an infusion is required.

- FY23 Budget: \$2.636MM for insurance; proposed FY24 Budget: \$3.771MM minimum for insurance.

- The upcoming budget will need to address this increase somehow.
- No decision on a recommendation, just an FYI at this point.

- **00:12:50 IT issues in FY24 Budget**

- Currently IT costs are charged to each of the departments using formulas for 5-10 variables based on department usage of IT services.
- 00:58:00 Decision: Budget Committee is open to a change in allocation and would like to see options on how allocation of IT costs is made.

- **01:18:45 Department presentations**

- Chris is reviewing draft department presentations now
- Draft budget presentation dates work for all departments except Tourism BID

6. **01:26:15 Future Agenda Items** Chair

- Dehler Park budget amendment – PRPL/Mustangs
- Proposed changes to budget document – Finance Director

7. **01:34:24 Adjournment** Chair