

**BILLINGS CITY COUNCIL
Budget Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 16, 2023**

CM: Ed, Jennifer
Staff: Andy, Chris, PW, Tracy Scott

Call to Order (0:00:00)

Approval of July Meeting Minutes (0:00:00)

Ed moves to approve minutes as presented, Jennifer seconds, **motion approved on a unanimous voice vote.**

Public Comment (0:00:34)

None.

FY24 Taxable Value Information (0:00:40)

Going to council for mill setting on 9/11
1 mill = \$269,000

Revenues will be sufficient to cover all the costs without levying the full GF cap. Likely end FY24 GF balance will be +\$500,000 above min reserves (assuming some vacancy savings). Not significant cushion, but ok for now.

Ed moves to recommend mill levies as proposed with no deviation from budget as adopted, seconded by Jennifer. **Motion approved on a unanimous voice vote. (0:32:38)**

Stormwater Presentation (0:33:15)

Public Works Staff continues presentation from July meeting, focused on recommendations for a storm water program. *[Mike Boyett joins at 9:45 a.m.]*

Three staff recommendations: impervious area-based equivalent residential unit (ERU) rate structure; adopt a stormwater system development fee; adopt Best Practices level of service with seven-year ramp up period for rates (using ERU method).

Committee members debate the level of service amounts. Stormwater system development fee will need a rate study.

Ed moves to recommend to Council staff proposal 1 and 2, and to look at implementing fees that ramp up in the proactive/best practice range with further discussion (1:33:33). Mike seconds and the motion is adopted on a unanimous voice vote.

Parking Rates (1:36:20)

Staff provided a presentation on fees for next 3 years. Fee proposal is on the August 28 business meeting for Council.

Parking board recommends increase to \$50 for delivery permits. Questions about whether we can limit timing of semi deliveries to reduce congestion – who controls this? Committee discusses splitting delivery permit increases over two years (\$25/\$50)

EV meters are not covering costs. Hospitals are an issue with overnight charging.

Mike moves to recommend to Council that delivery permit fees be split over two years and to make EV meter rates cover the cost of electricity. Motion is seconded by Ed and adopted on a unanimous voice vote.

Committee Discussion (2:03:35)

Chris says we have a chance to apply for a grant with respect to BBWA. Match is \$280,000 if we get it. Options – legal fee budgets, possible partners (BBWA, county). Grant due soon, award timing unclear.

Ed asks about solutions for North Park area.

Discussion of Future Agenda Items & Meeting Schedule (2:09:54)

September: Cost of services study, reserve policy review, investment policy

Adjournment (2:12:00)

Next meeting: September 13, 2023 @ 9 a.m.