

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held on Wednesday, May 18, 2022, in Council Chambers and via an electronic meeting, starting at 6:02 P.M. Those in attendance were as follows:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Scott Roybal, Chairman; Dr. Michelle Aldrich, Bryan Cook, Ken Esquibel, Richard Johnson, Pete Laybourn, Dr. Mark Rinne, Tom Segrave and Jeff White.

CITY STAFF: Teresa Moore, Community Recreation & Events Director; Chief John Kopper and Division Chief Byron Matthews, Fire & Rescue Department; Chief Mark Francisco, Police Department; Robin Lockman, City Treasurer; Brenda Moureaux, Deputy City Treasurer; Amber Leventis, Budget/Account Analyst; Tom Cobb, City Engineer; Vicki Nemecek, Public Works Director; Jason Sanchez, Community Recreation & Events Deputy Director; Kris Jones, City Clerk; Charles Bloom, Planning & Development Director; Stefanie Boster, City Attorney; Brad Brooks, Board of Public Utilities (BOPU) Director; Brad Bowen, BOPU Administration Manager; Matt Buelow, BOPU Water Reclamation Manager; Frank Strong, BOPU Operations/Maintenance Manager; Judge Tony Ross, Municipal Court; Darrin Hass, Human Resources Director; Renae Jording, Transit Director; Jay Sullivan, Youth Alternatives Director; Cathy Emmons, City/County Health Executive Director; and Michael Skinner, Public Information Officer.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Patrick Collins; Domenic Bravo, Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Acting CEO/Visit Cheyenne CEO; Haylee Chenchar, DDA VP/Managing Director; Joe Chenchar; Lynn Storey-Huyler, Director of Safe Harbor; Erin LeBlanc, Laramie County Senior Center; Joe Dougherty; Gunner Malm; Heidi McNeil; and Britney Tennant, Cheyenne Animal Shelter President/CEO.

AGENDA ITEMS

23. **ORDINANCE – 2nd READING** – Appropriating moneys for the City of Cheyenne, Wyoming for various purposes in conducting municipal government of said City and fixing the amount of general and special taxes as part of the revenue required to meet the said appropriation, all for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023. (SPONSOR – MR. ROYBAL)

Mr. Segrave moved to approve on 2nd reading, seconded by Mr. Cook. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

DISCUSSION: Mayor Patrick Collins provided an overview of the proposed balanced budget and briefly provided information on the additional positions funded in the budget. Robin Lockman, City Treasurer, explained the budget is not only a financial plan but a policy document. Ms. Lockman thanked Mayor Collins, department directors and managers, Brenda Moureaux, and Amber Leventis for their work on the budget. Mr. Johnson thanked Mayor Collins for adding an arborist position with the use of lottery funds and expressed concerns with the future staffing of

Municipal Court. Dr. Aldrich expressed concerns with the funding request by the Cheyenne Animal Shelter in spite of the city taking over the expenses related to the Animal Control portion. Mr. Esquibel expressed concerns with crime and vandalism and the effects on the Municipal Court. Chief Mark Francisco, Police Department, provided information related to previously RIF'd (reduction in force) employees and Mayor Collins advised the proposed budget funds a previously RIF'd record clerk for the Police Department. Chief John Kopper, Fire & Rescue Department, provided information related to training funds and the realigning of those expenses to the Fire Support Division. Judge Tony Ross, Municipal Court, provided information on the evolution of courts and advised fines may not be used to balance a municipalities budget. Jason Sanchez, Community Recreation & Events Deputy Director, provided information related to the payout of vacation and sick time accruals related to an upcoming retirement in the Community Recreation & Events Administration Division and advised the increase in the Aquatics Division is due to an increase in wages, to be competitive, and funds are designated to restore pool services to pre-pandemic levels. Vicki Nemecek, Public Works Director, provided information related to restoring the Transit Departments route structure and explained the challenges and current staffing of CDL drivers across the Public Works Department. Ms. Nemecek provided information related to the different types of clothing allowances. Joe Dougherty expressed disappointment with the lack of a restored bus route system and inquired on pre-pandemic payroll expenses compared to Fiscal Year 2023 proposed payroll expenses.

There being no further items for the agenda to come before the Committee of the Whole, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Submitted by,



Jennifer McClelland

Executive Assistant to the City Council