

**Mount Vernon
Finance Committee
Parks & Enrichment Services Committee
Minutes
April 28th, 2021**

Present: Councilmembers Beaton, Brocksmith, Carías, Hudson, Hulst, and Morales

Staff present: Mayor Boudreau, City Attorney Rogerson, Project Development Manager Donovan, Police Chief Cammock, Finance Director Volesky, and Parks & Enrichment Director

Citizens present: 0

1. Approval of meeting minutes from March 24, 2021

- Council decided to wait to approve minutes until all Councilmembers could be present to further discuss Committee Agenda Requests.

2. Parks and Enrichment Services Update

Parks and Enrichment Services Director Jennifer Berner gave an update on the following:

Art Donation - Library

- Artist Alfred Currier donating one of his pieces titled “Overall...Making Hay”
- Year painted, 2008 and valued at \$3,000 - Will be hung in the library

Summer Activities & Events

- 4th of July Event – Edgewater Park
 - Planning is taking place to have a safe celebration
 - Parks & Enrichment, Fire and Police collaborating on plan and logistics
- Drive-in Movies
 - May 7 – Cars movie sold out!
 - Movies first Friday of each month – Free, but reservations required. Reservations open one week prior to movie.
- Summer Recreation Programs
 - Variety of programs are being planned to take place and abide by COVID guidelines. Check out the City’s website for all the fun activities for kids and adults that are being planned for this summer.

Park Projects Update

- 25th Street Playground installation – should be completed by end of July
- Little Mountain Restroom at lower parking lot should be completed by early to mid-August.

Park Maintenance/Staffing Update

- Busy time of year with a lot of mowing, weeding, repair work, clean-up of facilities that have been closed, flower baskets arriving early May,

- Staffing update
 - Pandemic has impacted the CWP program significantly
 - Need to redirect resources to best support the Parks Departments need and functions going forward
 - Eliminated CWP Supervisor position and redirecting to Parks Foreman position.

3. Finance Update

Finance Director Doug Volesky gave an update on the following:

American Rescue Plan Act – information to date

- March 2021, President Biden signed the ARPA with \$1.9 trillion federal relief plan that brings financial assistance to individuals, business and local governments.
- Mount Vernon is estimated to receive over \$9.5 million of that funding.
- Funding will begin to arrive in the next couple of months and will be available to cities through December 31, 2024.
- Guidance on how these funds can be use should be coming out from the Federal Government in May. The City is in the planning stage on the use of these funds.
- Mayor Boudreau then went over some of the areas that the City is looking at for potential spending of these funds including; Technology needs, Revenue replacement, General facilities, and Community needs.
- The Mayor also discussed an Economic development and vaccination incentive IDEA with Council. The City could dedicate \$150,000 of ARPA funds to 150 businesses who would sell the City \$1,000 of \$25 gift cards that could be distributed to MV residents as they get vaccinated.
- There will be more information provided to Council once the guidance is available.

2021 Revenue Update on a few of the City's main revenue sources – collected thru April

- Sales Tax – \$2,654,098 or 36% of the budgeted annual amount.
- Traffic Benefit District (TBD) – \$623,287 or 39% of the budgeted annual amount.
- Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) - \$713,613 or 51% of the budgeted annual amount.

4. Proposed Resolution

Councilmember Brocksmith led a discussion on a Southwest Mines Division, British Columbia, Canada public comment opportunity regarding Imperial Metals Corporation permit request and proposed resolution.

5. Miscellaneous, for the good of the order

- City Attorney Kevin Rogerson updated Council on an agenda item for tonight regarding the approval of change to the option agreement with Skagit County.

The meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

City of Mount Vernon
Finance Committee
April 28, 2021

Submitted by:

Doug Volesky

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