

MINUTES
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE WORK SESSION
May 21, 2018
City Hall Conference Room A

PRESENT: Mayor Thomas Stiehm, Council Members Paul Fischer, Jeff Austin, Steve King, Judy Enright, Laura Helle Steve King and David Hagen

ABSENT: Council Member-at-Large Janet Anderson

STAFF PRESENT: City Administrator Craig Clark, Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert, Public Works Director Steven Lang, Library Director Julie Clinefelter, City Clerk Ann Kasel

ALSO PRESENT: Kim Hillberg, Austin Daily Herald, Public

Mayor Stiehm opened the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

Item No. 1 – 2017 Audit Report

Kim Hillberg with CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP presented the December 31, 2017 audit report noting our Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) has been given an award for the last 32 consecutive years, and there is no reason it should not qualify again this year. Ms. Hillbeg stated everything is in order and no findings occurred during the audit. Ms. Hillberg noted there were no deficit fund balances, and that the City has adequate fund balance based on state guidelines and best practices. Ms. Hillberg also noted in the General Fund the City was within 0.8% of hitting the revenue budget, and within 3% of hitting the expenditure budget. This is almost unheard of when you are working with \$14+ million dollars but shows that Austin's budgeting practices and policies work well.

Ms. Hillberg further noted that 85-90% of their clients do not draft the CAFR, and that by Austin's finance staff doing the report, the City saves \$11,000-\$14,000 annually.

She stated a 35 percent to 50 percent fund balance is recommended by the State Auditor's office and the City has a 43 percent fund balance.

The Council thanked Mr. Dankert for his excellent work.

After further discussion, motion by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member King to recommend approval of the 2017 audit report. Carried.

The item will be added to the June 4, 2018 Council agenda.

Item No. 2 – 4th Street NW Traffic Information

Public Works Director Steven Lang provided Council an overview of traffic on 4th Street NW. He stated that 4th Street NW is the busiest roadway in Austin with 14,500 vehicles per day. The area is trending from a residential area to more of a commercial area with the high volume of traffic and the easy access to the interstate. The 4th Street bridge will be reconstructed in the coming years with the exits realigned. He stated there may also be a stop light added on the south side of the bridge for additional traffic control.

Mr. Lang reviewed different options for the future of 4th Street NW. He stated the current design of 4th street NW is designed to handle the current vehicle load but additional modifications may be needed in the future.

For Council information only, no Council action needed at this time.

Item No. 3 – Aspirations Exercise

Library Director Julie Clinefelter completed an aspirations exercise with the Council.

Item No. 4 – Administrative Report

City Administrator Craig Clark stated the Port Authority recently completed the real estate transaction with Steve Persinger and now owns 25 acres on 14th Street NE.

Item No. 5 – Open Discussion

None.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member Fischer. adjourning the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann M. Kasel
City Clerk