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COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Philip Levine and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager 

DATE: September 17, 2014

SUBJECT: REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND CITYWIDE PROJECTS COMMITTEE MEETING ON AUGUST 29, 2014

The agenda is as follows:

OLD BUSINESS

1. Discussion regarding Adoption of an Updated Strategic Plan for the Cultural Affairs Program, to include utilization of Fillmore Community Benefit Fund, Cultural Arts Council Endowment, and Cultural Affairs Program Fund Balance Funds for Greater Cultural Benefits for Residents and Visitors

ACTION

The Committee reviewed the updated Cultural Affairs Strategic Plan on May 20, July 18, and August 13, 2014, and recommended an increase in the number of Community Benefit Fund rent waivers and the capping of the annual fund balance at its current level of \$2,640,184, with an annual increase for inflation based upon the Consumer Price Index, but recommended against utilizing the Cultural Affairs Council Endowment Fund to fund Sleepless Night.

2. Discussion regarding the Schedule of User Fees for Various Parks and Recreation Programs and Services, Facility Admissions and Rentals

ACTION

The Committee voted on the item and it was a split decision to endorse the budget advisory recommendation on increasing rates while not increasing the resident rate. The Committee also asked that the concept of strategic pricing and the Premier Card be referred to the Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) for review. The vote was split two votes for and two votes against the BAC recommendation.

3. Discussion regarding renovation alternatives for Muss Park

ACTION

The Committee recommended replacing Pay as You Go as the funding source for the project and substituting it for the Quality of Life funding per Option 5:

- Demolish the existing pavilion \$50,000
- Construct a new pavilion of approximately 4,000 square feet to accommodate approximately 120 children
- The new pavilion would include 2 ADA accessible restrooms, office, reception area, storage, and mechanical room and would also include a permanent air conditioning system and folding or rolling panels in order to fully enclose the pavilion when needed
- The pavilion would accommodate approximately 120 children
- Estimated Construction Cost: \$1,050,000
- 35% for soft costs to include: CIP fees, bond/insurance, permits, design, contingency and other related costs = \$367,500
- Total Estimated Project Cost: \$1,417,500
- Additional funding needed net of \$371,659 available from project \$1,045,841

4. Discussion regarding Update on the Cost to complete the Biscayne Point Island Entry Way

ACTION

The Committee recommended funding an additional \$50,000 for the shortfall for the Biscayne Point Island Entry Way.

5. Discussion regarding finalizing proposed FY 2014/15 Operating and Capital budget

ACTION

The Committee recommended accepting the proposed changes to the recommended enhancements:

Commission Changes to Recommended Enhancements - General Fund		
ODPI	Delete funding for Cultural Communication in the Workplace workshop	(42,000)
Parks & Recreation	Senior Enhancement Transportation Service (SETS): Revise to \$30,000 from \$35,000	(5,000)
Public Works	Assistant Director Position: Replace with the Streets and Lighting Superintendent position from the Non-Recommended list.	(9,000)
	Total Changes to Recommended Enhancements	(56,000)
	Recommended Efficiencies	(60,000)
	Unallocated Surplus	(32,000)
	Total Surplus Available	(148,000)

Potential Changes to General Fund Enhancements		
Surplus Available	(see calculation above)	(148,000)
Risk Management	Delete funding for additional Windstorm Insurance/Reduction to Risk deficit	(201,000)
Information Technology	Delete funding for backup to out of region data center	(131,000)
Planning	Delete funding for Massing Studies - fund during FY14	(80,000)
Emergency Management	Delete funding for 9-1-1 records custodian; address process instead	(70,000)
		(630,000)

Code Enforcement	More Proactive Code Compliance Environment	(270,000)
ODPI	Cleanliness Index	(36,000)
Parks & Recreation	Park Ranger program	(266,000)
Police	Body Camera positions (50%)	(99,000)
Housing & Community Svcs	Address Homelessness at Lummus Park	(118,000)
Emergency Mgmt/9-1-1	Hurricane and Disaster Preparation Equipment	(101,000)
Citywide	MB Botanical Garden	(15,000)
Additional Resort Tax Transfer to the General Fund		(905,000)

Potential Additions to Recommended Enhancements from Commission		
Building	Establish an unsafe structure panel	50,000
OBPI	Increase audit coverage by adding Internal Auditor Position	60,000
Community Services	A program for at-risk teens delivering produce to shut-ins in conjunction with community services	10,000
ODPI	IB Program at Nautilus Middle School	94,000
		214,000

Note: Funding could be addressed through additional Resort Tax transfer

Potential Changes to Non-General Fund Enhancements		
Public Works-Stormwater	Funding for Special Studies	(750,000)

The Committee also agreed to reduce the millage rate by 0.0926, which would result in no tax increase to the median or average property owner.

6. Discussion regarding Parking - Strategic Pricing

ACTION

The Committee recommended proceeding with a demand based pricing strategy test on 46th Street and Collins Ave parking lot and to also proceed with a on street parking test area.

7. Discussion regarding Water and Sewer Rates

ACTION

The Committee recommended approval of the pass through of the respective water sewer rate increases, as well as establishing a policy of automatically

implementing the percentage increases of water and sewer rates that are enacted by Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department (WASD). The Committee also directed the Administration to follow up with all appropriate administrative actions to assure that fees are commensurate with the cost of service provided to the Satellite Cities. The Committee also agreed on increasing the sewer rate from \$6.34 to \$7.55 and the water rate from \$4.36 to \$4.43 which is inclusive of the pass through from Miami-Dade WASD.