



Snohomish County Council

Committee of the Whole - Budget Deliberations

Meeting Minutes

Council Chair Jared Mead
Council Vice-Chair Nate Nehring
Councilmembers: Sam Low, Megan Dunn, Strom Peterson

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

9:30 AM

**Jackson Board Room - 8th Floor
Robert J. Drewel Building
& Remote Meeting**

PRESENT:

Council Chair Mead
Council Vice-Chair Nehring
Councilmember Low
Councilmember Dunn
Councilmember Peterson
Heidi Beazizo, Chief of Staff
Jim Martin, Council Staff
Deb Bell, Council Staff
Nicole Gorle, Council Staff
Ryan Countryman Council Staff
Cynthia Foley, Council Staff
Kelly Snyder, Public Works Director
Doug McCormick, Public Works Deputy Director/County Engineer
Dave Schonhard, Solid Waste Director
Mike McCrary, Planning & Development Services Director
Julie Mass, Planning & Development Services
Viggo Forde, Dept. of Information Services Director
Joanie Fadden, Dept. of Information Services
Tom Teigen, Conservation and Natural Resources Director
Sharon Swan, Parks Division Director
Gregg Farris, Surface Water Management Director
Jim Blankenbeckler, Surface Water Management
Molly Beeman, Office of Energy & Sustainability
Rich Patton, Parks & Recreation
Kara Underwood, Parks & Recreation
Rachel Dotson, Parks & Recreation
Linda Neunzig, Office of Agriculture
Debbie Eco, Clerk of the Council

2024 BUDGET DELIBERATIONS - DEPARTMENT PRESENTATIONS

CALL TO ORDER

Council Chair Mead called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and provided instructions for those wishing to provide public comment for both in-person and remote via Zoom.

ROLL CALL

The clerk called the roll and stated that all five members were present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no persons present wishing to provide public comment.

Department Presentations - Q&A:

1. Solid Waste (+CIP) [2023-1231](#)
Roads (+CIP)

Kelly Snyder, Public Works Director, began the presentation and provided an initial overview for the Public Works Department.

Dave Schonhard, Solid Waste Director, provided the Solid Waste 2024 Budget presentation, including the Solid Waste ACP/CIP.

Mr. Schonhard responded to various questions from Councilmember Low. Ms. Snyder stated she would provide Councilmember Low with additional information related to updated fee projections *[related to RRW (Residual Recycled Waste)]*.

Mr. Schonhard and Doug McCormick, Public Works Deputy Director/County Director, responded to questions from Councilmember Dunn and Vice-Chair Nehring, respectively, regarding funding related to capital improvements in the intermodal yard and nuisance properties.

Ms. Snyder and Mr. McCormick provided the Roads Fund 2024 Budget, including the ACP/6-Year TIP.

Ms. Snyder thanked essential services in the Executive Branch, Executive Somers, Executive Director Klein, and Council for ongoing support.

Councilmember Low commented and thanked Public Works staff for their presentation. He asked if there are any grant awards anticipated with the TIB (Transportation Improvement Board). Mr. McCormick explained they are going to apply and that he would provide him with more information.

Mr. McCormick and Ms. Snyder responded to Councilmember Low's inquiries related to 524, Dubuque Road & South Machias Road, and the Litter Wranglers Program.

Councilmember Dunn shared her appreciation for engaging youth in work force development and also meeting monthly and quarterly with Ms. Snyder. She asked if there are any plans to have another meet and greet with apprentice groups and contractors. Ms. Snyder responded and said she would be happy to do that.

At 10:27 a.m., Chair Mead recessed the Council until 11:00 a.m.

At 11:00 a.m., Chair Mead called the Council back to order.

2. Planning & Development Services

[2023-1232](#)

Mike McCrary, Planning & Development Services (PDS) Director, provided an introduction.

Mr. McCrary and Julie Mass, PDS, provided the presentation for the PDS 2024 Budget. They responded to questions from councilmembers regarding required modifications due to a biennial budget, expenditures, abatement fund, and FTEs.

[Councilmember Low left the meeting at 11:18 a.m.]

3. Department of Information Technology (+CIP)

[2023-1233](#)

Viggo Forde, Department of Information Technology (DoIT) Director, provided an introduction and provided a detailed overview.

[Councilmember Low re-entered the meeting at 11:21 a.m.]

Joanie Fadden, DoIT, continued with the presentation for the 2024 DoIT Budget. Ms. Fadden and Mr. Forde responded to various questions from councilmembers, including questions related to replacing the Skype phone system, body camera management, ARPA funding, future plans, broadband access, and FTEs.

Ms. Fadden provided information about the DoIT CIP.

Responding to Councilmember Dunn, Mr. Forde said he would be supportive of an ordinance to donate surplus vehicles and brief discussion ensued regarding requirements and process.

At 11:52 a.m., Chair Mead recessed the Council until 1:15 p.m.

At 1:15 p.m., Chair Mead called the Council back to order.

4. Parks (+CIP) [2023-1234](#)
Surface Water Management (+CIP)

Tom Teigen, Conservation and Natural Resources (CNR) Director, presented the 2024 Budget for CNR.

Gregg Farris, Surface Water Management Director, provided the presentation for 2024 Surface Water Budget and CIP. He responded to questions from Councilmember Low about projects in urban areas and surface water fees.

Mr. Farris spoke about the Surface Water ACP. He and Jim Blankenbeckler, Surface Water Management, responded to Councilmember Low regarding unfilled and two requested positions.

Molly Beeman, Office of Energy & Sustainability (OES) Manager, provided the OES 2024 Budget presentation.

Rich Patton, Parks Division Manager, thanked his staff and provided the 2024 Parks Budget and CIP presentation.

Kara Underwood, Parks Division Manager, responded to Councilmember Low's questions regarding the Fair's grandstands roof replacement project and Fair pricing. She also responded to Councilmember Dunn's inquiry regarding the priority package related to Fair park improvements for motor sports.

Responding to Councilmember Peterson, Mr. Patton spoke about encampment cleanup and explained they will be working with and partially reimbursed by the PUD.

Vice-Chair Nehring asked why the Whitehorse Park improvement project for \$250,000.00 was removed from the 2024 CIP. Rachel Dotson, Parks Department, stated it was removed because it came in under budget.

Responding to Councilmember Low, Mr. Patton confirmed that they are not asking for any new park rangers, but said it would be great to have five more.

Linda Neunzig, Office of Agriculture, spoke about agriculture in Snohomish County.

Councilmember Low thanked Ms. Neunzig for all her work especially for the Food and Farming Center and he asked about funding. Ms. Neunzig responded.

There being no further business, Chair Mead adjourned the Council for the day at 2:29 p.m.