



UNIFIED FIRE SERVICE AREA FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

October 31, 2022

Meeting was held both electronically via Zoom Webinar/UFA Headquarters

Committee Members Present:

Council Member Bailey
Council Member Hull
Mayor Overson
Mayor Silvestrini

Committee Members Absent:

Mayor Stevenson

Staff:

Chief Burchett
CFO Hill
Cyndee Young

District Administrator Anderson
AC Pilgrim

Guests:

AC Higgs
Steve Quinn
Bill Brass
Brian Roberts
Erica Langenfass

Kelly Bird
Courtney Samuel
DC Greensides
Kate Turnbaugh
Mayor Bourke, Alta

Mayor Westmoreland, Eagle Mtn.
Lana Burningham
OC Dern

Meeting called to order by Chair Hull at 1:30 p.m.

Public Comments

None

Public comment was made available live and with a posted email address

Minutes Approval

At the onset of the meeting, there was no quorum

Once a quorum was established this agenda item was revisited and minutes were approved

Mayor Silvestrini moved to approve the minutes from the August 31, 2022 Finance Committee Meeting as submitted

Council Member Bailey seconded the motion

All voted in favor, none opposed

2023 Tentative Budget – CFO Hill

- ◆ District Administrator Anderson pointed out that the budget highlights are in the message prepared by CFO Hill and will be reviewed during this agenda item
- ◆ Following the budget discussion, the UFSA Finance Committee will discuss the email from Chief Burchett regarding the SLCo canyon contribution
 - ◆ DA Anderson briefly explained that SLCo is proposing to reduce the monies they contribute to UFA to pay for services in the canyons
 - This will affect UFA and the UFSA budgets in the coming years
 - ◆ Work is ongoing with SLCo, but DA Anderson wants the committee to be aware
- ◆ CFO Hill explained that as the tentative budget is reviewed, the goal is to have a recommendation for the UFSA Board at the November meeting
 - ◆ This committee will have the opportunity to give direction to staff on what should be presented in November
- ◆ Highlights Include:
 - ◆ There was a 3.5% growth in property tax
 - ◆ UFA Member Fee is the largest portion of the budget
 - 8.53% total increase, \$3,856,722 for 2023
 - Looking at a 5% increase placeholder
 - COLA and health insurance has yet to be addressed
 - Thus far, wages seem to be holding well
 - Consideration for changes from 3 to 4-person staffing at Stations 108, 113, and 251
 - The placeholder for these changes is 2.6%
 - The possible revenue loss from SLCo may come into play as well with this change in staffing as Station 108 is in BCC and 113 in LCC
 - ◆ The debt service payments for the 2021 bond begin in 2023
 - ◆ The Sandy contract amount continues to grow with property value growth in this area
 - ◆ Seismic Retrofits monies will carry forward into 2023 and ends September 2023
 - ◆ Capital maintenance projects will be \$865,830 in 2023
 - ◆ UFA Administrative Costs are \$511,601 for 2023
 - CFO Hill reminded the Committee that these costs are for UFA staff to provide UFSA administrative work
- ◆ UFSA is currently in a good position
 - ◆ 2024-2025 UFSA will need to address the fund balance through either additional revenue or expenditure reductions
 - ◆ CFO Hill reminded the Committee that future budget needs have already been identified, but are not in the budget
 - These will appear on future budgets as well as the Station 112 rebuild
- ◆ CFO Hill is now asking the Committee for discussion and direction on the highlights presented
 - ◆ With the potential canyon fee adjustment, the 4-person staffing may need reconsideration
 - ◆ Also, CFO Hill wanted to call attention to revenue using \$4.9M of the fund balance, available for 2023, but it is not sustainable
 - ◆ Council Member Hull asked as to the cost for the Facilities Manager
 - CFO Hill stated that with the new construction and seismic work, his involvement is high, once the projects are done, that percentage will decrease
 - ◆ Mayor Silvestrini considers delaying the change from 3 to 4-person crews given the current funding proposal from SLCo
 - Chief Burchett stated that this is the direction staff is looking for and that the UFSA Board must provided

- Following the SLCo work session tomorrow (11/1), the staffing topic may need to go to the full UFSA Board
- ♦ CFO Hill also explained that the vote on the SLCo budget does not take place until December
 - Chief Burchett and CFO Hill are attending the work session tomorrow to discuss the canyon fee
- ♦ Mayor Silvestrini stated that UFSA will not want to provide expanded service on the dime of 1/5th of the SLCo residents
 - Service to the canyons is a necessary thing for SLCo to provide
 - 30-minute response time is not a good service
- ♦ Chief Burchett explained that SLCo is trying to treat Alta (LCC) and Brighton (BCC) the same
 - \$1.6M goes to BCC and none of the canyon contribution goes to LCC
- ♦ The Committee stated that if they want them treated the same, SLCo should fund both canyons
- ♦ DA Anderson pointed out that UFSA does not have a legal mechanism for a special assessment
 - The only other option is to tax the canyon residents more than the rest of SLCo
 - There is also no way to benefit from the tourism monies
 - Property tax is all that can be relied upon, and the property tax base is not representative of the emergency use
- ♦ Mayor Silvestrini feels it is not appropriate that the residents should shoulder the burden and SLCo needs to be lobbied to fund Alta/LCC as well, rather than cutting
- ♦ Chief Burchett agrees that everyone uses the resource, and the costs should be shared
- ♦ Council Member Bailey asked if Chief Burchett could explain to SLCo what they would lose in doing this
 - Chief Burchett explained that it ultimately would be a UFSA decision on one of the three options outlined in the memo
- ♦ Mayor Bourke also mentioned how visitation is exploding in the summer which is mainly residents and to reduce the contribution seems nonsensical
- ♦ The impact to UFSA would be \$1.2M and more draw on fund balance
 - This would add to the need when addressing property taxes
- ♦ Chief Burchett feels that the solution to the problem is easy
 - State statute language is vague and provides no support
 - The canyons are statewide assets and should be paid for by as many people as possible
- ♦ Council Member Hull asked as to how UPD is supported
 - UFA has asked, but has been unable to get any information
- ♦ Mayor Silvestrini pointed out that UFA is the only agency that touches the canyons, all the canyons
 - It makes no sense to provide through separate agencies
 - It should be provided by a centralized authority
 - Discussion was had regarding revenue collected in Millcreek Canyon
 - Parleys Canyon reimbursement is not available, UFA is providing service and not being paid
- ♦ Council Member Hull agrees with the span of service provided by UFA and how the westside is expanding into the west canyons
- ♦ Chief Burchett stated that cutting services isn't an option and feels confident that fairness will prevail
- ♦ Mayor Silvestrini stated that you can't cut funding and not cut service
- ♦ Mayor Silvestrini asked DA Anderson to construct a written statement from the UFSA Board to SLCo addressing this proposal
- ♦ DA Anderson asked as to the appetite to continue pursuing the move from 3 to 4-person staffing
 - Feedback was that the Committee was unsure of the move
 - DA Anderson proposed it remain in the budget for now

- ◆ DA Anderson asked that the Committee address the outlay/maintenance request for the completion of the garage at the temporary Millcreek Station 112
 - ◆ The costs have increased to \$525,000
 - ◆ The improvements have been reviewed and the costs represent the work needing to be completed in order to house the crews and build the garage
 - ◆ The Committee was reminded that this home and new garage are being considered for a relocation of an ambulance currently to help improve response time
- ◆ Mayor Silvestrini and Council Member Hull agreed that it needs to be done eventually and it is unrealistic to think it could be done for less
 - ◆ In moving forward with improvements and the garage, the home will be ready when the rebuilding of Station 112 begins and the crews are in need of a temporary station

Mayor Silvestrini moved to recommend submitting the tentative budget to the UFSA Board of Trustees for consideration

Mayor Overson seconded the motion

All voted in favor, none opposed

Closed Session

- ◆ None

Adjournment

Mayor Silvestrini moved to adjourn the October 31, 2022 UFSA Finance Committee Meeting

All voted in favor, none opposed