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**TSCC Regular Business Meeting**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, June 4, 2024**

**12:00-2:03 p.m.**

Vice Chair Wubbold, Commissioners Donahue, Burton, and Lugo Knapp were present, as were Executive Director Allegra Willhite and Budget Analyst Tunie Betschart, all via Zoom meeting.

Absent: Chair Quiroz

**REGULAR MEETING**

Vice Chair Wubbold called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

**District Budgets to be considered**

Executive Director Willhite said the commissioners were scheduled to consider the approved budget reviews and questions for the hearings for the City of Portland and the Portland Public Schools.

**City of Portland Review and Hearing Questions**

Executive Director Willhite gave a high-level overview of the City of Portland's budget, sharing the significant themes. The city is planning for high dollar sewer and water projects in FY 25. The city is undergoing a considerable transformation that will change the form of government in January 2025. Property values in the downtown have decreased. The city is working through how to fund the new fee for the Urban Flood Safety and Water Quality District. The budget was in compliance, although there was an error in the current year's figures, the transfers did not balance. Prior year actuals as printed in the Proposed budget were also incorrect in some areas. This year's budget will be fixed by a planned supplemental budget in June. Other errors will be fixed when the Adopted Budget is printed.

Following the introduction and overview, the commissioners discussed the questions to be asked at the hearing. There had been a few edits and suggested revisions to draft questions before the hearing via Google Docs. They reviewed the suggestions, incorporating some, discarding others, and revising portions. They changed the wording for some questions, paired one with another, and changed the focus of a couple to draw out a different area of interest. The commissioners also changed one follow-up question to become a part of a stand-alone question. They deleted a couple of questions and deleted portions of others. They decided to wait on a couple questions until next year when the new form of government is in place. When the conversation among the commissioners on the city's budget ended, they settled on eight questions to ask, with several follow-up questions. The hearing will be a 90-minute in-person hearing on Wednesday, June 11, at 9:30 in the morning, at 1900 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue.



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**Portland Public Schools Review and Hearing Questions**

Executive Director Willhite gave an overview of the Portland Public Schools Approved budget. She said the district is similar to other schools in that they are underfunded and have lots of needs. They are anticipating fewer students in the upcoming year. Enrollment is not expected to return to pre-pandemic levels any time soon. They made cuts in staffing positions and are spending down fund balance to cover gaps. The board approved an amendment to the proposed budget prior to approval that appears to bring contingency below the board policy level.

Following the introductory statements, the commissioners worked on the questions for the hearing. Before the meeting, commissioners suggested revisions to draft questions using Google Docs. The questions and proposed revisions were discussed. The exchange of ideas resulted in adding follow-up questions, rewording some questions, and adding more specific language, deleting a couple follow-ups and saving some questions for next year. The result was the development of eight questions.

Executive Director Willhite will send the questions to the districts so they can prepare for the upcoming hearings.

There being no other business, Vice Chair Wubbold adjourned the meeting at 2:03.