



**MEETING MINUTES
MAY 24, 2023**

PORT OF ASTORIA
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
PIER ONE BUILDING
#10 PIER 1, SUITE 209
ASTORIA, OR 97103

Call to Order:

Budget Committee member Bill Young called the Budget Committee Meeting to order at 1:04 pm.

Roll Call:

Commissioners Present: Dirk Rohne*; Robert Stevens; Frank Spence; Jim Campbell; and Scott McClaine. Dirk Rohne attended via Zoom.

Citizen Committee Members Present: Bill Young; John Lansing; and Steve Kraske. Walt Postlewait and Tad Pedersen were not present.

Staff Present: Executive Director Will Isom; Deputy Director Matt McGrath; and Accounting & Business Services Manager Melanie Howard.

Also Attending: Commissioner Elect Tim Hill.

Continue Review of Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024:

Budget Committee Chair Bill Young inquires if anyone has any questions regarding the budget. As no questions were presented, Young asks Finance, HR & Business Services Manager Melanie Howard to note any changes to the budget from the previous Budget Committee Meeting. Howard refers to the General Fund Resources detailed on page twenty of the budget document and explains that there is a minor change that moved some cruise ship budgeted bundle fees to budgeted dockage. For Waterfront West Cruise budgeted resources line 37 Dockage, the number was updated from \$579,125 down to \$525,511. The difference was moved to line 49 cruise ship Rebilled Bundle, which was increased from \$214,463 to \$268,077. This was a small adjustment with how Howard decided to account for a minimum dockage plus bundle fee. Bill Young notes that this adjustment is a part of the budget process to make the budget more transparent and straightforward.

Public Comment:

There were no requests for public comment.

Approval of Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024:

Young inquires if there are any questions before the Committee vote on the budget document. No questions were presented.

John Lansing moved to approve the proposed budget for fiscal year 2023-2024 and forward it to the Port Commission. Commissioner McClaine seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2023-2024:

Committee Chair Young reads from the budget document. The Port is seeking the tax rate of \$.1256 per \$1,000 of assessed value for the upcoming fiscal year 2023-2024. This is the permanent rate that was included in the budget. There is no change from the previous fiscal year.

John Lansing moved to approve the tax rate of \$0.1256 per \$1,000 of assessed value within the taxing district for fiscal year 2023-2024. Commissioner Campbell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

General Discussion

- Commissioner Robert Stevens comments that *The Astorian* did not print today's Budget Committee meeting in their upcoming events. The Port may need to contact the paper to include these meetings in the future. Howard answers that the Port published a notice in the paper for the Budget Committee Meetings as well as a publication notice for the Commission Meeting, which includes a summary of the budget.
- Commissioner Scott McClaine thanks fellow Commissioners and Budget Committee members for their participation, adding that the budget is not an easy document to read. McClaine thanks staff for the well-presented budget package.
- Young thanks Howard for the well-organized and straightforward document. Young adds that the only request he had for Howard was to include a Port staff organizational chart.
- Committee member John Lansing asks if the Executive Director can expand on the recent article in *The Astorian*. Isom explains that the article was a follow-up to a discussion that was had at a previous Commission meeting regarding this concept of integration between a number of projects along the central waterfront. Isom comments that in the past, oftentimes, the articles that may have appeared in the paper were more about ancillary things going on or things that weren't as pertinent to the operations of the Port. Myers stays focused on what he deems as being the most important. It has been good to have someone like that who is helping inform the public. Over the last few years, it's difficult to find anything negative in the paper that's been reported. Isom adds that his expectation isn't to present everything as rosy and positive but to be fair and to present the facts.

Adjourned

Budget Committee Chairman Young thanked the citizen committee for their time and Port staff for their time and efforts. Postlewait adjourned the meeting at 1:37 PM.

APPROVED:
Robert Stevens, Board Chairman
Board of Commissioners**ATTEST:**
Tim Hill, Secretary
Board of Commissioners

Respectfully submitted by:
Stacy Bandy
Executive Assistant / Administrative Coordinator

July 18, 2023
Date Approved by Commission