

**A BUDGET WORK SESSION OF THE THIRTY-NINTH COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BERKLEY,
MICHIGAN WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:00 PM ON TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023
BY MAYOR PRO TEM ROSS GAVIN**

PRESENT: Councilmember Mike Dooley
Mayor Pro Tem Ross Gavin
Councilmember Dennis Hennen
Councilmember Greg Patterson
Mayor Bridget Dean attended virtually from Berkley, Oakland County

ABSENT: Councilmember Steve Baker
Councilmember Jessica Vilani

ALSO

PRESENT: Matthew C. Baumgarten, City Manager
Laurie Fielder, Interim Finance Director
Victoria Mitchell, City Clerk
Stan Lisica, Chief Innovation Officer
Community Development Director Kristen Kapelanski
Shawn Young, Public Works Director
Theresa McArleton, Parks and Recreation Director
Dan McMinn, Manager of Senior Programs and Special Events
Bryan Bemis, Treasurer

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Patterson moved to approve the Agenda with a change to add a second Public Comment opportunity before adjournment
Seconded by Councilmember Hennen
Ayes: Dooley, Hennen, Patterson, and Gavin
Nays: None
Virtual: Dean
Absent: Baker and Vilani
Motion Approved.

Mayor Pro Tem Gavin welcomed everyone back to day two of the budget hearings. He thanked staff, Council, and members of the public. He stated that any reductions, deferments, or other budgetary changes are not taken lightly or with excitement. He reiterated that all members of the council are residents who have a vested interest in the community. He stated the budget hearing is a place of respect and kindness and no ill will is present or welcomed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Joel Ulferts, Berkley, made comments regarding this fiscal year. He said the City is not utilizing funding from this current year. He listed off the accounts that still have money left in them.

Greg DuRoss, Berkley, provided written notes of his comments. He stated he did budget work for many years. He said many people don't know how involved it is. He said he came tonight with another suggestion if there is sufficient resident interest. He proposed putting the original budget proposal on the table, restoring the residents' services that they are hot about losing, and reexamining the city managers proposed cuts. He then proposed coming up with an option that minimizes the cuts. He questioned why go through a process of severe cutting and then put another proposal before the voters in 2024. He stated we need to be creative and think outside of the box. He said the City needs to establish priorities and gauge resident interest. He said the City needs to think of ways to do things not avoid things.

Mitch Bow, Berkley, requested that if the City is going to seek public opinion on cuts, he would like to see more information available to the public. He said he would like to see the current year's report. He said the

budget is in PDF format and if the City could make it in Excel format, that would make things easier. He said he would like to see data available to the public. He said the City should put information out there and see what feedback it gets back.

BUDGET WORK SESSION: Matter of a discussion of the proposed FY 2023/24 City of Berkley Budget:

- A. City Clerk
- B. Building and Planning
- C. Parks and Recreation
- D. Public Works
- E. Finance and Treasury
- F. CDBG
- G. Debt Funds
- H. Capital Improvement
- I. Fringe Benefits Fund
- J. Public Safety Retirement

City Manager Matt Baumgarten kicked off the budget work session portion of the meeting. He discussed the changes in budget strategy. He discussed how cuts were going to happen anyway. He discussed how ARPA funds would be used and how the funds relate to the city's funding model. He said the city needs to end up in the same place no matter what in 2025 and not lose sight of that. He discussed when the budget is due.

A recess was taken at 7:34 p.m. The work session reconvened at 7:43 p.m.

AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA

Councilmember Patterson made an amendment to the originally approved agenda to move Finance and Treasury to item D and move the remaining budget work session subcategories down one spot accordingly.

Seconded by Councilmember Hennen

Ayes: Dooley, Hennen, Patterson, and Gavin

Nays: None

Virtual: Dean

Absent: Baker and Vilani

Motion Approved.

MOTION TO SUSPEND RULES TO CONTINUE MEETING PAST 10 PM

Councilmember Hennen made a motion to suspend rules and order of procedure to continue the meeting past 10 p.m.

Seconded by Councilmember Patterson

Ayes: Hennen, Patterson, Dooley, and Gavin

Nays: None

Virtual: Dean

Absent: Baker and Vilani

Motion Approved.

A recess was taken at 10 p.m. The work session reconvened at 10:05 p.m.

In total, the following corrections were made to the budget:

- 101-201-818-000 Oakland County Assessors was \$16,000 - changed to \$116,000 (typo error)
- 101-265-818-000 Contractual Services, \$15,000 - changed to \$0
- 101-265-974-000 Land Improvements (EV stations) \$100,000 removed in **2024/25**
- 101-265-976-002 Heat/Cooling \$2,000 removed from 2024/25 (furniture in wrong account)
- 101-441-709-000 Overtime was \$35,000 - reduced to \$25,000
- 101-441-914-001 Liability Insurance-Storage Tank - Now Policy thru State \$6,300 changed to \$0 2023/24. \$7,000 changed to \$0 **2024-25**

- 101-441-985-000 Radio Equipment \$3,000 - reduced to \$1,500
- 101-441-985-000 Vehicles \$240,000 reduced to \$175,000 (PU truck removed)
- 101-738-707-000 Full Time Library \$198,103 reduced to \$144,850
- 226-001-629-002 Commercial Trash Revenue - increased from \$38,072 to \$187,029
- 614-105-707-000 Part time employees - \$32,020 reduced to \$26,900
- 614-950-750-000 Playground supply was \$65,000 - reduced to \$6,500 (typo error)
- 614-950-821-000 Engineering was \$40,000 - reduced to \$20,000
- 614-950-974-000 Land Improvements was \$440,000 - reduced to \$350,000 (removed parking lot repair at Community Center, Lazenby Surface Material and Jaycee Pavilion repair.
- 592-001-642-000 Water Sales - was 6% increase \$4,649,523 increased to 10%, \$4,824,977
- 592-001-642-002 Fixed Water charge - was 6% increase \$786,905 increased to 10% \$819,764
- 592-001-642-003 Storm utility charge- was 6% increase, \$2,783,879 - increased to 10% -\$2,888,931
- 592-001-673-000 Sale of fixed assets from \$200,000 decreased to \$75,000 for **2024/25**
- 592-536-985-000 Vehicles reduced from \$625,000 to \$580,000 (removed asphalt roller)
- 592-537-744-000 Uniforms increased from \$1,500 to \$2,000 (error)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Joel Ulferts, Berkley, said the outstanding issue is the \$1.3 million deficit for the Parks and Recreation department in fiscal year 2024-2025. Matt Baumgarten, City Manager, said Council will be presented with a different funding approach, largely driven by capital.

Mayor Pro Tem Gavin thanked city staff and all of the presenters that evening for tackling a difficult charge and doing a good job in identifying areas where we could defer or reduce. He acknowledged the professionalism, thought, and energy that went into the process.

Mayor Dean echoed the comments by Mayor Pro Tem Gavin and thanked him for presiding over the work session so she could get better. She thanked Mr. Ulferts for his attendance and willingness to learn and understand this process. She said if he, or any other residents, had any further questions, he was welcome to direct them to the City Manager, Council members, and department heads. She said that she appreciates him taking the time to attend as an interested resident because it's easy to be critical but now that he's sat through an evening of the process she hopes he'll leave with a greater understanding.

ADJOURN

Councilmember Patterson moved to adjourn the work session at 10:23 p.m.

Seconded by Councilmember Hennen

Ayes: Patterson, Dooley, Hennen, and Gavin

Nays: None

Virtual: Dean

Absent: Baker and Vilani

Motion Approved.

Bridget Dean, Mayor

Attest:

Victoria Mitchell, City Clerk