

City and Borough of Juneau
Minutes - Assembly Finance Committee Meeting
Wednesday, August 26, 2015, 5:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:28 PM by Karen Crane, Chair

II. Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Merrill Sanford, Mary Becker, Debbie White, Jesse Kiehl, Maria Gladziszewski, Karen Crane, Kate Troll, Jerry Nankervis and Loren Jones.

Committee Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Rob Steedle, Deputy City Manager; Bob Bartholomew, Finance Director; Jean Hodges, Assistant Controller; and Elisabeth Jensen, Budget Analyst.

III. Approval of Minutes

The July 30, 2015 minutes were approved as presented.

IV. Economic Development Funding Plan for JECD and CBJ

Rob Steedle provided a brief history of the extensive planning that has been done since 1984, and suggested moving forward with the current proposal to hire a Full-Time Housing Development Coordinator reporting directly to the Manager. The desired candidate would be a “deal maker”, with a sole focus on housing.

Much discussion ensued.

Mayor Sanford moved to accept staff’s report and recommendations for hiring a position out of the Manager’s Office for a Housing Coordinator.

Roll call votes:

Ayes: White, Nankervis, Troll, Kiehl, Gladziszewski, Crane and Sanford.

Nays: Becker and Jones.

Absent: None.

And this motion PASSED 7-2.

The discussion turned to the letter from JEDC, beginning on page 7 of the meeting packet. Comments from the Assembly Mayor Sanford requested to hear from Brian Holst, JEDC Executive Director. The discussion resulted in a request for JEDC to return to the AFC once their proposal is narrowed down, and provide for deliverables for the coming year.

The meeting recessed at 6:41 PM.

The meeting reconvened at 6:49 PM.

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V. State / Federal Funding Requests

Rob Steedle presented the FY17 State and Federal Funding Requests. Discussion ensued regarding shortening and revisiting the list. Rob also requested to obtain feedback from the CBJ local lobbyist. An updated list will be brought back to the Assembly Finance Committee.

VI. Major Revenue Update

The agenda was amended and the topic of Major Revenue Update was removed.

VII. Housing First Funding Advance

Bob Bartholomew provided a summary of the Housing First Funding and the recent request from Housing First for an advance of \$250,000.

Mariya Lovishchuk, Director, Glory Hole responded to questions and provided an update on the Housing First project.

Loren Jones moved to authorize the City Manager advance the grant request of \$250,000 to Housing First.

Roll call votes:

Ayes: Jones, Gladziszewski, Becker, Troll, Kiehl and Crane.
Nays: Nankervis, White and Sanford.
Absent: None.

And this motion PASSED 6-3.

VIII. Update on Property Tax Delinquencies

Bob Bartholomew provided the financial picture of how much property tax has been assessed but not collected; and provided an overview of what is being done to address the issue. Much discussion ensued.

Karen Crane moved to extend the period of redemption to include two PFD checks, and offering a payment plan to include 2013 and 2014 property taxes owed.
There were no objections.

IX. Information Items – Youth Activity Grant Participant Numbers / Hours

Rob Steedle provided the YAB information, noting that participation increased, with the same investment, over time.

X. Committee Comments

Loren Jones requested ideas to resolve an issue with the Food Bank's concern about the cost of a building permit.

XI. Next Meeting Date

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

XII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 PM