

**TSCC Regular Business Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday April 20, 2021
12:15 p.m.**

Commissioners Barringer, Ofsink, Norton, Wubbold and Quiroz were present as were Executive Director Craig Gibons and Budget Analyst Tunie Betschart, all via Google Meeting.

REGULAR MEETING

Following the Executive session, Chair Barringer convened the TSCC Regular Meeting at 12:15.

Portland Public School District Demand Letter

The first item on the agenda was to discuss the demand letter investigation concerning Portland Public School District. Executive Director Gibons briefly reviewed the findings from the previous meeting noting the expenditures were not contrary to the purpose. He reported the results to both parties to see if they had anything they would like to add. PPS had nothing to add. The petitioner sent a letter¹ with her response to the conclusion presented in the draft report. She had planned to attend today's meeting but sent an email explaining she had a medical situation arise and was unable to attend.

How to proceed

Executive Director Gibons went on to say the next step in the process is to conclude the matter by informing both parties of the conclusion of the complaint through a letter. The letter needs to state that the Commission found that Portland Public Schools expenditures on the West Sylvan Middle School Athletic Facility were not in excess of the amount authorized, or for a different purpose than allowed by law. The Commission did not find evidence under the statutes of misappropriations of funds or any malfeasance based on the actions taken and expenditures made up to this point. This conclusion does not apply to future projects at this site, should the district decide to proceed.

Commissioner Ofsink moved to prepare and send the letter expressing the commissioners' conclusions. (See preceding paragraph) Commissioner Norton seconded the motion which carried with a unanimous vote.

As a side note, commissioners would like Executive Director Gibons to contact Claire Hertz, Deputy Superintendent for Business and Operations to let her know the letter is coming and that the TSCC is making a clean dismissal of the complaint. They directed him to express their concerns that this investigation may have been avoided had the school district been more responsive and transparent with the complainant at the onset. They suggested using the Bond Advisory Committee effectively could prevent this type of complaint in the future.

District Budgets to be considered

TriMet's budget was the only budget for review at this meeting. Budget Analyst Ms. Betschart gave a brief overview of the agency's budget stating TriMet's financial staff had developed a new format for their budget document, adding beneficial information. She described some of the budget changes

¹ See letter from Teriesa M. McClelland



including, a reduction in ridership due to the pandemic, service cuts TriMet has made, use of Federal Funding they have received and the implementation of the electrification infrastructure.

After this brief overview, the commissioner discussed the questions they would be asking at TriMet's hearing. They changed the sequencer of some of the questions, deleted portions of some, added to others and added a couple of possible follow-up questions. When they were finished, they had ten questions to send to the district in preparation for discussion at the hearing on April 28 at 8:00 a.m.

Budget Report

Executive Director Gibons explained the budget report (dated 3-31-31), saying with just over three-quarters of the year gone, and TSCC has used three-quarters of the budget. He said he does not anticipate any enormous expenditures between now and the end of the year. The variance from the maximum budget is \$44,000 under the maximum. He explained the base budget of \$350,000 considerably below the maximum of \$446,000.

Executive Director Recruitment

The commissioners are ready to move forward with the interview process. At that time, they will discuss the working environment, current, and future with applicants. The people who have applied know the salary offered so there was no need for a discussion of the salary.

Historical Society Local Option Levy

The Commissioners will need to hold a hearing on the Historical Society's Local Option Levy this district will be putting before the voters on the May ballot. The levy will be a continuation of an existing local option levy. Commissioners decided to meet at 9:30 following the TriMet Hearing on April 28 to discuss the hearing for the Historical Society's local option levy and review the hearing questions.

Minutes

Executive Director Gibons revised the minutes for TSCC's March 30 Commissioners Regular Meeting and sent them to Commissioners only hours before this meeting. The commissioners deferred discussion of the minutes until the next meeting.

Other Business

Executive Director Gibons emailed commissioners background information concerning the City of Portland Auditor's office for their review before the City of Portland's budget Hearing.

With no other business, Chair Barringer closed the Regular Meeting of the TSCC.

Approved by commission at April 28th.