

Captioning Transcript of Appropriations Committee Meeting - August 3, 2022

Chair Blackwell

Are we good to go? Yes, sir. All right. Like to call to order the Appropriations Committee.

For today, Wednesday, August, start at 4:31 I'm the Chair, Councilman Blackwell, and with me, as my vice, or virtually Vice Chair Councilman Reed, also Councilwoman Bowens and Councilman Fox Councilman Triplett and Councilman Peden are in the chambers also joined by Councilwoman Amy Holton Stewart Councilman Mulvihill. And, uh, Councilwoman Madonna Flood. A report for you read the statement.

Lisa Franklin Gray

This meeting is being held pursuant to 61.826 and council rule 5A a read and full. Good Thank you.

Chair Blackwell

We'll start with item 1 an ordinance appropriating 7,000 dollars from district 24 enable development funds, the office of management, and budget to Jefferson County, public education foundation Inc for the program expenses associated with providing individual or group counseling services at the youth. individual or group counseling services at the youth Center at Southern high school move approval Thank you. Thank you item is properly motion in a 2nd and Council Member Flood You have the floor.

Council Member Flood

Thank you. Mr chairman Thank you. Committee Members. We've done this for a number of years and this helps defer some of the costs for therapist to come into school trying this year. We're going to try to balance equitable mental health issues, whether it be in a group form, or a 1 on 1 mentorship program and it's done very well at the high school. And it does involve the parents, which is a good thing too. And I think there's 500 dollars. dollars To buy supplies for the counseling services. So, I'd ask for your support place.

Chair Blackwell

Very good. You have any questions or concerns. See, anyone in the queue, um. It's an ordinance, and I will explain my son as an employee of Southern high school. So I will be abstaining from the vote. Madam clerk, will you open the voting

Lisa Franklin Gray

Committee Member Bowens.

Committee Member Bowens

Yes

Lisa Franklin Gray

Committee Member Mulvihill.

Committee Member Mulvihill

Yes

Lisa Franklin Gray

Vice Chair Reed

Vice Chair Reed

yes.

Lisa Franklin Gray

Chair Blackwell.

Chair Blackwell

abstain for the reasons I mentioned earlier

Lisa Franklin Gray

Mr. Chair you have 6 yes votes and 1 abstention.

Chair Blackwell

Item passes this and will go to old business

Item 2 is an ordinance appropriating 10,000 dollars from neighborhood development funds and the following manner of 1000 dollars each from district 9,101,213 and 24,500 dollars each from district 614,151,719,202,223 and 25 and 250 dollars each from district 3 and 21 through the office of management and budget to the Coalition for the homeless Inc for programming expenses associated with project standards. through the office of management and budget to the coalition for the homeless inc for programming expenses associated with project stand down

Committee Member Peden

Move approval Peden

Committee Member Triplett

Second Triplett

Chair Blackwell

Thank you properly motion and 2nd Councilwoman Flood

Council Member Flood

Thank you. Mr. chairman and colleagues. This is something we've done every year. I think just about every council person helps support this. This is for the stand down for the homeless coalition and several other agencies.

It also involves the Veterans Administration, and this year they're only asking for 10,000 dollars that 10,000 dollars will go to help supplement whether it be deposits or furniture. That's not that they can't get from. get from

Nations from other entities, and it also helps by backpacks and pay for IDs and they offer medical attention there. Like, they checked the people's feet. They give them flu shots that would give them covid shots. Um.

And they're hoping this year to at least get another 500 of chronic homeless people off the streets of level. And if you look at their record online, it talks a lot about what they've done with the youth program. They've got a coalition for the homeless as well as obtaining the veterans, uh, off of the street, too. And I think that they could call it containment 0 that they have gotten from the veterans. So that's a very plus for the homeless coalition. And I ask for your support.

Chair Blackwell

Just to point out that it's 10,000 dollars request of 58,000 dollars expenditure. So.

Uh, questions or concerns see, no 1 in a queue. This is an ordinance kind of roll call, but please open a voting.

Lisa Franklin Gray

Committee Member Bowens.

Committee Member Bowens

Yes

Lisa Franklin Gray

Committee Member Mulvihill.

Committee Member Mulvihill

Yes

Lisa Franklin Gray

Vice Chair Reed

Vice Chair Reed

yes.

Lisa Franklin Gray

Chair Blackwell.

Chair Blackwell

abstain for the reasons I mentioned earlier

Lisa Franklin Gray

Mr. Chair you have 6 yes votes and 1 abstention.

Chair Blackwell

Item passes this and will go to consent

I don't 3 is appropriating 600 dollars from neighborhood development funds, and a following, a manner of 150 dollars each from districts 132,123 and 24 to the office of management budget to legal aid society ink for an ask.

A lawyer clinic at South, Central regional form on September 21st, 20. lawyer clinic at south central regional form on September twenty first twenty

Committee Member Peden
Move approval Peden

Committee Member Triplett
Second Triplett

Chair Blackwell
Thank you, thank you. it was was probably motion the 2nd in it and it's before us Councilwoman Flood

Council Member Flood
Thank you busy today. Yeah Thank you. Mr. chair. And thank you. Colleagues. Uh, this is, as it explains this for a legal aid that will be coming out and having a forum. Uh, they will discuss the 1st, 30 minutes of the program. They'll discuss what legal aid is all about, and then they'll break out the lawyers will break out into different groups to actually answer questions. And if someone needs to fill out paperwork to fill out paperwork to get the assistance of of legal aid, I'm really excited to do this because I think it's, we're bringing the lawyers to. The people this time, it's a little bit hard sometimes to get downtown. So, um, I'm excited for this program and it's a collaboration with Councilman Fox Councilman Peden and Councilwoman Nicole George, we're all going in together for this.

Chair Blackwell
Very good questions or concerns seeing none all those in favor. Say, aye aye any opposed? Ayes have it. item passes
Item 4 appropriating 12,375 dollars from district. 3 capital infrastructure funds to public works for the installation of speed bumps and speed hump signs on road drive from DC highway to McCloskey Avenue and McCloskey Avenue from.
mccloskey avenue and mccloskey avenue from
Will or drive to barn handling your motion.
Move approval 2nd template Thank you. Items before us and this moral is up to speak to this 1. I think.
Maybe.
In the chambers

Lisa Franklin Gray
No sir

Chair Blackwell
Okay, um.
But maybe we'll come to okay motion the table and come back to it.

Committee Member Peden
Motion to table Peden

Chair Blackwell
Oh, I'm sorry all those in favor say, aye. All right.
So, um, any opposed, and let's have a table for now and come back.
So, let's see that with.

3, as well as go to for item, 4 is appropriate 8,920 dollars from district for. capital infrastructure funds to public works for installation of speed humps and speed up signs in 19 and a block of West Madison street in motion.

Committee Member Peden
Move approval Peden

Committee Member Triplett
Second Triplett

Chair Blackwell
I know it was before us and we have Ms. Wright is here to speak to it. You're up.

Brianna Wright
Um, I'm the legislative assistant for metro Council district board, and we're asking for 808,920 dollars of our funds. To, um, help with the speed bumps and get the signs installed there to slow down the traffic there and, um, help with the accidents that happen in my area.

Chair Blackwell
Very good questions or concerns see, no 1 in the queue all those in favor. Oh, I'm sorry.

Committee Member Peden
Oh, I just west Madison street runs between where and where. I'm just curious, I don't know.

Brianna Wright
Um, it's 19th and West maxim street. Sorry?

Chair Blackwell
Okay, thank you. Others seeing on all those in favor say, aye. I suppose so item passes. Item 7 is appropriating 7,685 dollars from district for capital infrastructure funds to public works for the installation of speed bumps and speed up signs on South 31st street between Broadway in Garland Avenue move approval. between Broadway in Garland Avenue

Committee Member Peden
Move approval Peden

Committee Member Triplett
Second Triplett

Chair Blackwell
Thank you. I noticed before. Smith, right you're up again.

Brianna Wright

Hi, so we're asking district for us asking for 7,685 dollars of our CIA funding to help with the speed bumps and assign installation to help with the accidents that happened in the area as well.

Chair Blackwell

Other has speeding area, I suppose right?

Questions or concerns.

Seeing all those in favor say aye aye. Aye. Any opposed 7 Item passes. I item 8. it's appropriating 4,999 dollars from district for neighborhood development funds to the office of management budget to MoLo village CDC. management budget to molo village cdc
Company for the 11st annual village festival.

Committee Member Peden

Move approval Peden

Committee Member Triplett

Second Triplett

Chair Blackwell

Item this is before us Ms. Wright your up again.

Brianna Wright

All right, thank you. Um, so this is a general festival that happened in our district in the.

Rest of the neighborhood, and we are just hoping that you guys will approve the funding. This is something that has been funded in the previous Council and as well, we've committed our 1st year here, too.

Chair Blackwell

Yes, so this this event was already held.

July nights, right? So we're looking at reimbursements from the day the application day.

Right, very good. Um, questions or concerns no 1 in a queue all those in favor say, aye.

This item passes.

Thank you, Item notice a repealing and appropriation for 500 dollars from district 5 neighborhood development funds, the office of management budget to the African American, amateur golf association for the father's day and juneteenth tournament and celebration of approval.

Committee Member Peden

Move approval Peden

Committee Member Triplett

Second Triplett

Chair Blackwell

So explanation is, um, other sponsors Opted to cover the event deficit, so they don't need the ndf any longer.

Questions or concerns saying none all those in favor say, aye.

Aye, aye any opposed 7 item passes. Item 10 is being held item 11 is appropriately 400 dollars from neighborhood development funds and the

following manner, 200 dollars each from districts 8, and 9 to the local metro police departments.
5th division for their 2022 national night out

Committee Member Peden
Move approval Peden

Committee Member Triplett
Second Triplett

Chair Blackwell
Thank you. item was properly motion the 2nd end and this is 1 that many of us have been involved in. of us have been involved in Funding over the years, some below the limit doesn't require of speaker. Oh, I'm sorry, Ms. Ethridge it's hard for to see you on that little. I didn't realize that you were there so your floor is yours.

Kyle Ethridge
Thank you so much. Good afternoon. Kyle Etheridge, legislative assistant to Councilman Bill Hollander in the 9th district. So, this is a grant to 5th division for their national night out celebration, which took place last night at the Peterson germinal house and crescent hill. National night out as an annual community building campaign that promotes police community partnerships funds will be used for food and supplies for the event. We'd also like to add a sponsor. Councilwoman McCraney for 200 dollars, so the total would then be 600. we'd appreciate your support.

Chair Blackwell
Councilman Peden would love to move that amendment.

Committee Member Peden
I move that amendment because I would love to.

Committee Member Triplett
Second Triplett

Chair Blackwell
Okay, thank you sir. All those with in favor and say, aye aye aye any opposed.
You now have the amended appropriation before us any other questions or concerns.
Seeing none all those in favor say, aye aye.
Aye, aye any opposed item passes item. 12 is appropriately. Welcome. I didn't know that was appropriate in 2440 dollars from district 17 neighbor, development, funds, dimensional parks for expenses associated with berritown family day.
expenses associated with berritown family day

Committee Member Peden
Move approval Peden

Committee Member Triplett

Second Triplett

Chair Blackwell

Thank you. I haven't missed before. Us doesn't require speaker, but you certainly are.

Um, can speak to anyone speaking.

Nope, there for all those in favor say, aye, aye opposed.

A separate item passes and on 13 is appropriating 2500 dollars from district 25 neighborhood development funds, the office of management and budget to the Kentucky humane societies animal rescue league for the June 21st, 2022 caravan, wellness pet clinic.

twenty twenty two caravan wellness pet clinic

Committee Member Peden

Move approval Peden

Committee Member Triplett

Second Triplett

Chair Blackwell

Thank you. item is before. Us doesn't require speaker, but Councilwoman Amy Holton Stewart is on the line. I think she's going to speak to.

Council Member Holton Stewart

Thank you Chair Blackwell.

Dr, BLACKWELL, um,

this is a reimbursement of 2500 dollars from district 25 to the Kentucky Humane Society for the cost of a caravan wellness clinic that serves that serve 50 citizens that provided rabies and and all their other vaccines for dogs and,

um, also, uh, cats. Um, that it was held on June the 21st of this year, and I understand that we traditionally like to ask or. traditionally like to ask or

For the to be, you know, proactively submitted, however, the this entire program was proposed and organized faster than the Council's process allowed for our office to submit, um,

an ndf due to the Council summer break and new business deadline. So I'm requesting this for reimbursement. And then Tim, uh, in the future for district, 25 partnership with the Kentucky Humane Society to be scheduled in advance. So, thank you

Chair Blackwell

Certainly, any questions or concerns.

Seeing none all those in favor say aye aye aye any opposed? Ayes have it. item passes.

item 14 is appropriating 9,000 dollars from district, 16 capital infrastructure funds to planning in design services for brick, install masonry to repair and clean the 2 stone columns and right away at the intersection of rebels drive and Lancome lane.

Committee Member Peden

Move approval Peden

Committee Member Triplett

Second Triplett

Chair Blackwell

properly in motion 2nd Councilman Reed.

Vice Chair Reed

Thank you, Mr. chair and, uh, you pretty much explained it, uh, these are 2, uh, stone pillars that were built in the early 1009 hundred's uh, it's located in a right of way.

River knows drive it as it intersects with with limekilns and there are a lot of historic properties in that area and I thought this was really a pretty good use of capital infrastructure funds.

We're working through a planning a design on this. These were erected. were erected

A long, long time ago, and they're really sad shape so they didn't have the funds to, um, to rebuild these things and they came to us and asked to help and we did go out and get competitive quotes. And I'm asking for your support. Thank you.

Chair Blackwell

Very good questions or concerns.

Seeing none all those in favor say, aye.

Aye, aye any opposed uh, so item passes.

And we'll go back to item 4 is appropriating 12,000. Oh, I'm sorry. It was a motion to table.

Committee Member Fox

Motion to untable by Fox

Committee Member Triplett

Second Triplett

Chair Blackwell

Thank you, um, uh, all those in favor, say, aye, aye, any opposed motion is untabled then this before us, um. Ms. Morrow.

Keturah Morrow

Uh, Willard and McCloskey, so we'll add in a coffee or just 1 long street. They just get separated by Wally in. So.

Pumps for the entire duration of the street.

Chair Blackwell

Gotcha, well, that's a good explanation. I didn't realize that they were the same 1 and the same.

Great questions or concerns if it wasn't a queue. Nope. Are those in favor say, aye.

Aye, aye, any opposed separate item passes and item 5 is appropriate. 4,950 dollars industry.

3 capital infrastructure funds to public works for the installation of speed bumps and speed up signs on Harold Avenue from Dixie highway to Bali and court approval team. bali and court approval team

Committee Member Peden

Move approval Peden

Committee Member Triplett
Second Triplett

Chair Blackwell

it was properlyl motion and 2nd is before us Ms. Morrow, you're up again.

Keturah Morrow

Same thing safety for us is is that is that an area close to the other 1 or is it okay yeah. Sometimes you get.

Harold goes from Wally in 2.

Chair Blackwell

same neighborhood or is it even? Yeah. Okay. Same neighborhood. Gotcha.

All right. Very good questions or concerns.

Seeing that all those in favor say, aye, aye, any opposed.

This item passes.

Thank you, um, and the last time, I think, uh, Councilman Peden, were you gonna motion to, untable. Um, item 15.

Committee Member Peden

yeah, I would like to motion to untable please

Committee Member Triplett
Second Triplett

Chair Blackwell

motion to untable on item 15 all those in favor say, aye.

Its untabled, Councilman Peden you're up.

Committee Member Peden

Thank you just real quick. Everyone got an email copy and if you're here in the room, you got a hard copy of.

Basically, some suggestions from.

And, I mean, some of them are all right.

Some of them might take issue with such as the hiring of.

Council specific design person, and why I bring that up is, is we gave them money last fiscal year and now we've given the money this fiscal year to hire more design people and they haven't hired anybody.

They claim they can't get anybody to apply, which is fine. But then again, part of the suggestion is.

To create another spot that's funded specifically by.

Counsel money, and again, we can't hire anybody. Now. I'm not sure what to do with that information.

There was some discussion today as we were kind of talking through it.

Where they would start giving us 2 estimates 1 to do the design.

In house, which would be cheaper or a 2nd, and then a 2nd, 1.

To do the design using a contract designer, which would cost and I'm going to make up a figure 10,000 dollars more.

And but it would be faster and, I mean, part of my discussion today was, if you had any project I've ever had if you told me, it was only 10,000

dollars more but it would get done within 6 months to a year of the same appropriation. I would have taken that in a heartbeat.
Um, so I don't think that's the answer they wanted, but it was still thrown out there.

So, I just want to I brought it up, so we can have a brief moment if anybody actually read the document and wanted to comment on it, if not, I'm encouraging you to read the document tweak it change it.
At some point, I'm really, I guess, for a long the end game that some of you may be wondering, I'm not really.
Wanting to pull this. I'd like to modify it and make some official changes.
And again, I'm not out of here until the end of the year. So if we want to tinker with it for another few months, I'm okay with that.
But something needs to desperately be done, going forward on these projects, whether it's public works, whether it's parks, whether it's anything else. So they don't last.
For years, and again, I'm not saying I have the best solution.
And I'm not saying this document that was given to us today is the best solution.
But we're going to have to start coming up with something and so any ideas, any 1 liners you want to add in whatever it is email me text me, do whatever and we'll start trying to craft something.
That becomes the final version,

Chair Blackwell

so we have so currently, um, according to this, we have 8 project managers.
And they are suggesting that we do 2 more for Council projects.

Committee Member Peden

Um, so the figure I have is we have 8.
Approved spots we only have 5 project managers. Oh, gotcha.
And that's part of it now, if that's if that paper indicates differently, I was told verbally today. We have 5.
So, and that, well, within parks.
So, you may be reading a different line than I am.
Oh, yeah, yeah, there it is. Parks and recreation, engineering and planning division as a total of 5 project managers. That's in the very last paragraph of page. 1.

Chair Blackwell

Okay, public works may have more or less et cetera. Yeah, that's what it was. It was the paragraph above it. Okay. The public works is managing let's say so, are they talking about doing 2?
Um, doing 1 for.
Um, 1 for.

Committee Member Peden

Well, the way I read it, I just want 1 for like, all of our projects.
Like, we have a dedicated project manager, whether it's.
Parks whether it's public works, whether it's whatever it's ours.
And I'm not necessarily sure if we did anything, it would be re, route 1 of the ones that are already there.

But I'm still going back to the comment I made earlier they have unfilled vacancies now.

From where they said 2 years ago, 2, fiscal years ago, we need more designer more project and the money.

Then we, even the following year, they couldn't fill that spot. We gave them more money.

To fill, like, pay them more still couldn't attract them.

And so that's kind of where we are, we have unfilled vacancies now. Why add another unfilled vacancy.

Or 2, the suggestion is to hire 2 project managers, all kinds of projects, and doing some research. Some other cities actually have what's called the DoD Department of design.

Where parks public works, and I guess any other agency, they all share the engineers. It's a group of people who sit around and.

You know, talk about auto CAD all day long, but that's their job. They get a.

You know, they every department, they're not a public works engineer.

They're not a parks engineer. They're not a, you know, waste management engineer.

They're just an engineer for the city and they do whatever project comes across their desk.

And I'm not, I guess, in brief.

The brief Googling I did of that. It sounds plausible, but it would take a complete overhaul of everything we know in this city.

So, I'm not sure it's a plausible solution, but it is 1 that's out there, floating around in other locations.

Take take a note, take a seat for the next problem. Yes, I gotcha. I didn't call anybody to find out. How do you know what happens if you, you know, our 1Million dollar road project get caught behind a 10,000 dollar playground project? I'm not sure how that rolls.

Chair Blackwell

Right so. Good point. That would yeah, we'd need to look at that further. I'm sure.

Do we have any other? Um, I don't see anyone else in the queue anyone have any questions or? Yes, there's a Councilman Fox?

Committee Member Fox

Yes, sir. Thank you. Mr. chair. Just 1 observation about getting in line. Keep in mind under the, uh.

Current system I have 1 that's been in line through 2 administrations for a total of almost.

5+years so get in line.

Draw on your little ticket, as you walk in, maybe more effective.

Chair Blackwell

It might be preferable.

Committee Member Fox

Yeah, I mean, the current system, like I say, we're over 5 years for sidewalk project.

Thank you any other.

Chair Blackwell

Okay, so, um, what's your preference here? Uh, Councilman Peden, you just a table again my,

Committee Member Peden

my preference is motion to table if no 1 else has any more comments or questions.

Committee Member Triplett

Second Triplett

Chair Blackwell

Okay, I don't see anyone else. All right. Okay. And, um, all in favor of tabling say, aye, aye, any opposed.

Item tabled, we'll take it up next time. Um, talk more about it.

Um, nothing else to come before us, entertain a motion to adjourn.

Committee Member Peden

Motion to adjourn.

Chair Blackwell

Thank you see you next time.