



Louisville Metro Government

Action Summary - Tentative Budget Committee

Chair Bill Hollander (D-9)
Vice Chair Kevin Kramer (R-11)
Committee Member Jecorey Arthur (D-4)
Committee Member Paula McCraney (D-7)
Committee Member Cassie Chambers Armstrong (D-8)
Committee Member Cindi Fowler (D-14)
Committee Member Markus Winkler (D-17)
Committee Member Anthony Piagentini (R-19)
Committee Member Nicole George (D-21)
Committee Member Robin Engel (R-22)
Committee Member Brent Ackerson (D-26)

Thursday, October 7, 2021

5:00 PM

Council Chambers/Virtual

THIS MEETING IS BEING HELD VIA VIDEO TELECONFERENCE

Call to Order

Chair Hollander called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

Roll Call

Chair Hollander introduced the committee and non-committee members present. A quorum was established.

Note: All committee members and non-committee members present attended virtually, except for Committee Member Arthur, Council President James, Committee Member Chambers Armstrong, Chair Hollander, Vice Chair Kramer, Committee Member Piagentini, Committee Member George, Committee Member Engel and Committee Member Arthur who attended in Chambers.

Present: 10 - Committee Member Jecorey Arthur (D-4), Committee Member Paula McCraney (D-7), Committee Member Cassie Chambers Armstrong (D-8), Chair Bill Hollander (D-9), Vice Chair Kevin Kramer (R-11), Committee Member Cindi Fowler (D-14), Committee Member Anthony Piagentini (R-19), Committee Member Nicole George (D-21), Committee Member Robin Engel (R-22), and Committee Member Brent Ackerson (D-26)

Excused: 1 - Committee Member Markus Winkler (D-17)

Non-Committee Member(s)

Council Member Donna Purvis (D-5) and Council President David James (D-6)

Support Staff

Hollie Hopkins, Jefferson County Attorney's Office
Latonya Bell, Metro Council Staff

Clerk(s)

Olivia Bennett, Assistant Clerk
Sonya Harward, Clerk

Special Discussion1. [ID 21-1277](#)

Broadband Funding Under the American Rescue Plan - Grace Simrall, Chief of Civic Innovation & Technology and Chris Seidt, Director of Information Technology

Attachments: [CIT Broadband Update \(002\).pdf](#)

Grace Simrall and Chris Seidt, Civic Innovation and Technology, gave a presentation (see attached).

The following spoke to the item:

- Chair Hollander
- Vice Chair Kramer

The following was discussed:

- Internet infrastructure
- Digital inclusion focuses
- Funding sources, associated use cases and processes
- Eligible recipients
- Benefits for Louisville Metro
- Associated recommendations
- National Telecommunications and Information Administration ("NTIA") Broadband Grant and Louisville Metro's submitted application -- expected to hear back regarding approval within 60 to 90 days, this will substantially help constituents residing in South East Louisville
- Whether Louisville Metro will be making an application for the Commonwealth of Kentucky Fund -- Louisville Metro has not applied for this fund as of yet, but are currently working with Internet Service Providers ("ISP") to encourage them to apply for this grant
- Whether people can apply for the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") funds on their own -- Encouraging Council Members to include the deadlines for the grant applications in their newsletter
- American Rescue Plan ("ARP") Funding
- Whether Jefferson County Public Schools ("JCPS") submitted an application for this grant and their eligibility -- JCPS could become a service provider, however the Broadband Infrastructure grant specifically requires for you to have a partnership with a service provider to be eligible
- Cost to eliminate the digital divide over the next four years -- an estimate can be put together from the American Community Survey
- Collaborative efforts
- Asked for updates associated with grant funding and a cost estimate for the digital divide

Pending Legislation

2. [R-104-21](#)

A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 119, SERIES 2020 TO UPDATE AND AMEND THE JEFFERSON COUNTY CLERK'S 2021 BUDGET.

Sponsors: Primary Bill Hollander (D-9), Additional Kevin Kramer (R-11) and Additional Jecorey Arthur (D-4)

Attachments: [R-104-21 V.1 092321 For updating and Amending the Jefferson County Clerk's 2021 Budget.pdf](#)
[County Clerk 2021 Capital Request.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Committee Member Pigentini, seconded by Committee Member Engel that this Resolution be recommended for approval.

The following spoke to this item:

- Clerk Bobbie Holsclaw, Jefferson County Clerk's Office
- Chair Hollander

The following was discussed:

- Asked for increase in the current FY2021 Capital Budget due to the supply and demand on equipment and time of delivery to ensure it is received prior to the 2022 election
- The revenue used to purchase equipment will come from the 2021 Surplus, which is now 20 percent over the budgeted amount
- The surge in revenue is related to a increase of recording documents, motor vehicle transactions, as well as other fees collected in the Jefferson County Clerk's Office
- Most of the need comes from the legislative requirement for the agency to conduct three days of early voting on the Thursday, Friday and Saturday prior to Election day
- Clerk Bobbie Holsclaw is consulting with the County Board of Elections, to conduct early voting using regional voting centers for everyone to vote, regardless of where they reside, as done in the past for the 2020 General Election as well as a recommendations for traditional precinct locations where voters can vote at assigned voting locations based on their address -- this will create more convenient voting options for citizens as well as logistical issues
- This will reduce the amount of money coming to Louisville Metro Government at the end of term from surplus funds
- If all allocated funds are not spent, the remaining funds will come back to Louisville Metro Government
- Vice Chair Kramer asked to be added as a Sponsor

The motion carried by a voice vote and the Resolution was sent to the Consent Calendar.

3. [O-472-21](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 088, SERIES 2021 RELATING TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2021-22 CAPITAL BUDGET, FOR THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT BY APPROPRIATING \$4,722,970 TO THE LOUISVILLE ZOO TO FUND A NEW PROJECT TITLED THE ZOO OPERATIONS SURPLUS PROJECTS.

Sponsors: Primary Pat Mulvihill (D-10)

Attachments: [O-472-21 V.1 092321 For the Louisville Zoo to fund a new project- The zoo operations surplus projects.pdf](#)
[Ord No. 88, Series 2021 Shuttered Venue Capital Projects.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Committee Member Piagentini, seconded by Committee Member Chambers Armstrong, that this Ordinance be recommended for approval.

The following spoke to this item:

- Monica Harmon, Office of Management and Budget ("OMB")
- Chair Hollander
- Committee Member Piagentini

The following was discussed:

- This Ordinance appropriates \$4,722,970.00 to the Louisville Zoo to fund new capital projects titled "The Zoo Operations Surplus Projects" to address capital improvement needs throughout the Louisville Zoo
- The source of the funds came from the Shuttered Venue Operations Grant received through the U.S Small Business Administration -- the Louisville Zoo was the only agency eligible to apply for this grant
- Funds were granted to the Louisville Zoo on July 16, 2021
- The requirements of the grant includes the spending of grant funds by December 31, 2021
- Completing the necessary capital projects within the deadline was not feasible so the decision was made to utilize the funds from the general operations fund, which was created by a surplus that was not anticipated at the end of the fiscal year, with the grant dollars
- The projects the funds would be used for
- Proper allocation of capital expenditures

The motion carried by the following vote and the Ordinance was sent to the Consent Calendar:

Yes: 10 - Arthur, McCraney, Chambers Armstrong, Hollander, Kramer, Fowler, Piagentini, George, Engel, and Ackerson

Excused: 1 - Winkler

4. [O-473-21](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 087, SERIES 2021 RELATING TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2021-22 OPERATING BUDGET, FOR THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT BY APPROPRIATING \$388,000 FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ("ARP") LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CODES AND REGULATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL STAFF TO HELP ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH LIQUOR LICENSE REQUIREMENTS AND PROVIDE CAPACITY TO INVESTIGATE ALLEGATIONS OF LICENSE VIOLATIONS.

Sponsors: Primary Cassie Chambers Armstrong (D-8) and Additional David James (D-6)

Attachments: [O-473-21 V.1 092321 Appropriation of ARP funds to the dept. of Codes and Regulations for additional staff help.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Committee Member Piagentini, seconded by Committee Member Chambers Armstrong, that this Ordinance be recommended for approval.

The following spoke to this item:

- Committee Member Chambers Armstrong
- Committee Member McCraney
- Robert Kirchdorfer, Codes and Regulations
- Chief T. Watkins, Louisville Metro Alcoholic Beverage Control ("ABC") Enforcement
- Lt. Bradley Silveria, ABC Enforcement
- Council Member Purvis
- Committee Member Ackerson
- Vice Chair Kramer
- Committee Member Piagentini
- Chair Hollander
- Monica Harmon, Office of Management and Budget

The following was discussed:

- Receiving complaints in District 8 regarding late night activity specifically in bar establishments
- Firearms in bars
- Suggestions regarding safety
- Six ABC enforcement officers on duty to respond to complaints
- The necessary funding for one ABC officer to stay outside of the businesses receiving safety complaints -- three ABC officers, equipment and training funds
- ABC does not currently have the amount of officers needed to provide enforcement at all locations needing it
- This Ordinance is using American Rescue Plan ("ARP") funds
- Whether the ABC Officers are Licensed Law Enforcement and if they are armed-- They are not Louisville Metro Police Department officers but are licensed and sworn police officers, as well as armed
- Having ABC officers in the establishments have made a big change in District 8 within the last couple of weeks
- The goal is to have at least two ABC officers out on Friday and Saturday nights for safety purposes in Louisville Metro
- The amount of licensed establishments -- between 1,300 and 1,500

establishments at a time

- The purpose of the ABC officers is to go to the establishments that are making a profit without regard for public safety
- ABC officers respond to pawn shops, food trucks, noise complaints, night life establishments, etc. -- establishments where others can not or will not -- regarding public safety issues
- Questions regarding the ABC officers' schedules, specifically on nights and weekends -- Originally worked Wednesday-Sunday night shifts and now the schedule is one person on call Monday-Thursday, and another officer scheduled Friday-Sunday and depending on the complaint requirements, overtime would be given
- How ABC officers interact with business owners when on duty -- Undercover, and with discussion, either the business owner complies or a fine will have to be paid or they are at risk of losing their license
- Eventually three ABC officers will be able to be on duty every weekend
- Many establishments in District 5 are not complying with the law
- Whether a dedicated ABC officer can also enforce the law in District 5 as well as District 8 and any other Districts as needed -- yes, this is to cover all Districts in the county
- One visit of an ABC officer in District 5 over a one year period
- Request for more presence of ABC officers
- Request of monthly updates from the ABC officers regarding current public safety in District 5
- Lack of law enforcement
- Solutions to gun violence
- Questions as to how changing the bar closing times relates to solving gun violence in night life establishments when having only three ABC officers out for the entire county -- significant data correlation between the hours of bar operation and the negative public health outcomes of violent crime
- Concerns with already allocating and spending ARP funds specifically towards individual Ordinances -- Council Members have issues in their specific Districts
- Review of Louisville Metro's Budget to find and allocate funds for this Ordinance without having to use ARP funds
- ARP fund allocating process
- Sustaining these ABS officer positions if the Budget does not allow for it
- Request for data between late night bars and crime prior to and after ABC officers began showing more presence
- The reason behind the use of ARP funds was because it fell under the category of public safety which is an item listed to allocate ARP funds towards
- Questions as to where the additional funds came from -- the revenues used to support this expenditure will need to be identified prior to coming before the full Metro Council, the same was done regarding Metro Animal Services

A motion was made by Committee Member Chambers Armstrong, seconded by Committee Member Arthur, that this Ordinance be amended by removing all references to ARP funds.

The motion to amend was withdrawn and discussion was had about amending the Ordinance by substitution before the full Metro Council.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Kramer, seconded by Committee Member Arthur, that this Ordinance be returned without recommendation.

The following spoke to this item:

- Council President James
- Committee Member Fowler
- Committee Member Engel
- Committee Member Arthur

The following was discussed:

- Council President James requested to be added as a Sponsor to this Ordinance
- Asked for this Ordinance to be voted upon now or as soon as possible for the immediate need for ABC officers
- The work of ABC officers prevents violence and helps neighborhoods and communities with public safety
- ABC investigators operate in plain clothes so they can discreetly watch the investigation take place because it may not occur if they are in uniform
- Under Staffing of any enforcement officers
- Follow through of Development plans
- Jefferson County Public Schools need School Resource Officers back in schools

The motion to return without a recommendation carried by the following vote and the Ordinance was sent to Old Business:

Yes: 8 - Arthur, Chambers Armstrong, Hollander, Kramer, Fowler, Piagentini, George, and Engel

No: 1 - McCraney

Present: 1 - Ackerson

Absent: 1 - Winkler

Adjournment

Without objection, Chair Hollander adjourned the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Note: Items sent to the Consent Calendar or Old Business will be heard before the full Council at the Metro Council meeting on October 14, 2021