Captioning Transcript Budget Committee 8/4/22

"Hollander, Bill”
Metro TV will start in 1 minute. Good afternoon this is the regular meeting of the local Metro council budget committee, today is Thursday August 4th, it's 5:02 p.m. We have 2 items, and the meeting is being held pursued to care at 61.26 in council rule 5A. In chambers today, I'm the committee chair Bill Hollander, the vice chair Kevin Kramer's here also council members Armstrong and George, and joining us virtually we have council members Arthur, Fowler and Triplett. I think that's it. We may have and we will have councilmen Winkler joining us in a few minutes. We have 2 items on the agenda today and the 1st one in ordinance, approving a 5th round of the American rescue plan, local fiscal recovery funding to address the continued impact of Covid-19 on the economy public health state and local governments, individuals and business. And you will note if, if you've looked that I've changed that I've read that a little bit differently than it was published as a technical correction, because it has published. It said the 5th round to various local metro government departments” and there is actually only 1 department for this round will also make a technical correction so that it says Department of public health and wellness capitalized and is and not our again. Those are all technical corrections. This is our, it's O-223-22 is there a motion to approve?

"Engel, Robin”
So moved.

“Armstrong, Cassie”
Second.”

“Hollander, Bill”
I properly moved and seconded in the ordinances is before us. Let's just say a couple of things about this, and I know Monica Harmon is here as well. This is an ordinance. That was on in the 4th round. This item was in the budget and was taken out. This is for an electric, electronic health record system for the public health and wellness department, I think, was discussed at a work group meeting. And I think it was widely thought as sort of a clear need and something that we ought to do with, particularly with money that comes from Covid recovery funds, it got taken out because there was some discussion about whether there was a state system that would be coming quickly would make this unnecessary for us to have our own system. We had a meeting

about that in July, On July, 18th, President James, council member Piagentini, Councilwoman Armstrong I were in that meeting. There were people from the administration than me. There were people from the state in that meeting and the long and short of it was. It's going to take a while before the state system is up and running, so the idea was, this is something that we need to do that we can move quickly on. We'll have some benefit
not only to patient care, but also to our ability to build and therefore we thought it was important that we move this forward. So that's the long a charter that Monica would you like to speak to this?

Harmon, Monica”
I'm going to defer over, Dr. Howard is here from the public health department, and he can speak more specifically to the benefits for it. If there's a financial matter I'll be glad to answer. Monica Harmon for the record.

“Hollander, Bill”
Thank you. Dr. Howard, and welcome, I think this is your 1st appearance here.

“Howard, Jeffrey”
Yes, sure. Yes. Thank you. For the, for your, your grace and, uh, opportunity for the record Jeffrey Howard, norm director of the department for our public health and wellness. Members of the council that I have not had the opportunity made it's a pleasure to make you equate yesterday. I really think Thank you all for the opportunity to be able to discuss our, as, you know, we've been without an electronic health record for quite some time now. When I was the state commissioner of health, I must admit some guilt, we pulled back the HR at the time to do some technical issues and we have from a state level, they have not been able to procure an HR that's going out to health departments. I think there's up to 18 local health departments now in this state, we've elected to move forward on their own to get in the HR, because we suffer without an HR from inability to bill, and then due to covid restrictions we have had some data reporting requirements that has forced us to procure a system in order to meet the data reporting requirements for vaccines it's costing us 800,000 dollars a year in the metro area and HR will push that need away. We believe, based off some of the, um, some of the procurement opportunities we have to recover lost billing, we estimate we lost at least a million dollars in billing because we're having to do some of this physically,

manually having to take written records, convert them and submit billing. We can recover at least 50% of that lost revenue from medical billing and get rid of that 800,000 dollars in costs, we'll be able to cover some of the cost of this over a 2 year period, we think this makes a smart financial investment for the department for the city and even if the state does make a procurement and 2 years, which is the minimum time that they will need and again be in a previous state level commissioner, I can tell you it's, it's a minimum of 2 years for our technology Procurement and secretary Pre liner was open and honest with us about that process, I think, we think this makes a lot of sense for us moving forward from that reason. With that I'll pause and be willing to take any questions you have for me.

"Hollander, Bill"
I think from that meeting, I think 2 years is probably optimistic for a state system. There's 1 change from the, from the recommendation that came initially, and then was pulled back and that was a 2-million-dollar appropriation this is 2,500,000 dollars preparation, can you talk about why the increase?

"Howard, Jeffrey
So we have a committee that is reviewing the request for information or requests for proposals, at this point I am not on that committee, but I will have reviewed them. I can't speak to their specificity others say them out average a little higher than the consultant originally gave us.
That was the reason for the increase.

“Hollander, Bill”
Okay. I don't see anyone else in the queue at this point. Is there anyone who wants to speak to this? All right, thank you. Thank you Dr. This is an ordinance that calls for a roll call vote Madam clerk if you open the voting. And the voting is closing. If you call the role of the virtual attendees.

"Brown, Marissa"
Committee Member Arthur?

"Arthur, Jecorey."
Yes.

“Brown, Marissa”
Committee member McCraney?

“Brown, Marissa”
Committee member Fowler?

“Fowler, Cindi”
Yes.

“Brown, Marissa”
Committee Member Triplett?

“Triplett, Kevin”
Yes.

“Brown, Marissa”
Committee Member Winkler?

“Winkler, Markus”
Yes. Sorry. In the process of signing in.

“Hollander, Bill”
If you could turn on your camera. All right sorry I, I think you probably ought to do it. There you go.

“Brown, Marissa”
Committee Member Piagentini? Mr. Chair you have 9 yes votes.

“Hollander, Bill”
Wonderful. Thank you very much. And this will be on the consent calendar at our next meeting. Thank you
Howard for speaking. The 2nd item of business today is for resolution 102-22 a resolution of the official intent of the Louisville County, Metro government to finance, the acquisition construction renovation and improvement of certain capital projects of the Louisville/Jefferson County Metro government, and its agencies and departments from the proceeds of one or more proposed issues of general obligation bonds and general obligation notes is there a motion to approve?

“Winkler, Markus”
Motion Winkler.

“Armstrong, Cassie”
Second.

"Hollander, Bill”
Is it properly moved and seconded and before us, Harman do you want to speak to this?

"Harmon, Monica”

Good afternoon, Monica Harmon, Office of Management Budget. This is a routine manner in which we allows Metro to be able to continue to purchase and expand the funds that would have been appropriated by the budget without issuing the debt. So, we and then what we do is we go back and reimburse ourselves when the issuance is made. This allows us to delay issuance the interest for funds that we aren't going to be able to spend right away and we utilize our funds on hand until such time, as we deem a need to issue. We also have, uh, Charlie available to speak as bond council and Laura Ferguson from the county Attorney's office either of who can ask answer legal questions related to it.

"Hollander, Bill”
I don't see anyone in the queue. This is something that we do every year. We certainly want to begin the capital projects that we have funded in the budget that we passed in June and this allows us to do that so I don't see anyone else who has a question about this if not, this is a resolution that we can improve on a voice vote. All in favor say, aye. Any opposed? All right the resolution is approved, and this will also be on the consent calendar at our meeting next week. And that concludes our business today. Thank you all very much for being here without objection. We're adjourned.