

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS, FOR THE WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 15

Q1. Why did the Supply budget for the Mayor increase by 38% and Miscellaneous increase by 25% (Page 37)? Same question for page 39, Supplies increased by 333% and Miscellaneous by 169%?

A. These are Supplies (\$5,000) and other Miscellaneous costs (\$7,500) like a computer or cell phone for the REDI Program Manager. When we hire a new person we need to provide expenditure authority for these types of costs, in addition to just salaries and benefits. These amounts are broken out clearly in Decision Package #1. This answer applies to the question for page 37, which is a breakdown for the Total Department, as well as page 39, which is a breakdown for just the Administration cost center.

Q2. Will Council be provided data for the specifics of additional FTE requests, for example the Dive Team?

A. Specific information on FTE requests is included in the Decision Packages. If you would like more information please ask. Regarding the Dive Team, we are not requesting additional FTEs for the Dive Team. The Police Department has dive gear that has expired or is not functioning. The request is to get training and equipment and so forth up and running so that we can coordinate with the fire department and others to adequately address marine safety needs.

Q3. I am looking at Decision Package 35, the request for more maintenance vehicles. Can you tell me how many vehicles you are considering? Will most or all be electric vehicles?

A. We have two "normal" replacement vehicles in the Fleet 'B' Fund (DP#70) We also have DP#35 for \$161,000 to replace two very old cars held over some years ago that were not surplus when they were "officially" replaced. These have been on sort of long term "loan" to facilities without making any additional contributions for their replacement. DP#35 is designed to replace them with (2) electric vehicles, assuming the supply chain will support that. These two new vehicles would be added to the 511 'B' fund going forward so that their eventual replacement costs would be collected during their service time with the City.

Q4. I am looking at the request to use ending fund balance for two Variable Message Boards (VMB) for \$15,000 each. Why wouldn't this just go into a 4th quarter budget amendment?

A. You are correct, the department could have gone ahead and purchased these VMBs now, out of currently approved budget authority in 2021. The decision was made to purchase these in 2022, and despite the relatively small cost of each, to call them out separately during the 2022 budget process, to give Council the opportunity to fully understand the need for these VMBs.

Q5. What is "Interfund Rental" in the Council budget?

A. The interfund rental line item is how the various departments pay for their computer equipment. Councilmembers are provided things like I-Pads and cellphones, and also pay for a part of the overall IT infrastructure for the City. These items are purchased in the Information Services Fund, and this interfund rental charge is how the IS fund gets reimbursed from the departments.