

Carolyn G. Goodman, Mayor (At-Large)
Brian Knudsen, Mayor Pro Tem (Ward 1)
Victoria Seaman (Ward 2)
Olivia Diaz (Ward 3)
Francis Allen-Palenske (Ward 4)
Cedric Crear (Ward 5)
Nancy E. Brune (Ward 6)



City Manager Mike Janssen
City Attorney Jeff Dorocak
City Clerk LuAnn D. Holmes

**Special Joint City Council and Redevelopment Agency
Budget Meeting Minutes**
Council Chambers · 495 South Main Street · Phone 702-229-6011
City of Las Vegas Internet Address: www.lasvegasnevada.gov

**May 21, 2024
10:00 AM**

1. Call to Order

Minutes:

MAYOR GOODMAN called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

PRESENT: MAYOR GOODMAN and COUNCILMEMBERS KNUDSEN, CREAR, SEAMAN, DIAZ, ALLEN-PALENSKE and BRUNE (excused until 10:05 a.m.)

ALSO PRESENT: CITY MANAGER MIKE JANSSEN, CITY ATTORNEY JEFF DOROCAK and CHIEF DEPUTY CITY CLERK JACQUIE MILLER

2. Announcement Regarding: Compliance with Open Meeting Law

Minutes:

ANNOUNCEMENT MADE: This meeting has been properly noticed and posted at the following locations in accordance with the noticing standards as outlined in NRS 241.020: City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor; the City of Las Vegas website – www.lasvegasnevada.gov; and the Nevada Public Notice website – notice.nv.gov.

3. Public comment during this portion of the Agenda must be limited to matters on the Agenda for action. If you wish to be heard, come to the podium and give your name for the record. The amount of discussion, as well as the amount of time any single speaker is allowed, may be limited.

Minutes:

KATHERINE DUNCAN expressed concern for the RDA (Redevelopment Agency) awarding the least amount of funding for projects within the Historic Westside. She suggested a revolving loan fund established by the RDA for home and business owners to borrow money from. She opined the RDA was not meeting the goal of developers providing jobs for residents within the RDA area. She requested a meeting with the appropriate person in order to discuss meeting these goals.

4. Public hearing and discussion for possible action regarding Fiscal Year 2025 City of Las Vegas Tentative Budget and Fiscal Year 2025 City of Las Vegas Final Budget, including the Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan - All Wards

Minutes:

CITY MANAGER MIKE JANSSEN, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER STEVE FORD, GARY AMELING and SUSAN

HELTSLEY, Directors of Finance, shared in narrating a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to present an overview of the City Council and Redevelopment Agency (RDA) Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 budget. MR. JANSSEN thanked the Council and his team for all the work that was put into creating the budget. He explained that in January of every year they have budget hearings with directors and this year they received over 400 requests for expanded budget items, adding up to \$80 million and included over 100 position requests. He noted in the previous two budget cycles there was an addition of federal dollars that would not be included in this budget cycle, aligning with other municipalities. Due to this reduction they were not able to accommodate all budget requests. He said in March they held a budget workshop with the Council to review details regarding the reasons they selected to give certain areas funds. In April, they came back before the Council to present their tentative budget. He explained after the tentative budget was presented they were served notice with the decision by the Nevada Supreme Court. When compared to other cities across the country he noted Las Vegas is the 24th largest city, with a budget of \$2.25 billion that supports almost 3,900 full-time employees.

MR. JANSSEN listed budget items from the presentation to give a highlight of some areas they focused on for the final budget. He explained the additions of a Fire Training Officer, 60 students to the paramedic school, two Deputy City Marshals to the graveyard team, and expansion of the Problem Oriented Policing team. He said the budget included the City taking over of The Animal Foundation's shelter building for \$15 million as well as additional contracts with Hearts Alive Village and Heaven Can Wait Animal Society for micro-chipping and additional veterinary services. In addition, MR. JANSSEN explained the allocation of five new Fleet and Animal Protective Services vehicles. He noted the addition of private security, including security for the Civic Plaza, and K-9s to the Fire Department and Department of Public Safety (DPS). Also included was healthcare expansion to include \$3.5 million for contract ambulance services, a new vendor for the Homeless Resource Center, and opioid treatment and support programs. In reference to diversifying the economy, the budget included (RDA) funding for a biotech innovation center. College of Southern Nevada (CSN) Northwest Campus will receive \$4 million towards the planning and engineering of the campus, and a Workforce Training Center in the Historic Westside will receive \$14 million. He noted the City will partner with Google for broadband investments to assist with the growing work-from-home population. MR. JANSSEN highlighted the addition of 39 new positions, which is down from last year's 70, the Civic Plaza opening in Spring of 2025, and inflationary increases.

MR. AMELING thanked the Council and his team for the work on the budget. He explained FY24 ends in June and due to anomalies, the City will be over budget. The current estimate of revenues for the General Fund are \$64.6 million greater than anticipated due to C-Tax (Consolidated Tax) estimating \$7 million more than budget and franchise fees of \$12.8 million more than budget. In addition, \$26.5 million was transferred into the General Fund as revenue replacement under the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) and \$13.6 million was added for a BLM (Bureau of Land Management) sale. Regarding the expenditures exceeding budget, MR. AMELING noted the services and supplies and capital outlay were projected to exceed budget by \$38.5 million, and salaries and benefits were estimated to under run the budget by \$7.1 million. He advised they transferred \$11.5 million to CIP (Capital Improvement Projects) and \$60 million to the liability and property damage ISF (Internal Service Funds) for the Nevada Supreme Court order. For FY25 he highlighted a C-Tax increase of 1.1 percent and a property tax increase of 4.5 percent. He discussed the property tax cap for residential and non-residential housing and noted the abatement due to those not being increased. He said there will be an increase in license and franchise fees of 2.1 percent. Fines and charges for services and other revenues will decrease by 15.1 percent due to the one-time revenue in FY24 from the sale of the BLM land. Contribution from the RDA to the General Fund occurs annually and is \$3.1 million this budget year. Transfers will decrease by 61 percent due to the ARPA revenue replacement that occurred in FY24. MR. AMELING displayed a pie chart to display the FY25 General Fund revenues showing the C-Tax as the largest portion of the fund at 55 percent. He then displayed a breakdown of the C-Tax over the years and explained how it was economically sensitive to make reserves for this fund important. Property tax is the second largest portion of the fund at almost 18 percent and is also economically sensitive due to the recovery time after a depression.

MS. HELTSLEY showed appreciation for everyone on the finance team for their work. She reviewed the FY25 expenditures and noted Metro (Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department) requested a 6.6 percent increase of funds. This included 36 additional civilian positions, 23 additional commissioned positions, cost of living increases, workers' compensations charges, and vehicle equipment and maintenance. She said the Animal Foundation contract is included in the budget as well as the Civic Plaza staffing, security, supplies and utility

costs. Additionally the Homeless Resource Center has increased operational costs, 24 full-time positions were transferred back to the General Fund, and the budget includes inflationary costs for utilities, services and supplies. She also highlighted the progress and status of all collective bargaining agreements the City holds. An overview of changes from the tentative budget to the final budget showed an increase of 10 positions in the General Fund and Internal Services Fund. They include a Behavioral Health Clinician, Deputy City Attorney IV, EMS Field Coordinator, Events Planner, Fire Equipment Mechanic II, Management Analyst II, Communications Specialist Supervisor, and three Fire Communications Specialists. After a re-evaluation of the staffing plan including benefit changes, cost of living, and step and merit increases, they added \$1 million to the final budget. She explained they adjusted Metro's contract, saving \$3.5 million, Department of Public Safety's (DPS) vehicle costs, increased citywide contracted security support, and transferred \$25 million to the Liability Insurance and Property Damage Fund in order to increase reserves. She advised FY24 would have a shortfall of an estimated \$28.7 million in the General Fund and FY25 would have a projected shortfall of \$22.2 million. She displayed a graph and explained the next five years deficit and surplus amounts for the General Fund. The Fiscal Stabilization Special Revenue Fund, created in 2020 as a "rainy day" fund, would have \$55 million transferred from it into the General Capital Projects Fund to replace money used in FY24.

MR. FORD showed several revenue streams for project funding from the presentation, including fire safety initiative, annual Medicaid reimbursement, and reallocating existing project funding for closed projects. He listed ward specific projects and explained most of them are near complete. He advised on major public safety projects including the animal control shelter building and the Providence/Skye Canyon area substation. He provided an overview of the changes since the tentative budget to include the Las Vegas Medical District parking garage and the Public Art Masterplan implementation. The Capital Improvement Plan is \$142.2 million and includes 21 new projects.

MR. JANSSEN stated one of the changes he implemented was having the Director of the Economic and Urban Development Department report directly to him. He noted the RDA was created from Federal and State laws designating areas as redevelopment areas to create economic incentives. He explained the fiscal trends relating to the Redevelopment Agency, noting assessed value and tax increment revenue have both seen increases since FY23. He said Southern Land Company had several ongoing and newly finished projects within the City totaling nearly \$600 million with a percentage going to the RDA due to the sites being previously vacant lots. He highlighted ongoing and future projects within the RDA including development at Symphony Park and multiple projects within the Las Vegas Medical District. The RDA has numerous incentive programs to assist with expansion and investments, including the Visual Improvement Program, Downtown Special Event Public Safety Support Program, and the Safety/Security Grant Program. He advised the RDA Area Powerline and Power Service Upgrade Program would assist with power upgrades businesses may need. He estimated the issuance of \$50 million in bonds for development projects and listed numerous projects that are close to completion. He showed a slide of the RDA final budget and said 18 percent of the tax increment funds for RDA are set aside for educational purposes and affordable housing.

MAYOR GOODMAN thanked the Finance team for the work put into the budget and questioned the fuel revenue tax and if it was included in the budget. MR. FORD replied it was not included as no outside funding was included in the budget, but they were working towards a resolution to include it in the future.

CHANSE TAYLOR stated he is the owner of Bridger Bed and Breakfast, and he had applied for the security enhancement grant and is requesting it be fully funded. He noted his grant information was included in a handout, a copy of which was submitted for the record. He advised of problems with human waste near his property, and as a result, he would like the remainder of his grant funded in order to add more lighting to his property. MAYOR GOODMAN asked MR. JANSSEN to obtain MR. TAYLOR'S information due to it being a part of the General Fund and the RDA Budget.

KATHERINE DUNCAN wondered how Las Vegas compared to other similar cities in regards to the Federal funds it receives. She noted the budget did not include the amount of land the City owns, what type of capital resources the City has, or the number of jobs the RDA had created. She questioned the amount of support the RDA is providing to the Historic Westside and opined creating a fund for a portion of the RDA area in the Historic Westside would be beneficial.

COUNCILWOMAN SEAMAN questioned if the budget forecasted any upcoming judgments regarding the Badlands Cases if the City does not succeed with appeals. MR. JANSSEN responded that the Budget included the funds for one judgment, and they strive to create a reserve fund for the other three pending cases. The Councilwoman inquired about an additional Animal Protective Services Officer to investigate illegal breeding, and MR. JANSSEN replied they were working with the current Animal Protection Services team to further investigate these cases.

COUNCILWOMAN DIAZ expressed concerns regarding resources to continue updating lights and street lights to LED (light-emitting diode) to make areas brighter for the community. She questioned if the budget included cameras for alleyways and sidewalk upkeep and infill. MR. JANSSEN stated that JOEY PASKEY, Director of Public Works, successfully acquired federal grants for street lighting. He explained the Council has previously allocated funds for LED conversions, and it is an ongoing project. He opined copper wire theft was still a problem and effects street lights within the community. He advised they are reconstructing alleyways across the city and implementing solar street lights in areas with complaints along with partnering with NV Energy to replace light bulbs in street lights they own. In regards to sidewalks, MR. JANSSEN noted maintenance of sidewalks is the responsibility of the property owner and in cases where it is a homeowner with tree roots hindering the side walk, they partner with the Streets and Sanitation team to reach a resolution.

COUNCILMAN KNUDSEN thanked MR. JANSSEN for the work he has done and going above and beyond his duties. He opined the RTC (Regional Transportation Commission) Board funding would be difficult in the coming years and thought it would be helpful to map out the next five years with the board.

MAYOR GOODMAN expressed concerns regarding federal elections and the effect it would have on federal funding for the City. She opined increasing the reserve fund to combat future inflation was important. She thanked the Finance and legal teams for the work they have done.

MR. AMELING concluded they would submit the Final Budget to the State for approval on June 3, 2024 and the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) form would be sent to the State on August 1, 2024 for approval.

Motion made by Brian Knudsen to Approve

Passed For: 7; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 0

For-Nancy Brune, Victoria Seaman, Cedric Crear, Carolyn Goodman, Brian Knudsen, Olivia Diaz, Francis Allen-Palenske;

5. Public hearing and discussion for possible action regarding Fiscal Year 2025 City of Las Vegas Redevelopment Agency Tentative Budget and Fiscal Year 2025 City of Las Vegas Redevelopment Agency Final Budget - Redevelopment Area Wards 1, 3 and 5 (Knudsen, Diaz and Crear)

Minutes:

See Item 4 for related discussion.

Motion made by Brian Knudsen to Approve

Passed For: 7; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 0

For-Nancy Brune, Victoria Seaman, Cedric Crear, Carolyn Goodman, Brian Knudsen, Olivia Diaz, Francis Allen-Palenske;

6. Citizens Participation: Public comment during this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters within the jurisdiction of the City Council. No subject may be acted upon by the City Council unless that subject is on the agenda and is scheduled for action. If you wish to be heard, come to the podium and give your name for the record. The amount of discussion on any single subject, as well as the amount of time any single speaker is allowed, may be limited.

Minutes:

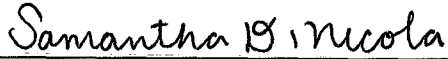
None.

7. Adjournment

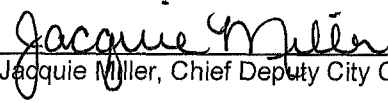
Minutes:

The meeting adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Samantha DiNicola, Deputy City Clerk



Jacquie Miller, Chief Deputy City Clerk

THIS MEETING WAS PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NOTICING STANDARDS AS OUTLINED IN NRS 241.020:

The City of Las Vegas website – www.lasvegasnevada.gov

The Nevada Public Notice website – notice.nv.gov

City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor