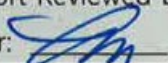


Agenda Report Reviewed by:
City Manager: 

CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM

Meeting Date: May 19, 2021
To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers
From: Budget Subcommittee
Subject: Discussion of City Council Priorities for FY2021-22 Budget Considerations.

Recommendation That the City Council discuss and provide consensus/direction for budgetary items and/or other items requested for set aside at this meeting and direct the budget committee to review set aside prior to submission of budget to the full Council.

Funding: Currently Budgeted: Yes _____ No X N/A _____
Net General Fund Cost:
If Cost to Other Fund(s)

Account Code/Costs authorized in City Approved Budget AK (verified by Administrative Services Department)

INTRODUCTION/PURPOSE:

The item is for the City Council to discuss and provide consensus/direction for budgetary items and/or other items requested for funding set aside at this meeting and direct the budget committee to review set aside requests prior to submission of budget to the full Council.

BACKGROUND:

Each year, the City is required to adopt an annual budget. In order to prepare the budget for review and approval by the City Council, each department submits their proposed budget for the upcoming year to the Administrative Services Department, who in turn prepares it for the Budget Sub-Committee review. This year, the Budget Sub-committee, comprised of Mayor Glass, Councilmember Hinton, City Manager/Attorney McLaughlin, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk Gourley and Administrative Services Director Kwong, meets with all the Department Directors and the Non-Profit organizations to review and analyze their budgets as originally submitted. The Budget Sub-Committee then, with recommendations from the City Manager makes adjustments to the departmental budget requests as well as the Non-Profit organizations, as they deem necessary. The review begins in March and usually ends when the budget is approved in June.

DISCUSSION:

The Sebastopol City Council continues to work from list of adopted Goals and Priorities which are evaluated and updated on a regular basis as well as from Actions and Goals in the General Plan. Recently, the City prepared a list of major accomplishments reflecting the goals of this community. The link is listed for easy access. The City of Sebastopol <https://www.ci.sebastopol.ca.us/City-Government/City-Council/Recent-Accomplishments>.

As we prepare the budget for fiscal year 2021-22, Sebastopol is expecting to recover from the shelter in place orders, and the subsequent limited reopening of business activities. Due to the uncertainties about the extent and timing of the post-pandemic recovery, the budget estimates for FY 2021-22 will be, once again, relatively conservative; and the expenditure growth allowed will be focused on maintaining baseline services.

For fiscal year 2021-22, Sebastopol expects to receive federal relief monies of approximately \$1.4 million. The U.S. Treasury is to distribute the first 50 percent of the funds allocated to each local government within 60 days of enactment (May 11, 2021). States and all local governments will receive the remaining 50 percent 12 months later in May 2022.

For planning purposes, the FY 21-22 budget includes half of the \$1.4 million (\$700,000.00) of relief funds as the second half of funds would not be received until May 2022 and is proposed to be allocated in the FY 22-23 Fiscal year.

The California Department of Housing and Community Development has approved Sonoma County's Homekey application for the Sebastopol Inn in November 2020. The funds were used for the purchase, capital improvements, and operations of the former Sebastopol Inn (now called Elderberry Commons). The Sonoma County Community Development Commission's also amended their budget to allocate funding in the amount of \$370,000 to the City of Sebastopol. This monetary support is a one-time revenue and not expected to be recurring annually.

The purpose of this item is for the City Council to provide consensus/direction to the Budget Subcommittee to review your priorities for expenditures to be included in the proposed budget for fiscal year 2021-22 prior to the submission of the proposed budget to the full City Council. To name a few items of interest such as but not limited to:

- 1) Relaunch Sebastopol (As discussed at the May 4th 2021 City Council Meeting)
- 2) Discussion of Uses of the Funding from County of Sonoma
 - Working with local organizations such as WCCS to work to build relationships with homeless/unhoused individuals and families such as those living on Morris Street or residential areas to assist them in finding services, education and resources to help them become self-sufficient
 - Consideration of Consulting with CAHOOTS (Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets) CAHOOTS is a mobile crisis intervention team, designed as an alternative to police response for non-violent crises.
 - Consideration of a Pilot Program for Downtown Streets Team which is a work experience program that provides volunteer opportunities for men and women experiencing homelessness.
 - Safe overnight parking, to be located at church sites within Sebastopol, with intake and support services provided by a local organization such as West County Community Services
- 3) Discussion of funding for Contract for Community Vitality Consultant (CoMission)
- 4) Discussion and Consideration of Approval of Recommendations from Ad Hoc Committee on Financial Policies for Grants/Sponsorships/Review of Community Benefit Grant Applications (Requestor: Ad Hoc Committee)
- 5) Discussion of funding related to Fire and Emergency Services including any funding that may be requested from the Fire/Emergency Services Subcommittee.
- 6) Discussion of any funding that may be requested from the Climate Action Subcommittee.

- 7) Discussion of funding for consultants to advise regarding municipal financial management including revenue enhancements and management of capital assets and debt.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

As of the writing of this staff report, the City has not received any public comment. However, public comment from interested parties following the publication and distribution of this staff report will be provided to the City Council as supplemental materials before or at the meeting.

PUBLIC NOTICE:

This item was noticed in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and was available for public viewing and review at least 72 hours prior to schedule meeting date.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There are no fiscal impacts associated with discussion of City Council priorities for tonight.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council to discuss City Council consensus/direction for budgetary items and/or other items requested for set aside at this meeting and direct the budget committee to review set aside prior to submission of budget to the full Council.

Attachment(s):

none