

**Public Safety Sales Tax Oversight Committee Meeting
July 10, 2019**

Committee members in attendance:

E. Carroll, P. Cuchiaro, L. Gonzalez, B. Grady, B. Herpin, G. Lovin, D. Moore, D. Mullin, R. Tanner, M. Volcheff, A. Woehle

Committee members absent:

L. Rife

Others present:

Chief T. Collas (CSFD), Chief V. Niski (CSPD), Deputy Chief S. Dubay (CSFD), Deputy Chief M. Smith (CSPD), Deputy Chief A. Vasquez (CSPD), B. Conklin (CSFD), K. Snow (CSFD), N. McCauley (CSPD), K. Rankin (CSFD)

Call to Order: Chairperson B. Grady called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

Citizen Comment:

No citizen comment was made.

Administrative:

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: B. Herpin made a motion to approve the May 8, 2019 meeting minutes as written. L. Gonzalez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Vice Chairperson Nominations and Vote:

This meeting was Chairperson Grady's final meeting due to term-limit restrictions. As of August 14, 2019, current Vice Chairperson Moore will assume the role of Chairperson. Chairperson Grady requested nominations for a person to assume the role of Vice Chairperson until the first meeting in 2020. D. Moore nominated E. Carroll for the position of Vice Chairperson. R. Tanner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Recognition:

This meeting was P. Cuchiaro's final meeting due to term-limit restrictions. Chairperson Grady expressed his appreciation for P. Cuchiaro's commitment to the Committee. Chiefs Collas and Niski also expressed their gratitude for all of her work on the Committee. They spoke of her dedication and accountability to the residents of Colorado Springs and they thanked her for her service to the City. The Chiefs presented her with Department coins and B. Conklin presented her with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Business and Updates:

Financial Updates:

The following documents were distributed to Committee members:

- Sales and Use Tax Revenue Report – May 2019
- Department Listing of Obligations vs Budget activity through June 2019.
- Project-Grant Listing of Obligations vs Budget activity through June 2019.

Police:

Firing Range:

Deputy Chief M. Smith provided an update on the Firing Range/Training Facility. CSPD is still working to obtain a subdivision exemption from El Paso County and that will be followed by approval of the site development plan. CSPD expects to develop the site in multiple phases. The phases are planned as:

Phase I: Three ranges, classroom facility, and parking

Phase II: Shelter canopies with concrete bases to each of the ranges

Phase III: Fourth range with shelter canopy

Finding appropriate dirt and moving it to the training site is the most expensive part of the project and is the biggest variable in CSPD's budget/estimated expense. Currently, the estimated cost of the entire project is approximately \$6 million. Funding for the project will be provided by:

- Approximately \$1.7 million currently available in the "Public Safety Firing Range" Project;
- Approximately \$500,000 currently available in the "CSPD High Priority PSST" Project;
- \$3 million being made available through the City's issuance of Certificates of Participation (COPs) where PSST funds will be used to make annual payments;
- Funding provided, if necessary, through future budget cycles.

M. Volcheff inquired whether or not CSPD could use any of the local military firing ranges. M. Smith advised CSPD had done extensive research into this possibility and none of the local ranges have enough capacity to allow CSPD to use their range for the number of hours/days needed.

D. Mullin inquired where El Paso County Sheriff's Office (EPSO) is shooting. M. Smith advised EPSO is using the Cheyenne Mountain Firing Range but there is a chance EPSO will request to use CSPD's range once it is completed. If EPSO uses CSPD's range, CSPD will charge EPSO a usage fee.

Recruit Class:

N. McCauley advised CSPD is starting its next Academy Class beginning July 22 with 68 recruits.

Fire:

Fire Department Complex Phase IIB:

B. Conklin confirmed CSFD still plans to use proceeds from the issuance of the COPs to partially fund the FDC Phase IIB project. This new fire station will initially house a medical squad but will ultimately house a single company. The COPs will also fund the construction of a new City Radio Shop as part of this construction project; however, General Fund dollars will be used to make the annual payments for this portion of the project. No PSST dollars will be used for any part of the Radio Shop portion of this project.

Recruit Class:

B. Conklin advised CSFD is starting its next Academy Class on July 29 with 21 recruits.

Promotion:

B. Conklin advised CSFD's next promotion ceremony is scheduled for July 16.

Certificates of Participation (COPs):

There was further discussion among Committee members about the use of COPs to fund the FDC Phase IIB and Firing Range projects. City staff advised Committee members that there is not excess money available in the fund balance to outright pay for these projects, so the decision was made to finance the projects. Annually appropriated PSST operating funds will be used to make the principal and interest payments. Committee members agree they are supportive of using PSST dollars to fund the projects; however, there are concerns about the funding mechanism by which the projects will be accomplished. Some of the concerns include:

- Using PSST dollars to pay interest,
- The legality of COPs,
- City property being used as collateral,
- The interest rates for COPs compared to the interest rates for bonds, and
- Twenty years of payments will prevent CSFD and CSPD from using this funding for other needs.

A. Woehle asked if City Council determines the terms of the COP issuance. Staff explained how City Administration works very closely with a number of entities to determine the feasibility of issuing COPs including financial advisors, bond counsel, and underwriters. Once this team has found a funding situation that will work for the City, the details will be presented by the City's CFO to City Council. City Council will then vote on an ordinance that gives the CFO the authority to move forward with the process. The CFO is scheduled to give her presentation to City Council on August 12. City Council will then vote on the ordinance on August 27 and September 10.

City staff suggested having the City's CFO attend a future PSSTOC meeting to give more details about the issuance; and, staff will also provide additional details to Committee members as these details become available.

Discussion:

Rules of Procedure:

B. Grady and D. Moore asked each Committee member to review the PSSTOC Rules of Procedure and be prepared to suggest changes at the next meeting. If a Word document version can be located for the Rules of Procedure, Committee members are asked to use the track changes feature and send all changes to K. Snow. After changes are agreed upon at the next meeting, D. Moore will compile into one document and present these changes to City Council. City Council can then approve the changes via Resolution.

Adjournment:

MOTION: D. Moore made a motion to adjourn the meeting. E. Carroll seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed. The meeting was adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

Notes: The minutes of the meeting were taken by N. McCauley. Any omissions or corrections should be brought to the Chairperson's attention at the next PSSTOC meeting.