

ASSEMBLY FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

May 8, 2024, at 5:30 PM

Assembly Chambers/Zoom Webinar



<https://juneau.zoom.us/j/93917915176> or 1-253-215-8782 Webinar ID: 939 1791 5176

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:36 pm by Chair Christine Woll.

B. ROLL CALL

Committee Members Present: Chair Christine Woll; Michelle Hale; Paul Kelly; Ella Adkison; Wáahlaal Gíidaak Alicia Hughes-Skandijs; Wade Bryson

Committee Members Present Virtually: Greg Smith

Committee Members Absent: Mayor Beth Weldon

Staff Members Present: Katie Koester, City Manager; Robert Barr, Deputy City Manager; Angie Flick, Finance Director; Adrien Wendel, Budget Manager; Robert Palmer, City Attorney; Frank Hauser, Juneau School District Superintendent; Alexandra Pierce, Visitor Industry Director

Others Present: Garret Macdonald, three+one Executive Vice President; Robert Banghart, The Partnership, Inc. Executive Director

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. May 1, 2024

The May 1, 2024 minutes were approved as presented.

D. AGENDA TOPICS

2. Revenue Update

Angie Flick, Finance Director, introduced Garret Macdonald, three+one Executive Vice President, and explained how this organization has been working with the City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ) on its liquidity.

Mr. Macdonald discussed the work three+plus and CBJ have been collaborating on which includes revenue forecasting and finding ways to maximize the value of CBJ's cash. He expressed the importance of revenue building in helping to make the CBJ resilient and pointed to the slides found in the packet on pages 12-13.

Ms. Flick detailed the revenue update, stating that in December the Assembly had directed staff to be aggressive with their revenue forecasting. She stated that the remote sales tax monthly earnings had been slightly under the forecasted budget but that regular sales tax earnings had come in slightly higher than projected. Overall, the numbers coming in were close to the projected forecast.

Assemblymember Hale asked if the revenue forecast for FY25 was similar to what was forecasted for FY24.

Ms. Flick explained that a growth factor of around three percent from FY24 to FY25 had been built into this year's projected forecast, which was based off of trend data over the last few years.

3. Manager's Proposed Increments & Budget Amendments

Robert Barr, Deputy City Manager, stated that a new budget item was added to the packet for an aerial ladder truck for Capital City Fire Rescue (CCFR). He explained that \$1.2 million was budgeted for this truck in 2022 but that due to inflation a more recent quote brought this amount to \$1.7 million. He stated that the lifespan of the truck was around 25 years and that the main reason for this purchase was for CCFR to be able to respond better to elevated structure fires.

Motion: by Assemblymember Hale to move to approve the Manager's Proposed Budget increments, including the \$498,400 on page 13 of the packet page for the aerial ladder truck, and ask for unanimous consent.

Assemblymember Smith asked if this budget item was already accounted for in the Manager's Proposed Budget.

Ms. Flick answered that \$1.2 million for the fire truck was already included in the Manager's Proposed Budget but that the \$498,400 was in addition to that amount.

Motion passed by unanimous consent.

Ms. Flick introduced the memo on page fifteen of the packet that showed details on the FY24 Debt Service mill rate. She explained the graph at the bottom of the page that showed different Debt Service mill rate options, the mill rate change, and dollar amount change. She discussed a chart that showed different maturities that could be called and explained that starting with the oldest callable maturity would save the taxpayers the most interest.

Ms. Flick answered further Committee questions.

4. Capital Improvement Plan Amendments – For Action

Motion: by Assemblymember Hale to move to approve the FY25 Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

Ms. Flick introduced the memo on page sixteen of the packet which outlined the four items brought to Staff by members of the Committee for consideration of amendments to the CIP including the Diamond Park Field House (DPFH) elevator, the North Douglas plan, the playground at Dzantik'I Heeni, and a tire shredder.

Assemblymember Bryson asked if it was possible to make the elevator item a part of a bond package, instead of using the General Fund for one-time cash funding.

Ms. Flick answered that a \$1 million bond offering wouldn't be worth the cost of issuing that bond. She stated that the elevator project could be packaged in a bond with other similar projects for the public to vote on.

Amendment #1: by Assemblymember Smith to move to add to the CIP funding for the DPFH elevator at the amount of \$879,368 and to reduce the public safety communication infrastructure CIP by that same amount, with the intent to increase the bond proposition amount for the public safety communication infrastructure by the same amount of \$879,368.

Assemblymember Smith stated that his intent with the amendment was to preserve fund balance for future assemblies.

Objection to Amendment #1: by Assemblymember Hughes-Skandijs for the purpose of asking Staff if they had the capacity to complete this project in FY25.

Katie Koester, City Manager, answered that she believed Staff could complete the project in FY25.

Assemblymember Hughes-Skandijs removed her objection.

Amendment #1 passed by unanimous consent.

Assemblymember Smith spoke to the next CIP item, the North Douglas plan. He stated that residents of North Douglas have asked for an area plan to address the impacts of potential developments in North Douglas. He stated that he didn't believe it was necessary to put this in a CIP yet, as in his discussions with staff, it was recommended that work on the Comprehensive Plan be completed first. He stated that he would not be offering an amendment for this item at this time.

Chair Woll introduced the next CIP item, the playground at Dzantik'I Heeni. She asked Assemblymember Kelly to address his potential conflict with this item.

Assemblymember Kelly stated that he had reached out to Robert Palmer, City Attorney, before this meeting to ask for guidance on the potential conflict regarding his stepson who attended the school whose class would be potentially relocating into Dzantik'I Heeni. He stated that because he had advocated for this project and brought it to the Committee, he might not be entirely impartial. He asked the Assembly if he should recuse himself from action on this item.

Chair Woll asked Mr. Palmer to confirm if Assemblymember Kelly needed to step off the dais before the Body discussed the issue further.

Mr. Palmer answered that he believed that to be correct, that the conflict question needed to be addressed first before other substantive issues were addressed.

Assemblymember Hughes-Skandijs stated that due to the sensitive nature of the Juneau School District (JSD) reconsolidation for FY25, she would not be comfortable with a parent, of a student at a particular school, engaging on a CIP amendment involving that school.

Chair Woll asked Mr. Palmer if he could expand on whether this issue constituted a financial conflict of interest.

Mr. Palmer replied that he didn't see this as a financial conflict of interest but that it appeared close to a personal conflict of interest, as outlined in CBJ code.

Motion: by Assemblymember Kelly to move that he be recused from the discussion and subsequent votes regarding the playground at Dzantik’I Heeni.

Motion passed by unanimous consent.

Assemblymember Kelly stepped off the dais and took a seat with the audience as a member of the public.

Amendment #2: by Assemblymember Hale to move to add \$75,000 for the design of a playground at Dzantik’I Heeni to the FY25 CIP, with funding provided by General Funds.

Objection to Amendment #2: by Assemblymember Hughes-Skandijs for the purpose of asking the City Manager what she knows of plans for this school versus the needs of the other schools.

Ms. Koester replied that Frank Hauser, Juneau School District (JSD) Superintendent, and herself had discussed the need for a playground at this school. She explained that there were two hundred playground age children at the school and that this playground would benefit the community. She discussed the cost estimate of the project and shared that \$75,000 would allow the design phase to get underway while also giving parents confidence that their children would get this much needed facility at their school.

Assemblymember Bryson expressed support for \$75,000 to start the planning phase but stated that he would not support the \$750,000 project at this time.

Assemblymember Smith expressed concern for the timing of this project with regards to the recent JSD consolidation. He asked if this project was part of a broader process that would address similar needs throughout all JSD schools.

Mr. Hauser spoke on some details of the consolidation and which schools would be moving to the Dzantik’I Heeni school building. He shared that while there was already a covered play area at the school, the addition of a playground to support the students was crucial to the school and surrounding community.

Amendment #2 passed by unanimous consent.

Amendment #3: by Assemblymember Bryson to move to fund the tire shredder to be operated at the current landfill with a capital cost of \$400,530, as well as annual operating costs that are currently unknown.

Chair Woll asked Staff how the relationship with the landfill and CBJ would work concerning the operation of the tire shredder.

Ms. Koester shared the example of a bailer that CBJ owns and lets Waste Management use for their recycling needs, stating that an agreement on the tire shredder would likely be similar.

Assemblymember Smith asked how old tires were currently being handled and what the driving need for the tire shredder was.

Assemblymember Bryson answered that thousands of old tires dumped each year at the landfill was causing serious problems, forcing Waste Management to sort them separately from other waste. He explained that a tire shredder would fix this issue and that the tire shreds could be repurposed. He stated that this would

save Juneau residents on the cost of dumping tires which could help with the problem of tires getting dumped out the road.

Assemblymember Hughes-Skandijs expressed concerns with the unknown costs of operating the tire shredder and details of how this project would be implemented.

Ms. Koester stated that while a tire shredder would have a tremendous impact on the life of the landfill and to the community, one of the major issues is that the City does not own the landfill and it would be difficult to maintain control over how the public would be allowed to use it.

Assemblymember Bryson withdrew the amendment.

Amendment #4: by Assemblymember Bryson to move the tire shredder and discussion of capital and operating costs to the Committee of the Whole and ask for unanimous consent.

Amendment #4 passed by unanimous consent.

The original motion, as amended, passed by unanimous consent.

The Committee recessed at 6:46pm.

The Committee reconvened at 6:58pm.

5. Passenger Fee Plan – For Action

Alexandra Pierce, Visitor Industry Director, discussed recent letters CBJ had received from the Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) and the correspondence that took place. She stated that CLIA had initially objected to a number of items on the Passenger Fee list that Ms. Pierce believed were allowable under the settlement agreement. After a response from CBJ, CLIA stated they would not be objecting to anything in the budget but suggested a review process improvement. She expressed her support for a process improvement on the Passenger Fee budget.

Ms. Pierce called to attention the discussion of ship speeds and a wake study at a previous meeting. She explained that in past meetings it was proposed to revise ship speeds and have them slow down when they arrived in Gastineau Channel. Ms. Pierce had previously stated to the Committee that she intended to add funding for a wake study to the FY25 Passenger Fee Proposal, but since that time she was able to come to an agreement for lower ship speeds than what was originally requested.

Ms. Pierce stated that members of the Downtown Business Association (DBA) were in the audience to answer any questions about the Ambassador Program request. She mentioned the Capital Civic Center project and stated that members of the Partnership, Inc. were also present in the audience and could respond to Committee questions.

Motion: by Assemblymember Hale to move the Staff recommendation for the Marine Passenger Fee expenditures as found on page 20 of the packet.

Assemblymember Hale stated that after she leaves the Assembly at the end of her current term she will be assisting the Capital Civic Center project in fundraising. She had checked with Mr. Palmer and was assured that because she would not be incurring any financial benefit from that project there would be no conflict of interest.

The Committee took a brief at ease.

Chair Woll directed the Body to move to questions about items on the recommended Passenger Fee list that did not involve the partners present at the meeting.

Assemblymember Adkison asked if the new bear-proof garbage cans would include recycling components. Ms. Pierce answered in the affirmative.

Ms. Pierce answered further Committee questions.

Amendment #1: by Assemblymember Hughes-Skandijs to move to delete the Passenger Fee allocations for \$150,000 for access control security for both AJ Dock and Franklin Dock.

Assemblymember Hughes-Skandijs spoke to her amendment expressing disappointment in the response from CLIA that lacked respect for the Assembly and the community.

Objection to Amendment #1: by Assemblymember Hale for the purpose of expressing concern for the damage this amendment could cause to the relationship between CLIA and CBJ.

Objection to Amendment #1: by Assemblymember Smith, stating that while cutting these funds to private entities might make sense, the funds are meant for public services that help create more functional infrastructure on the docks.

Assemblymember Wáahlaal Gíidaak asked for a definition of access control security.

Ms. Pierce answered that access control security was the personnel that stood at the ramps to control access to the cruise ships. She explained that this did get more expensive a few years back due to a Coast Guard mandate.

Roll Call Vote on Amendment #1

Ayes: Hughes-Skandijs, Wáahlaal Gíidaak, Chair Woll

Nays: Hale, Smith, Bryson, Kelly, Adkison

Amendment #1 failed. Three (3) Ayes, Five (5) Nays.

Amendment #2: by Assemblymember Smith to move to include \$90,000 for the DBA Downtown Ambassadors Program.

Objection to Amendment #2: by Assemblymember Hughes-Skandijs.

Roll Call Vote on Amendment #2

Ayes: Smith, Kelly, Hale, Adkison, Bryson, Chair Woll

Nays: Hughes-Skandijs, Wáahlaal Gíidaak

Amendment #2 passed. Six (6) Ayes, Two (2) Nays.

Amendment #3: by Assemblymember Hale to move \$4 million from the Marine Passenger Fee Fund for the Capital Civic Center.

Assemblymember Smith asked what the Passenger Fee fund balance would be if this \$4 million request was passed without any reductions elsewhere.

Ms. Flick answered that this action would bring the Passenger Fee fund balance to \$267,800.

Staff answered further Committee questions.

Ms. Flick cautioned the Assembly that the fund balance presented at this meeting was projected revenue based off fees that would be collected on an assumption of the number of passengers that were to arrive in Juneau in the upcoming tourism season.

Amendment to Amendment #3: by Assemblymember Bryson to move to reduce the Capital Civic Center funding amount from \$4 million to \$2 million.

Assemblymember Bryson spoke to his amendment stating that because there were five years allotted to complete the project, it did not need to be fully funded immediately but could be funded, for example, by \$2 million each year over the next five years.

Assemblymember Wáahlaal Gídaak asked where the \$4 million number for the request came from.

Robert Banghart, The Partnership, Inc. Executive Director, stated that in discussions with Senator Murkowski's office it was determined that to gain access to Federal funds his organization was seeking, the \$4 million ask would most likely prove successful because of the size of commitment CBJ would be showing.

Assemblymember Hale asked if a reduction of funding from \$4 million to \$3 million would be sufficient to signal CBJ's intent and commitment.

Mr. Banghart answered that \$3 million in funding from CBJ would be sufficient.

Assemblymember Hughes-Skandijs asked what percent of the design phase had been achieved from what had been spent so far from previous funding for this project.

Ms. Koester replied that work on the initial design was at the concept level and did not have the detail needed to provide a cost for a bid package.

Assemblymember Bryson expressed strong support for his amendment to fund the project at the \$2 million level, stating that CBJ was already showing a strong commitment having previously given \$8 million for the project.

Objection to Amendment to Amendment #3: by Assemblymember Hale in support of funding at the \$3 million level to show more community commitment to the project.

Assemblymember Bryson changed his amendment from \$2 million in funding to \$3 million.

Objection to Amendment to Amendment #3: by Assemblymember Adkison for purpose of supporting the \$2 million funding level.

Roll Call Vote on the Amendment to Amendment #3

Ayes: Bryson, Wáahlaal Gíidaak, Hale, Hughes-Skandijs, Kelly, Chair Woll

Nays: Adkison, Smith

Amendment to Amendment #3 passed. Six (6) Ayes, Two (2) Nays.

Amendment to Amendment #3, as Amended: by Assemblymember Woll to move to couple the \$3 million appropriation of Passenger Fees with a \$3 million de-appropriation of General Funds and Hotel Bed tax that were previously appropriated to the project.

Objection to the Amendment to Amendment #3, as Amended: by Assemblymember Hale and Smith.

Assemblymember Woll spoke to her amendment stating that she supports the project but feels that the \$10 million of City funds allocated is a lot for a project that is not close to being completed.

Assemblymember Hale asked Mr. Banghart how close The Partnership, Inc. felt they were to moving this project forward.

Mr. Banghart stated that if they were able to move forward in September of this year with a notice to proceed to architectural planning, they could break ground within one year.

Assemblymember Bryson asked Mr. Banghart what the gap was between the funds The Partnership, Inc. had already raised and what the estimated total cost would be.

Mr. Banghart answered that around \$23 million was currently raised for the project, with \$22 million more to raise for the total estimated cost.

Acting Chair Hughes-Skandijs expressed support for the amendment stating that it would be difficult to commit more funds towards this project when there were many other community needs to meet.

Roll Call Vote on the Amendment to Amendment #3, as Amended

Ayes: Woll, Adkison, Bryson, Acting Chair Hughes-Skandijs

Nays: Hale, Smith, Kelly, Wáahlaal Gíidaak

Amendment to Amendment #3, as amended, failed. Four (4) Ayes, Four (4) Nays.

Objection to Amendment #3, as Amended: by Chair Woll.

Roll Call Vote on Amendment #3, as Amended

Ayes: Hale, Kelly, Smith, Adkison, Bryson, Wáahlaal Gíidaak

Nays: Hughes-Skandijs, Chair Woll

Amendment #3, as amended, passed. Six (6) Ayes, Two (2) Nays.

The original motion, as amended, passed by unanimous consent.

The Committee recessed at 8:10pm.

The Committee reconvened at 8:21pm.

6. School District Budget – For Action

Chair Woll stated that the Assembly had already decided to fund JSD to the cap which left a few items currently remaining on the pending list.

Motion: by Assemblymember Hale to move to approve Pending List Item #1.

Motion passed by unanimous consent.

Assemblymember Smith spoke to the second item on the Pending List, expressing concern if the State decided not to increase the BSA funding level. He explained that in that scenario he would like the Assembly to be able to make a supplemental appropriation to help alleviate potentially negative consequences to JSD.

Motion: by Assemblymember Smith to move to remove Pending List Item #2.

Objection: by Assemblymember Kelly for the purpose of a question.

Assemblymember Kelly asked if the Assembly decided on a supplemental appropriation, because the State chose not to fund education to the expected amount, how long it would take any additional appropriation to go into effect.

Mr. Palmer answered that he believed there was plenty of time for this type of action from the Assembly because after the introduction of an appropriation ordinance, and subsequent passage at a public hearing, it could be effective immediately.

Objection: by Assemblymember Wáahlaal Gíidaak.

Assemblymember Wáahlaal Gíidaak spoke to her objection stating that she would prefer to appropriate the funds for JSD now and if the State did decide to raise the BSA funding level, the Assembly could later decrease the funding they had decided on.

Assemblymember Adkison expressed support for the motion and stated that she felt that JSD was in a strong position as a result of recent Assembly action and that if a massive correction was later needed, the Body could appropriate additional support at that time.

Assemblymember Hale expressed support for the motion.

Assemblymember Kelly stated that his stance was now against the motion, stating that he felt it would be better for the Assembly to provide certainty to JSD.

Assemblymember Hughes-Skandijs expressed support for the motion.

The Committee took a brief at ease.

Roll Call Vote on Motion

Ayes: Smith, Bryson, Hale, Hughes-Skandijs, Adkison, Chair Woll

Nays: Wáahlaal Gíidaak, Kelly

Motion passed. Six (6) Ayes, Two (2) Nays.

Motion: by Assemblymember Hale to move Ordinance 2024-02 to the full Assembly and ask for unanimous consent.

Motion passed by unanimous consent.

7. Pending List – For Action – *updated May 3, 2024*

Pending List Item # 4 – Eaglecrest Independent Analysis of Revenue Projections

Motion: by Assemblymember Hughes-Skandijs to move that the Finance Committee fund Pending List Item #4 for \$50,000 for an Eaglecrest independent revenue analysis.

Objection: by Assemblymember Bryson, stating that there were far more variables in determining Eaglecrest's revenue than an analysis would be able to uncover.

Assemblymembers Adkison, Kelly, and Hale expressed support for the motion.

Assemblymember Bryson removed his objection.

Motion passed by unanimous consent.

Chair Woll stated that the Committee was currently at the external funding requests portion of the Pending List. She asked Staff to display the data showing updated Assembly action and the resulting fund balance.

Ms. Flick stated that the Assembly decisions so far had resulted in a reduction to the General Fund balance of \$1,142,200, with the current Unrestricted Fund balance at \$11,182,528.

Chair Woll asked individual Assemblymembers to share the amount of unrestricted fund balance they would like to have left after working through the Pending List.

Assemblymember Bryson stated he would like to see \$7.5 million remain in the fund balance as a healthy amount between the recommend \$6 million to \$9 million range.

Assemblymember Hughes-Skandijs stated she would like to see \$9.5 million remain and voiced support for property tax relief in the form of a reduced mill rate.

Chair Woll and Assemblymembers Wáahlaal Gíidaak, Adkison, Kelly and Hale expressed support for Assemblymember Bryson's \$7.5 million remaining fund balance.

Assemblymember Smith expressed support for keeping the remaining fund balance as close to \$11.2 million as possible.

Pending List Item #5 – Association for the Education of Young Children (AEYC) Land Purchase for Family Center

Assemblymember Smith spoke on the AEYC funding request, citing the Assembly goal of affordable childcare. He mentioned that AEYC was open to the combination of a loan with funding for the \$4 million request. He shared that he would not be supporting this proposal after becoming aware of other community requests and a desire to be careful with the amount of funds the City had available to give.

Motion: by Assemblymember Smith to move Pending List Item #5 for AEYC land purchase for the Family Center for \$4 million.

Assemblymember Bryson asked Assemblymember Smith whether he had had a recent conversation with AEYC about the possibility of providing their childcare services in one of the JSD facilities that were to be relinquished back to CBJ on July 1, 2024.

Assemblymember Smith answered that this had come up in a recent conversation with AEYC and they expressed that it might be possible for them to provide childcare at the Marie Drake building.

Assemblymember Kelly expressed support for the motion, stating the importance of childcare for the community and suggested supporting the project at a reduced amount might make more sense with regards to fund balance.

Amendment: by Assemblymember Kelly to move to amend the motion to change the funding request from \$4 million to \$2 million and ask for unanimous consent.

Objection: by Assemblymember Hale.

Assemblymember Hale spoke to her objection by stating that she could not support funding for land for a new facility when CBJ would be receiving multiple vacant school facilities.

Objection: by Assemblymember Wáahlaal Gíidaak.

Roll Call Vote on Amendment

Ayes: Kelly, Hughes-Skandijs, Chair Woll

Nays: Hale, Wáahlaal Gíidaak, Smith, Adkison, Bryson

Amendment failed. Three (3) Ayes, Five (5) Nays.

Roll Call Vote on Motion

Ayes: Chair Woll

Nays: Smith, Hughes-Skandijs, Kelly, Hale, Adkison, Bryson, Wáahlaal Gíidaak

Motion failed. One (1) Aye, Seven (7) Nays.

Pending List Item #6 - Juneau Community Foundation - Build Housing for Homeless/Low Income Populations (One-Time)

Assemblymember Bryson spoke on the next item of the Pending List, the funding request from Juneau Community Foundation (JCF) to build housing for the homeless. He shared that this request was a way to get more money into the community to support affordable housing and allow community partners to take advantage of low-cost housing subsidies. He stated that JCF was focusing on building the lowest end of affordable housing that Juneau was in desperate need of.

Objection: by Assemblymember Hughes-Skandijs.

Assemblymember Hughes-Skandijs spoke to her objection stating that the City already had its own Affordable Housing Fund for organizations to apply for funding through and that it didn't make sense to fund a community partner outside of the Affordable Housing Fund process.

Assemblymember Smith stated that he would be a no vote on this item but was open to reevaluating the request next year.

Amendment: by Assemblymember Bryson to move to change the \$2 million request to \$1 million.

Objection: by Assemblymember Smith and Chair Woll.

Roll Call Vote on Amendment

Ayes: Bryson, Kelly, Hughes-Skandijs

Nays: Smith, Hale, Adkison, Wáahlaal Gíidaak, Chair Woll

Amendment failed. Three (3) Ayes, Five (5) Nays.

Roll Call Vote on Motion

Ayes: Bryson, Kelly, Chair Woll

Nays: Hughes-Skandijs, Smith, Wáahlaal Gíidaak, Hale, Adkison

Motion failed. Three (3) Ayes, Five (5) Nays.

Pending List Item #7 - Juneau Community Foundation - Build Housing for Homeless/Low Income Populations (Recurring)

Chair Woll mentioned the second funding request from JCF for recurring funding for building housing for the homeless and asked the sponsors of the motion if it was appropriate to vote on this second request since the first request from JCF did not pass.

Motion: by Assemblymember Hale to move Pending List Item #7 for \$100,000.

Objection: by Assemblymember Hale for the purpose of stating that choosing to fund this request did not make sense after the first JCF request failed.

There was no roll call vote on the motion due to zero Assembly support.

Pending List Item #8 - Sealaska Heritage Institute STEAM FabLab

Motion: by Assemblymember Bryson to move Pending List Item #8 for the Southeast Alaska Heritage Institute (SHI) STEAM FabLab for \$500,000.

Assemblymember Bryson spoke to his motion stating that CBJ's continued partnership with SHI had returned millions of dollars in grant funding to the community. He felt that choosing to fund \$500,000 for the STEAM FabLab would be appropriate.

Objection: by Assemblymember Smith.

Assemblymember Hale expressed support for the project.

Assemblymember Wáahlaal Gíidaak stated for full disclosure that she currently sat on the SHI Board of Trustees but did not receive financial compensation. She asked the Assembly whether they would object to her voting on this item.

There were no objections.

Roll Call Vote on Motion

Ayes: Bryson, Kelly, Hughes-Skandijs, Adkison, Wáahlaal Gíidaak, Hale, Chair Woll

Nays: Smith

Motion passed. Seven (7) Ayes, One (1) Nay.

Pending List Item #9 - Juneau Arts & Humanities Council Operational Support and Regranting Programs

Motion: by Assemblymember Adkison to move Pending List Item #9, Juneau Arts and Humanities Council (JAHc) request for \$218,000 in recurring funding.

Assemblymember Adkison spoke to her motion stating that due to recent JSD cuts, she felt it was important to fund this request to support JAHc's commitment in working with JSD to support their art programs.

Objection: by Assemblymember Hughes-Skandijs.

Assemblymember Smith expressed concern for funding the request because it would be recurring and may put pressure on the mill rate. He stated that he might be open to a lower funding level.

Amendment: by Assemblymember Bryson to lower the funding amount to \$109,000.

Assemblymember Adkison shared that in a recent conversation with JAHc they had anticipated the Assembly would want to lower the amount for this request. She stated that they decided an appropriate lower number for a one-time amount of re-granting specific funding was \$151,000.

Assemblymember Bryson removed his amendment.

Assemblymember Adkison changed her motion to one-time funding of \$151,000.

Assemblymember Smith expressed concern for changing this recurring ask to a one-time funding.

Assemblymember Adkison clarified that she believed that making this request one-time funding would be more palatable for the Assembly. As JAHc collaborates with JSD to create future arts programs, the Assembly would be able to look at making a request recurring in future fiscal years.

Objection: by Assemblymember Smith.

Roll Call Vote on Motion

Ayes: Adkison, Wáahlaal Gíidaak, Hale, Bryson, Kelly, Chair Woll

Nays: Hughes-Skandijs, Smith

Motion passed. Six (6) Ayes, Two (2) Nays.

Pending List Item #10 - Alaska Heat Smart 3-Yr Operational Support (total \$668,799 or \$222,933 per year for three years)

Chair Woll passed the gavel to Assemblymember Hughes-Skandijs to present a motion as Assemblymember Woll.

Motion: by Assemblymember Woll to move Pending List Item #10 to provide Alaska Heat Smart a one-time \$668,799 grant for three years of operational support, with an MOA that would distribute the funds over three years.

Assemblymember Woll spoke to her motion explaining that there were a variety of ways the Assembly could approve this funding for Alaska Heat Smart, and asked Ms. Flick to provide more detail.

Ms. Flick explained the options and shared details on how the Assembly could choose to provide a grant for the full amount of funding up front or spread that out over the three years of operational support, with the option of revisiting their decision in the future.

Amendment #1: by Assemblymember Smith to provide \$222,933 in FY25 funds and direct the City Manager to include the same amount in the FY26 and FY27 proposed budgets.

Objection: by Assemblymember Woll.

Assemblymember Bryson expressed support for Assemblymember Smith's amendment, stating that it would provide more certainty to Alaska Heat Smart if the funds were put in the Manager's Proposed Budget over the next few years.

Ms. Koester stated that putting this funding request in the Manager's Proposed Budget would put pressure on the mill rate.

Assemblymember Wáahlaal Gíidaak expressed concern for placing the funding the Manager's Proposed budget stating that it sets a dangerous precedent.

Roll Call Vote on Amendment #1

Ayes: Smith

Nays: Woll, Kelly, Adkison, Wáahlaal Gíidaak, Hale, Bryson, Acting Chair Hughes-Skandijs

Amendment #1 failed. One (1) Aye, Seven (7) Nays.

Amendment #2: by Assemblymember Bryson to change the Alaska Heat Smart funding amount to \$222,933 and provide funding for one year only and ask for unanimous consent.

Objection: by Assemblymember Woll.

Acting Chair Hughes-Skandijs expressed support for the amendment.

Roll Call Vote on Amendment #2

Ayes: Bryson, Smith, Acting Chair Hughes-Skandijs

Nays: Woll, Kelly, Hale, Adkison, Wáahlaal Gíidaak

Amendment #2 failed. Three (3) Ayes, Five (5) Nays.

Objection to Original Motion: by Assemblymember Smith.

Roll Call Vote on Motion

Ayes: Woll, Kelly, Hale, Adkison, Bryson, Wáahlaal Gíidaak

Nays: Smith, Acting Chair Hughes-Skandijs

Motion passed. Six (6) Ayes, Two (2) Nays.

Motion: by Assemblymember Wáahlaal Gíidaak to move Pending List Items #11 through #17 and ask for unanimous consent.

Several Assemblymembers raised their hands to voice objections.

Assemblymember Wáahlaal Gíidaak removed her motion.

E. NEXT MEETING DATE

1. May 22, 2024

F. SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

10. Info Only: Sales Tax Update (No Materials)

11. Additional Passenger Fee Request Information

a. Downtown Business Association

b. The Partnership, Inc. (Capital Civic Center)

12. CLIA Passenger Fee Plan Feedback

13. Additional Community Grant Request Information

a. Alaska Small Business Development Center

G. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:06 pm.