



GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES

BUDGET WORKSHOP # 1

City of Cape Coral Charter School Authority
Governing Board
City of Cape Coral City Council Chambers
1015 Cultural Park Blvd., Cape Coral FL 33909

1. Call to Order

Kristifer Jackson, Chair

The City of Cape Coral Charter School Authority Budget Workshop #1 was called to order on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 4:10p.m., at City of Cape Coral City Council Chambers, 1015 Cultural Park Blvd., Cape Coral, FL 33909.

2. Roll Call

Kristifer Jackson, Karen Michaels, Dr Guido Minaya, Charles Pease

Absent: Mykisha Atisele, Keith Long, Dist. 6, Cathy Stout.

Also Present: Jackie Corey, OHS, Donnie Hopper, OMS

Marybeth Grecsek, OES, Kevin Brown, OEN, Amy Brown, CSA HR Manager

Mark Moriarty, Assistant City Attorney, CCC

Mark Mason, Finance Director and Interim Human Resources Director, CCC,

Nicole Reitler, Management/Budget Administrator, CCC

Andrea Clark, Senior Accountant, CCC

Jennifer Koehn, Assistant Accounting Manager, CCC

3. Welcome and Introduction

Jacquelin Collins, Superintendent, Oasis Charter Schools

Introduced Nicole Reitler, Management/Budget Administrator, City of Cape Coral who will be presenting the proposed budget.

4. FY 2025 Proposed Budget Presentation

Nicole Reitler, Management/Budget Administrator, City of Cape Coral
[powerpoint presentation]

5. Budget Recommendations

Mark Mason, Director of Finance, City of Cape Coral

Discussed the state approved Local Capital Improvement(LCI) Program. Mason gave overview of his planned Committee Of the Whole presentation scheduled for Wednesday, April 10, 2024, in City Council Chambers. [powerpoint presentation]

Mason said his recommendation to City Council is to fund the capital portion that is allowable by statute, first, within the charter school system. The remainder would be for the leases associated with the schools, and, as well as the capital maintenance associated with the school district or the schools themselves. He will also “recommend increasing the lease cost to the charter schools the entire amount less whatever the capital portions associated with the computer equipment, and anything else that is statutory such as [your] bus transportation, “Shark” vans, whatever else.”

Pease: To restate, the \$847,00 is freeing up operating funds which could then be allocated toward teacher and staff compensation?

Mason: The answer is yes. And every year you would apply whatever it is that you are applying towards your capital expenses within the charter school system first, that are eligible by the statute, and then anything left over goes towards [for the] the remainder of the maintenance of the system, the maintenance of the buildings, maintenance of playgrounds, maintenance of whatever that is capital related and associated with the statute.

6. Final Finance Recommendation(s)

Reitler: Along with the adoption of the Tentative FY Budget 2025, the Cape Coral Charter School Authority should consider conducting a full-scope Class & Compensation Study to develop a base pay analysis so that compression and teacher/staff pay issues can be proactively addressed.

Jackson: Do [we] have a rough estimate of how much the compensation study will cost to be performed? Do [we] know a company that would perform such a duty that we can call on?

Reitler: The City is using a company right now that the School District of Lee County also uses, called Evergreen. City Finance has reached out to the City/Charter Human Resources Dept to see if they can engage Evergreen. A charter school study estimate is about \$90,000,

and FY2024 funds would be used to engage Evergreen if this is the direction. It's possible if the charter school is able to piggyback off the District's contract with Evergreen, by fall information would be available and decisions can be made.

Collins: Supports engaging Evergreen and utilizing their expertise to clarify charter school base pay and model how to handle extra allocations that may come in the future, as well.

Pease: The \$90,000 seems reasonable but if Lee County Schools are using the same vendor, for the same study, should we wait and see what the results bring? The study will be compared to the general market, correct? So, this means we will have to be able to provide matched or higher salaries than what the District offers. In the end, we still have to sell our school's culture and other benefits to recruit/retain teachers.

Active Discussion

7. Conclusion

Minaya: Recommended growth should be included in the Strategic Plan, including feasibility studies so that the charter schools can keep their promise to the community of providing an academic pathway for students K-12, and meet local and county growth forecasts.

Active Discussion

Collins: Supports additional conversations with City Council regarding a football field and other anticipated growth issues, and using some of the funding to support sustainability.

Active Discussion

8. Time and Date of Next Budget Workshop

The next Cape Coral Charter School Authority Budget Workshop #2 will be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 4:30p.m., at Oasis High School - Cafeteria, 3519 Oasis Blvd., Cape Coral, FL 33914

9. Workshop Adjournment

The Cape Coral Charter School Authority Budget Workshop # 1 adjourned at 5:05p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Paul-Evans, Governing Board Secretary

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BOARD
APPROVED

MAY 07 2024

CITY OF CAPE CORAL
CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY



Secretary

Date of approval