

Suggestion for topic of discussion for next Council meeting:

Outlining a preamble for expenditures brought to Council for approval. I would like to spend some time thinking on this issue before next month's meeting and possibly make a motion that all expenditures brought before council, in addition to actual need, also contain a financial statement vetted by our Financial Director and City Administrator.

This statement might include:

- 1 Time sensitivity (Urgent need, moderate concern, wish list, etc.)
- 2 Actual cost
- 3 The manner of payment
 - a. Existing budgeted item
 - b. Additional General (or otherwise) Fund Expenditure
 - c. Grant
 - d. Financed Debt
 - i. Scope of financing and debt service impact to long term city budgeting
 - ii. Is debt to be offset by consumer billing of services rendered?
- 4 Long term sustainability/maintenance issues resulting from capital improvements should also be presented for future budget planning years.

This is not a perfect outline and certainly not necessarily comprehensive, but perhaps a good start. I think this information provided to Council with each request would compel Stakeholders to not only consider need, but to reflect fiscally on the impact to City budgeting and expenses. It might also eliminate the need for Council Members to repeatedly ask the same questions as well as give better insight when weighing contingent factors in making a decision.