

1 **Finance Commission**  
2 **Meeting Minutes**  
3 **November 12, 2025**  
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5

6 **Roll Call/Announcements**  
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8 The Finance Commission (FC) meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Chair Bester called the  
9 roll.

10  
11 **Commissioners Present:** Siafa Barclay, Bruce Bester, Sadiq Dahir, and Raye Kanzenbach  
12

13 **Youth Commissioners Present:** Aldo Bergquist  
14

15 **Commissioners Absent:** Kevin Davy and Anna Vervoort  
16

17 **Staff Present:** Finance Director Michelle Pietrick  
18  
19

20 **Approval of Agenda**  
21

22 There were no changes to the agenda. The commission reached a consensus for approval.  
23

24 **Receive Public Comments**  
25

26 There being no one present wishing to speak to the Commission on an item not on the agenda,  
27 the Chair moved to the next agenda item.  
28

29 **Approval of Meeting Minutes**  
30

31 Chair Bester explained he did not feel comfortable with the public comments from John  
32 Kysylyczyn because the commission did have budget numbers available at the meeting and to  
33 leave the impression that the commission did not know anything about the budget for these  
34 programs is simply not the case.  
35

36 Ms. Pietrick inquired whether a sentence should be included to specify that the commission  
37 receives a budget.  
38

39 Chair Bester thought a sentence could be added that read “the commission was working on a  
40 budget with income of \$285,000, expenses of \$299,000, as a part of the tentative proposed  
41 budget.”  
42

43 Commissioner Barclay moved, seconded by Commissioner Kanzenbach to approve the October  
44 14, 2025, meeting minutes as amended. The motion carried unanimously.  
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46

47 **Receive Finance Commission Recommendations Tracking Report**

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49 Chair Bester reviewed the Finance Commission Tracking Report, noting additions at the last  
50 meeting.

51  
52 The commission endorses staff recommendations regarding utility rate increases, including water  
53 fund increases of 5.5%, storm drainage at 0%, sanitary sewer at 2%, recycling at 3%, and  
54 recommends approval by the city council.

55  
56 The commission agreed with the proposed update and revisions to the debt policy, including  
57 raising the statutory limit on estimated market value to 3% and changing the AAA bond rating to  
58 a strong credit rating.

59  
60 **Civic Campus Final Design Stakeholder Group Representative**

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62 Finance Director Pietrick stated the Commission needed to select a representative to serve on the  
63 Civic Campus Final Design Stakeholder Group. She noted that the first meeting is anticipated  
64 sometime in December, with an additional 2 or 3 meetings between January and June.

65  
66 Chair Bester discussed the representative to the City Civic Campus Final Design Stakeholder  
67 Group, noting that two volunteers, Commissioner Dahir and Commissioner Davy, have been  
68 selected.

69  
70 Commissioner Dahir expressed willingness to take the opportunity, and the commission decided  
71 to proceed with Commissioner Dahir as the representative.

72  
73 **Establish the 2026 Meeting Calendar**

74  
75 Finance Director Pietrick outlined the meeting calendar, noting exceptions for the August and  
76 September meetings.

77  
78 The commission reviewed the monthly meeting schedule and noted that it would be necessary to  
79 adjust the meeting start time during Ramadan.

80  
81 Commissioner Dahir explained he would know by February if the meeting time needed to be  
82 changed.

83  
84 **Establish the 2026 Work Plan**

85  
86 The commission discussed the work plan, including regular tasks like reviewing the investment  
87 portfolio, selecting the Chair and Vice Chair, and discussing year-end cash reserves.

88  
89 Chair Bester and Commissioner Kanzenbach discussed adding topics such as pathways and  
90 vehicle replacement to the work plan.

91

92 Finance Director Pietrick stated that the Commission should get City Council input to see if they  
93 want the Commission to do a deep dive into the topics raised by a resident regarding Pathways  
94 and Bike Plans.  
95

96 **Maintenance and Operations Center Update/Discussion**

97  
98 Finance Director Pietrick updated the Commission on the Maintenance and Operations Center.  
99

100 **Commission Direction on Member Initiated Agenda Items**

101

102

103 **Other Business**

104

105 **a. 2026 Budget Update**

106

107 Finance Director Pietrick presented the 2026 Budget update, noting the council's support  
108 for franchise fees and the three scenarios under consideration. Scenario one is no  
109 franchise fees and no repurposing of levies. Scenario two includes franchise fees and the  
110 repurpose of levies, and scenario three places franchise fees in the right-of-way funds.  
111

111

112 The Commission discussed the impact of franchise fees on the budget, including the  
113 potential for higher taxes and the need for additional revenue.  
114

114

115 **b. Staff Update**

116

117 Finance Director Pietrick provided an update on the recruiting process, noting that first-  
118 round interviews are underway and that they hope to have a new hire by mid-January.  
119

119

120 The commission discussed the impact of losing key personnel and the steps taken to fill  
121 the positions.  
122

122

123 Ms. Pietrick reassured the commission that the comprehensive annual report will be  
124 completed on time.  
125

125

126 The commission discussed the possibility of attending city council meetings to stay  
127 informed on budget decisions.  
128

128

129

130 **Adjourn**

131

132 Commissioner Kanzenbach made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dahir, to adjourn. The  
133 **motion passed unanimously.**  
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135 Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.