Finance Commission
Meeting Minutes
DRAFT – February 10, 2026 - DRAFT

Roll Call/Announcements

The Finance Commission (FC) meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Chair Bester requested staff call the roll.

Commissioners Present: Safia Barclay, Bruce Bester, Sadiq Dahir, and Raye Kanzenbach

Youth Commissioners Present: Aldo Bergquist

Commissioners Absent: Kevin Davy and Anna Vervoort.

Staff Present: Finance Director Sam Magureanu and City Manager Patrick Trudgeon

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved, as presented, by general consensus.

Receive Public Comments

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

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chair Bester stated that lines 121 and 122 appeared to duplicate what was already stated. He suggested the sentence that begins with “The council did not direct…” He also indicated on line 170 add the words “have been included in the 2026 budget.” Because that was the question he was asking.

Commissioner Barclay moved, seconded by Commissioner Dahir, to approve the January 13, 2026, meeting minutes as amended. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Introduction of the New Finance Director

City Manager Trudgeon formally introduced the City’s new Finance Director, Mr. Magureanu, to the Finance Commission and the public.

City Manager Trudgeon explained that Mr. Magureanu most recently served as Finance Director for the City of Little Canada for approximately 3.5 years. Before that, he held the same role in Lake Elmo and worked as Assistant Finance Director for the City of Stillwater. Earlier in his career, Mr. Magureanu worked as an auditor for ABDO. He highlighted Mr. Magureanu’s extensive experience across all areas of municipal finance, including general accounting, utility billing, large-scale budgeting, and audit preparation.

City Manager Trudgeon noted that Mr. Magureanu has experience working in smaller finance departments where he handled a wide range of responsibilities and expressed confidence in his ability to adapt quickly to Roseville's structure.

City Manager Trudgeon shared that Mr. Magureanu began his role on January 26 and overlapped briefly with the outgoing Finance Director, Michelle, who officially retired the previous Monday. He thanked Michelle for her service and expressed enthusiasm about Mr. Magureanu joining the City, noting that he will work closely with the City Council, Finance Commission, and staff on budget and financial matters. He concluded by welcoming Mr. Magureanu to the City and invited him to share additional background information if desired.

The commissioners shared their expertise with Mr. Magureanu and the reasons for joining the Finance Commission.

Receive Finance Commission Recommendations Tracking Report

Chair Bester reviewed the Finance Commission Tracking Report. He recommended expanded disclosures in the statistical section of the ACFR.

Mr. Magureanu discussed the audit preparation and the drafting of the 2025 report, suggesting that the recommendations could be incorporated into the 2025 report.

Commissioner Kanzenbach emphasized the importance of including the percentage increase in property tax in the report for clarity.

Mr. Magureanu agreed to assess the feasibility of including the median home value and the percentage increase in property taxes in the report. He further recommended that this type of information might better be presented in the annual Budget Book.

CIP Discussion on Updates or Changes

City Manager Trudgeon and Finance Director Magureanu provided an overview of the CIP, outlining its purpose and the minimum capital expenditure threshold. He discussed the impact of franchise fees on the CIP, highlighting the increased funding for capital needs.

The discussion included the need to update costs due to rising prices, especially post-COVID, and the challenge of predicting future costs.

City Manager Trudgeon and Finance Director Magureanu emphasized the importance of focusing on immediate needs and making adjustments annually to ensure sufficient funds.

The commission reviewed various funds, including the administration equipment fund, finance equipment fund, and public works equipment fund.

Discussions included the need for new voting equipment, the impact of inflation on costs, and the potential for borrowing to fund vehicle purchases. The commission considered the feasibility of leasing police vehicles and the importance of maintaining sufficient capital funds. The discussion also covered the need for state funding for refrigeration-related projects at the OVAL and the potential for naming-rights revenue.

Commissioner Kanzenbach suggested continuing the 20-year CIP and adding a rough 3% inflation adjustment to 10 years only.

City Manager Trudgeon and Finance Director Magureanu discussed the impact of inflating revenues by three percent annually and the potential issues that may arise.

Commissioner Kanzenbach emphasized that the proposed CIP document is not final. It is subject to further review and modification, including Finance Commission recommendations. The current draft should not be interpreted as the basis for automatic levy increases. Other sources of funds, such as borrowing/bonding, and grants/contributions should be considered to reduce reliance on levy funding.

Chair Bester sought clarification on whether the 3% inflation applied to expenses or income.

Commissioner Kanzenbach and Mr. Magureanu discussed the importance of understanding both revenue and expense scenarios for better planning.

Commissioner Kanzenbach suggested adding a description of the inflation scenarios on the page to improve clarity.

Mr. Magureanu explained that some funds may not require revenue increases due to surpluses, while others may require inflation-adjusted cost adjustments.

Chair Bester inquired about recommendations for grant assumptions and borrowing for various projects.

Commissioner Kanzenbach clarified that bonding estimates should be made when needed, not as part of the forecast.

Commissioner Dahir suggested using different revenue and expense percentages and considering borrowing strategies.

Mr. Magureanu described the iterative process of gathering information and making adjustments based on data. He advised bundling multiple projects for borrowing to reduce costs and time.

Commissioner Kanzenbach and Chair Bester discussed the feasibility of including various projects in a single bond issue.

The commission discussed the importance of balancing revenue and expenses to avoid over-increasing the levy. The discussion concluded with a recommendation to present the revised CIP, including inflation adjustments, for further review.

Maintenance and Operations Center Update/Discussion

City Manager Trudgeon provided an update on the Maintenance and Operations Center project, including conceptual plans and cost estimates. The project was originally estimated to cost $76.9 million, with $64.2 million for the maintenance operations center and $12.7 million for the license and passport center. Latest estimate is $75.3 with 60.8 for the maintenance operation center and 14.5 for the license center. The project included relocating the dance studio and other facilities to make room for the new center. He mentioned LHB as the architect and Kraus-Anderson as the construction manager.

City Manager Trudgeon explained the sales tax collection process and its impact on project funding. The sales tax was expected to generate $6 million annually, with a total collection potential of $97 million over 16.25 years. The license and passport center would require additional funding, potentially through debt issuance.

City Manager Trudgeon discussed the potential use of port authority powers to issue debt for the project.

Workplan and Future Discussion Items

City Manager Trudgeon updated the commission on the workplan.

Chair Bester suggested conducting quarterly or semi-annual reviews of operating results.

City Manager Trudgeon and Finance Director Magureanu confirmed that quarterly financial updates were already being provided to the council. He outlined the typical timing and content of quarterly financial reports, noting that some quarters are more eventful than others.

The Commission discussed the timing and format of future financial reviews, with a preference for maintaining the current quarterly updates.

Commission Direction on Member Initiated Agenda Items

Other Business

Adjourn

Chair Bester adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m.