



**TALENT BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
COMMUNITY CENTER
May 14, 2025 – 6:30 PM**

Study Session, Regular Council & TURA meetings are digitally recorded and will be available on the City website: www.cityoftalent.org.

Call to Order/Roll Call at 6:52PM (00.00.00)

Members Present:	Members Absent:
Chair Collay Member Riley Member D'Amato Member Hazel Member Zegzdryn Member Shapiro Member Medina Member Byers Member Ponomareff	Member Pastizzo Member Garcia Vice Chair Paré-Miller
Also Present:	
Alex Campbell, City Manager Pro Tem Hector Flores, City Recorder Tessa DeLine, Finance Director Karen Moakley, Executive Assistant Mayor Ayers-Flood	

2. Budget Review and Considerations (00.01.26)

The budget discussion highlighted key priorities aimed at improving the city's fiscal condition and supporting future growth. There is a focus on completing essential projects, enhancing internal systems, and maintaining city assets. Notable financial increases include a 4% salary raise for all employees, substantial increases in PERS, wholesale water purchases, and general liability insurance. New investments are being made in staffing, such as hiring a full-time Public Works employee, acquiring a new police vehicle through a five-year lease, initiating the Advanced Meter Infrastructure (AMI) project, and developing a Community Resource Center.

Several projects are also funded through grants, including the Gateway project, the Old Town Skate Park, tree planting along Bear Creek Greenway, and the Talent Community Resource Center. However, the budget faces significant challenges, including millions in unfunded capital improvement projects, the need to adjust utility fees, upcoming bond balloon payments, and limited staff capacity for executing projects.

Strategic considerations for financial management include the potential creation of a debt service fund, updates to Systems Development Charges, and the exploration of grant and loan opportunities. The option of transitioning to biennial budgeting is also being considered. The funding mechanisms discussed include utility rate increases, grant revenues, Systems Development Charges, and a conservative approach to budgeting. Overall, the discussion emphasized the importance of financial transparency, strategic planning, and responsible resource allocation.

Next steps include:

- Addition of \$35,000 to the Parks Fund contracted personnel services account for grant writing.

- Include \$60,000 for engineering and design expenses for the Chuck Roberts Park improvement project in the CIP Fund.
- Explore increasing the Parks utility fee to provide sufficient transfers to the Parks CIP projects.
- Identify revenue sources to fund the numerous unfunded projects in the CIP Fund.
- Discuss the Parks fee increases and related projects with the Parks Commission before bringing it to City Council.
- Evaluate the pros and cons of setting up a debt service fund for the City's bond obligations.

3. Public Hearing (02.02.38)

The public hearing served as a platform for community members to provide insights and ask questions about the proposed budget.

Susan Bizeau of Talent was in attendance to address concerns about Chuck Roberts Park maintenance. She highlighted long-term planning issues and noted tree risks and potential falling hazards. Susan requested a comprehensive maintenance strategy and emphasized the need for consistent park management across staff transitions.

Darby Ayers-Flood from the Talent Business Alliance clarified a reimbursement expense related to an MOU with the city and outlined two net zero proposals for the Harvest Festival. One involved collecting all revenue and covering expenses, while the other had a fixed fee with no sponsorships. The city manager chose the latter, resulting in only vendor fees being collected. Ayers confirmed they would not be organizing the festival again this year and thanked everyone for their budget efforts.

4. Adjournment (02.12.52)

Adjourned at 9:04 pm

Respectfully submitted by:



Karen Moakley, Executive Assistant

Note: These minutes and the entire agenda packet, including staff reports, referenced documents, resolutions and ordinances are posted on the City of Talent website (www.cityoftalent.org) after each meeting. The minutes are not a verbatim record: the narrative has been condensed and paraphrased to reflect the discussions and decisions made.