

The Board of Trustees of the Springfield Mass Transit District met in a regular session to conduct a public hearing for the purpose of considering the annual Fiscal Year 2021 operating and capital budget for the District in the office of the Springfield Mass Transit District located at 928 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois. The Meeting was called to order at 4:34 PM by Brian Brewer, Chairperson.

I. Roll Call Present:

Brian Brewer	Chairperson
Leslie McCarthy	Secretary
Karen Hasara	Treasurer
Jerry Doss	Trustee
Susan Davsko	Trustee
Sandra Douglas	Trustee (Arrived at 4:40)
Frank Squires	Managing Director

Absent:

Wynne Coplea	Trustee
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II. Public Hearing

Director of Finance & Administration Bush thanked the Board of Trustees for the opportunity to discuss the annual spending plan for SMTD. The planning for the fiscal year plan, which runs from July 1 through June 30, 2021 began in the fall, with departments meeting to discuss items needed and priority of their need in light of other demands. The pandemic has made planning much more difficult than in prior years.

The total spending plan presented for adoption is \$18,112,789.00. This includes revenues from the federal government, the state of Illinois, local rate and property tax payers, which, when combined are used to meet demands for wages, benefits, commodities, and other services necessary to run the district.

The District is also seeking slightly more than \$5 million in capital grant funds from the Rebuild Illinois Grant program.

Director Bush walked the Board of Trustees through the budget document, highlighting areas of significant spending. Wages are proposed to increase 3%. All fare revenue foregone as a result of the pandemic are being covered by Emergency Relief Funds from the federal government. All capital projects have a lower priority than any operational spending and as the year progresses, SMTD will be able to assess how much capital spending may proceed in light of how IDOT's Downstate Operating Assistance funding is performing.

Staffing has not been adjusted, as of yet, to reflect service demands and will not be until service demands are clear or funding requires action otherwise. Large expenses such as personnel and fuel & lubricants contain spending estimates at full service, based on historical pricing. We are currently at very low commodity pricing, so the excess of actual spending to budget will be used to hedge commodity pricing where available (buying diesel for storage now, for use later, at a hedged price of what it may be later, for instance). Funding of SMTD's Other Retirement Personnel Benefits is planned at full funding based on an independent actuary. Funding of SMTD's pensions is planned at full funding based on independent actuaries and rates established via IMRF.

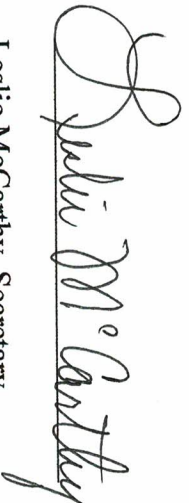
Cash preservation will be the highest order to protect payroll.

III. Public Comments

Board Chair Brewer opened the meeting for public comment and board questions. Trustee Doss inquired about prior year shortfalls in capital spending and if any of those projects were carried over into new year planning. Director Bush explained the process of choosing projects as collaborative between the Finance Department and Operations and all projects only proceed with the necessary funding to complete. Prior year short-falls "on paper" are often simply a point-in-time indication of a project status and doesn't fully account for work in progress and other externalities that may impact project implementation.

IV. Adjournment

Board Chair Brewer adjourned the public hearing at 4:50 PM.


Leslie McCarthy, Secretary

Approved:


Brian Brewer, Chairperson