



MINUTES FINANCE COMMISSION

Wednesday, February 27, 2019 - 5:00 P.M.
City of Huntington Beach
Civic Center – Lower Level Conference Room #B-8
2000 Main Street
Huntington Beach, CA 92648-2702

Chair Sterud called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sterud; Bunten; Van Der Mark; Lo Grasso; Hudson; Gledhill

MEMBERS ABSENT: Romero

STAFF PRESENT: Lori Ann Farrell Harrison, Assistant City Manager
Gilbert Garcia, Chief Financial Officer
Behzad Zamanian, Chief Information Officer, Information Services
Carol Molina-Espinoza, Finance Manager – Budget
Nicole Arms, Senior Information Technology Analyst
Anthony Evegán, Information Technology Manager - Infrastructure
Mark Narcisco, Information Technology Analyst
Carla Apostoli, Information Technology Analyst
Serena Bubenheim, Senior Financial Analyst - Budget
Thuy Vi, Administrative Assistant, Finance
Peter Yang, Information Technology Manager - Systems
John Carpenter, Senior Information Technology Analyst
Tung Kao, Senior Information Technology Analyst
Thieu Nguyen, Network Systems Administrator
Brian Weinberg, Information Technology Analyst
Dave Wittick, Information Technology Technician, Sr.
Leslie Edwards, GIS Analyst
Anjolette Spradling, GIS Analyst

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – Dan Kalmick, Huntington Beach Planning Commissioner and IT Management Consultant, spoke in support of the Information Services presentation. He asked the Commission to note some key points of the presentation. Kalmick stated that government IT and small business IT are different, because government is tasked with different types of regulation and requirements. Private vendors charge government more for software than the private sector, and there is rarely a direct correlation between government and business IT. Huntington Beach's IT department has achieved more advances with fewer resources than any other City in the region. The Dark Fiber program is not currently in use, and could be a source of revenue.

MINUTES

Motion: Moved by Bunten and seconded by Lo Grasso to approve the Finance Commission Meeting Minutes dated January 23, 2019, as presented

Ayes: Sterud, Bunten; Van Der Mark; Lo Grasso; Hudson

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Romero, Gledhill

Approved: 5-0-2 (Romero, Gledhill-Absent)

DIRECTOR UPDATE – Chief Financial Officer Gilbert Garcia stated that he will give a presentation of the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and a Budget update at the next Finance Commission meeting.

Garcia commended the Information Services Director for all the work that he does. There is pressure to implement technologies to help departments to become more effective and efficient. Over time, this can have the effect of shifting costs from departments to IS. Garcia has been impressed with the responsiveness and the technically strong skillset of our IT employees. Huntington Beach's IS Department does so much on a relatively small budget compared to other cities and in the industry.

PRESENTATION – Behzad Zamanian, Chief Information Officer, Information Services (IS) reviewed the IS Department organizational chart. He presented an overview of the services the IS Department provides to Huntington Beach, a full service City with 14 departments. Zamanian noted that operating an IT shop for a full service City is very different from private sector IT and other agencies, because of the specialized nature of each department's requirements.

Assistant City Manager Lori Ann Farrell Harrison noted that Huntington Beach is a full service, coastal city with 16 million visitors, and has its own Police, Fire, Marine Safety, Emergency Operations Center, Utilities division serving 50,000 residents, and a City run Library system. The interconnectivity and level of complexity of technology systems is unique and comparable to that of larger cities, such as Long Beach. There is a risk and vulnerability of systems if not operated adequately.

Anthony Evegán, Information Technology Manager – Infrastructure, presented an overview of technology infrastructure, interconnectivity of City facilities, technology infrastructure assets, and Cybersecurity. Evegán noted that multiple layers of security are required to maintain systems.

Zamanian discussed how other cities and government agencies such as Burbank and Mission Viejo are hiring a full-time Security Officer to monitor security and combat cyber attacks, and is responsible for making sure that assets and technology are secure. He stated that the challenge we have with security is that we do not have the staffing to monitor systems.

Zamanian shared Public Safety Systems highlights and noted that our Police Department has a completely separate network, which means that IS is really managing two IT shops. Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and automated Records Management System (RMS) are the front and back office of the Police Department, must be up and running at all times, has a number of interfaces and is integrated with the County, State, Courts and other law enforcement agencies.

Carla Apostoli, Information Technology Analyst, discussed how IS was able to integrate the Police Department body-worn cameras with the CAD system to create efficiency and free up staff and officer time. IS streamlined the process by integrating and maintaining data connectivity for the Police Department.

Mark Narcisco, Information Technology Analyst, provided an overview of how IS supports the Fire Department and its five functional areas. Narcisco noted that in 2015, the Fire Department and IS worked together to develop the patient heart reading transmission server – the Philips Telemedicine Server. The device allows medics to transmit the cardiac reading to hospitals so that doctors can receive the reading and determine if a patient is having a heart attack before the patient even arrives at the hospital. Hundreds of lives have been saved with this device. Our City was the first in the County to implement this package and to get the system to work, other agencies have followed suit, and now it is a County requirement for all agencies to have the device. The Fire Department will be receiving an award for the system from the American Heart Association on May 20, 2019. IS will continue to maintain upgrades to the system.

Nicole Arms, Senior Information Technology Analyst, discussed MyHB, the citizen request management system, which is a mobile and web application which allows citizens to report issues to the City and enables staff to resolve issues effectively and efficiently.

Chair Sterud requested that Information Services continue their presentation at the March 27, 2019 Finance Commission meeting to discuss the budget component.

DISCUSSION ITEMS AND POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATIONS – Chair Sterud recommended that IS explore insourcing opportunities with other cities of the systems that IS has developed such as integration of the CAD systems with Axon body worn cameras, the Public Works work order system, and ELM iPad interface.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS – The Finance Commission thanked Zamanian and the IS Staff for a detailed and informative presentation.

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.
Submitted by:

Gilbert Garcia, Chief Financial Officer

By: Thuy Vi, Administrative Assistant, Finance Department