**3.2.22 Meeting Minutes**

Attendance

* Michael Kasler, Chair
* Sarah Ingles, Commissioner
* Keisha Hunley-Jenkins, Commissioner
* Fred Ransier, Commissioner
* Greg Beaverson, Compensation Manager, Department of Human Resources
* Robert Tobias, City Attorney’s Office
* Richard Blunt, Mayor’s Office
* Shelley Biting, Mayor’s Office
* Darlene Wildes, City Auditor’s Office
* Megan Kilgore, Auditor

Chair Kasler called the meeting to order

* Introductions
* Presentation of meeting minutes and approval
* Presentation by Auditor Kilgore and Darlene Wildes
  + Things to consider when looking at projection:
    - Remote work and its effect on the city’s income tax revenue
    - Ongoing COVID-19 Recovery
    - Economic Growth
    - Income tax refunds due to remote working
  + We are highly reliant on income tax, with it being about 79% of our estimated General Fund Revenue in 2022. In past it was usually 2/3 instead of ¾
  + Transfers in which are usually 3-7K are sitting at an estimated almost 62K in 2022
  + Fortunate to not make any cuts to services or the workforce during the pandemic years
  + The impact of remote work on income tax collections in 2022 reflects the 10% increase in income tax revenue in 2021, an estimated 4% increase in wages in 2022, and an assumption for the refunds of 2021 remote work income tax withholdings
  + Columbus has experienced growth in both jobs and people
  + A lot of top 100 companies and businesses are staying in Columbus
  + Stimulus has been very good to Columbus economy
  + Auditor does not do a comparison of Cleveland and Cincinnati due to a different business landscape, growth pattern, size, management of cities. Revenues are similar though due to reliance on income tax.
  + Chicago is the closest comparator city from her perspective
  + Internationally- Auditor to follow up
* Presentation by Greg Beaverson
  + 15 municipal responses to the survey. Last Commission received 16.
  + Commissioners wanted more information on the type of government the cities surveyed had
  + Columbus still has the second highest paid Mayor
  + In some cities, mayors also serve as Council President
  + Average number of Councilmembers per municipality is 15. Columbus has 7.
  + Some communities have districts and at-large
  + Cleveland has the highest number of CMs
  + 9 cities have Councilmembers as full time, 3 are part time, and one is not defined in Charter
  + Is there a pay differential based on roles? I.e. Certain chairs of certain committees make variable pay—the answer is no except Council President
  + Commissioners want to know the percentage of the budget that salaries will take up
  + Commissioner Ransier looking at cities identifying as full time, Council likely full time
  + Commissioner Ingles expressed that she would be fine giving a more significant increase to CP and CMs with smaller increases to the rest of the elected.
  + Richard Blunt from Mayor’s office reminded that the Mayor is the only elected official prohibited from outside employment
* Commission to do a draft and then host a public hearing and then make decisions
* NIW to draft first draft of the report
* Commission added additional meeting on 3/23 at 10a and scheduled public hearing for 3/24 at 5:30p