



City of Taunton
Municipal Council Meeting Minutes

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Temporary City Hall, 141 Oak Street, Taunton, MA
Minutes, June 29, 2015 at 7:40 O'clock A.M.

Regular Meeting

Mayor Thomas C. Hoye, Jr. presiding

Prayer was offered by the Mayor

*Present at roll call were: Councilors Cleary, Costa-Hanlon, Croteau,
McCaul, Quinn, Carr, and Borges
Councilors Marshall and Pottier were absent.*

Record of preceding meeting was read by Title and Approved. So Voted.

Communications from the Mayor:

Mayor Hoye thanked everyone who attended Family 4th Night and also thanked the Parks, Cemeteries and Public Grounds Department, Alyssa Gracia and all that participated.

Mayor Hoye also announced that there will be a press conference with the EPA tomorrow at 12:30pm on Arlington Street as they have selected the City of Taunton to receive an Assessment Grant in the amount of \$200,000 for the Brownfields Program.

Communications from Citizens:

Com. from Silvino DaCosta, 5 Spring St., Taunton requesting waiver of five year moratorium to connect gas line to home. **Motion was made to refer to the Committee on the DPW and the DPW Commissioner. So Voted.**

Committee Reports:

Motion was made for Committee reports to be read by Title and Approved. So Voted. Recommendations adopted to reflect the votes as recorded in Committee Reports. So Voted.

Orders, Ordinances, and Resolutions

FY2016 Preliminary Budget for a second reading to be ordained on a roll call vote

<u>Salary & Wages</u>		<u>Other Expenses</u>		<u>Capital Expenses</u>	<u>Total Budget</u>
General Government	\$ 3,227,246.30	\$ 2,275,972.98	\$	50,000.00	\$ 5,553,219.28
Public Safety	\$ 22,588,045.38	\$ 1,989,376.40	\$	521,180.85	\$ 25,098,602.63
Education	\$ -	\$ 80,014,151.00	\$	-	\$ 80,014,151.00
Public Works/Facilities	\$ 3,327,473.60	\$ 5,951,175.92	\$	736,084.96	\$ 10,014,734.48
Health/Citizen Services	\$ 1,442,981.52	\$ 1,135,196.68	\$	-	\$ 2,578,178.20
Culture & Recreation	\$ 1,823,719.93	\$ 787,433.94	\$	17,316.36	\$ 2,628,470.23
Debt & Interest	\$ -	\$ 8,309,200.00	\$	-	\$ 8,309,200.00

Miscellaneous	\$	-	\$ 9,041.80	\$	-	\$ 9,041.80
Employee Benefits	\$	71,189.76	\$ 48,736,374.59	\$	-	\$ 48,807,564.35
Other Financing Uses	\$	-	\$ 5,000.00	\$	-	\$ 5,000.00
Enterprise Accounts	\$	6,712,432.67	\$ 19,455,070.91	\$	18,231.00	\$ 26,185,734.58

Total Budget	\$	39,193,089.16	\$168,667,994.22	\$	1,342,813.17	\$209,203,896.55
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On a roll call vote, seven (7) Councilors present, seven (7) Councilors voting in favor. Councilors Marshall and Pottier were absent.

New Business:

Com. from John A. Brennan, Taunton Nursing Home thanking the members of the Taunton Art Association for the generous donation of twenty paintings to their facility.

Motion was made to receive and place on file and send letter of appreciation to the Art Association. So Voted.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 A.M.

A true copy:

Attest:



City Clerk

RMB/SJS

CITY OF TAUNTON
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
JUNE 1, 2015

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

PRESENT WERE: COUNCIL PRESIDENT ESTELE BORGES AND COUNCILORS CLEARY, MARSHALL, CROTEAU, POTTIER, MCCAUL, QUINN, CARR AND COSTA-HANLON. ALSO PRESENT WERE BUDGET DIRECTOR GILL ENOS, IT DIRECTOR PAUL ARIKIAN, CITY SOLICITOR JASON BUFFINGTON, ASSESSOR RICHARD CONTI, CITY CLERK ROSE MARIE BLACKWELL, CITY PLANNER KEVIN SCANLON, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR KEVIN SHEA, PARKS, CEMETERIES AND PUBLIC GROUNDS DIRECTOR MARILYN GREENE, DPW COMMISSIONER FRED CORNAGLIA, ASSISTANT DPW COMMISSIONER TONY ABREAU, WATER DIVISION SUPERVISOR CATHAL O'BRIEN, BUILDING SUPERINTENDENT WAYNE WALKDEN AND BUILDING INSPECTOR BOB PIROZZI

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:09 P.M.

1. BUDGET HEARINGS

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

1. RESERVE ACCOUNT #132

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

2. ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATIONS #162

COUNCILOR CARR SAID SHE DOES NOT SEE THE NEED FOR A PART TIME PERSON IN THIS OFFICE AND WILL MAKE THE MOTION TO ELIMINATE THE POSITION.

AT THIS TIME, COUNCILOR COSTA-HANLON NOTED THAT SHE WANTED TO KNOW WHAT EACH DEPARTMENT HAD SPENT THROUGH MAY 31, 2015. MR. ENOS SAID HE PROVIDED THE REPORT TO COUNCILOR CROTEAU.

COUNCILOR COSTA-HANLON WANTED TO REFER THIS BUDGET TO WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 2015 SO THAT QUESTION SHE AND COUNCILOR CARR HAD CAN BE ANSWERED.

MOTION: REFER THIS BUDGET TO WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 2015.

COUNCILOR CROTEAU SAID THAT ALL HE WANTS TO KNOW IS WHAT WAS BUDGETED AND HOW MUCH WILL BE LEFT ON THE LAST BUSINESS DAY OF THE FISCAL YEAR. IF THERE IS A DEFICIT, HOW MUCH? COUNCILOR CARR ASKED MR. ENOS IF HE HAD FROZEN EXPENSES YET. MR. ENOS SAID NO. COUNCILOR CARR WANTS TO KNOW HOW DID THE PART TIME PERSON IN ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATIONS SALARY GO UP \$2,000.00 FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

COUNCILOR CARR MADE THE FOLLOWING MOTION:

MOTION: THAT THE HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF THE PART TIME PERSON AND THE SALARY INCREASE IN ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATIONS. ALSO, THE BUDGET DIRECTOR IS TO PROVIDE TO FINANCE AND SALARIES A MANAGEMENT REPORT FOR ALL DEPARTMENTS FOR THE NEXT FOUR WEEKS. SO VOTED.

IT WAS NOTED THAT THERE WAS A MOTION ON THE FLOOR. COUNCILOR COSTA-HANLON RESCINDED HER MOTION TO REFER THIS BUDGET TO WEDNESDAY AND SECONDED COUNCILOR CARR'S MOTION

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JUNE 1, 2015

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE – BUDGET HEARINGS – CONTINUED

COUNCILOR CARR NOTED THAT THE COUNCILORS MUST UNDERSTAND THAT EXPENSES ARE ESTIMATED.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

3. LICENSE COMMISSION #165

QUESTIONED WAS WHAT THE \$2,400 REQUEST FOR PART TIME SEASONAL WAS FOR. IT WAS NOTED THAT THE MAYOR WANTED THIS AND IT IS FOR ASSISTANCE WITH THE LICENSE COMMISSION DURING THE BUSY PART OF THE YEAR WHEN LICENSES ARE RENEWED.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

4. PARKING COMMISSION #197

COUNCILOR COSTA-HANLON REQUESTED PARKING REVENUES TO DATE.

COUNCILOR CLEARY MADE THE FOLLOWING MOTION:

MOTION: TO QUESTION THE PARKING COMMISSION REGARDING THE NEED FOR FILLING 2 VACANT POSITIONS. AND ALSO TO PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION FOR THE IN STATE TRAVEL, DUES AND MEMBERSHIPS AND REIMBURSEMENT LINE ITEMS IN THE BUDGET. SO VOTED.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

PUBLIC SAFETY

1. POLICE AND TRAFFIC SIGNAL #293

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

2. FISH WARDEN #296

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

PUBLIC WORKS/FACILITIES

1. STREET LIGHTING #424

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

HEALTH AND CITIZEN SERVICES

1. HEAD START #542

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

2. COMMISSION OF HANDICAPPED AFFAIRS #548

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

CULTURE AND RECREATION

1. GOLF COURSE #640

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

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THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE – BUDGET HEARINGS – CONTINUED

2. HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION #690

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

3. CABLE COMMISSION #695

MOTION: TO INVITE MR. GLYNN IN. SO VOTED.

QUESTIONED WAS IF IT IS THE CABLE COMMISSION THAT DECIDES WHO GETS WHAT PERCENT OF THE MONEY FROM VERIZON AND COMCAST. MR. GLYNN SAID THAT THE CABLE COMMISSION NEGOTIATES WITH VERIZON AND COMCAST. WE GET 5% OF THE GROSS BASE FROM VERIZON OF WHICH 2% GOES TO TCAM, 1.5% GOES TO EDUCATION AND THE MUNICIPALITY GETS .25%. THE MUNICIPAL ACCESS PART WAS LEFT OUT OF THE LAST CONTRACT.

QUESTIONED WAS WHETHER THE CABLE COMMISSION WOULD HAVE WHAT THE ACTUAL NUMBERS ARE FOR THE 2%, 1.5% AND .25%.

MOTION: REQUEST THE CABLE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE WHAT THE ACTUAL REAL DOLLAR NUMBER IS FOR VERIZON'S 2%, 1.5% AND .25% AND COMCAST'S 2% AND 1%. SO VOTED.

MOTION: THAT THE CITY SOLICITOR PROVIDE AN OPINION REGARDING THE WORDING OF THE CONTRACT AS TO WHO MONITORS TCAM, THE SCHOOLS AND THE MUNICIPAL ACCESS ENTITIES. SO VOTED.

MOTION: THAT A MEETING BE SET UP WITH TCAM IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE. SO VOTED.

4. AIRPORT #650

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

5. MUNICIPAL ACCESS #696

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. SRPEDD #840

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

1. NON CONTRIBUTORY PENSION #909

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

2. PENSION FUND #910

IT WAS REQUESTED THAT MR. SLIVINSKI BE INVITED TO A FINANCE AND SALARIES COMMITTEE MEETING OR A COUNCIL AS A WHOLE COMMITTEE MEETING FOR AN OVERALL DISCUSSION ON THE PENSION FUND.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

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JUNE 1, 2015

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE – BUDGET HEARINGS – CONTINUED

EDUCATION

1. SCHOOLS #300
THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT STATED THAT DR. HACKETT WAS NOT ABLE TO BE HERE, AND THAT SHE IS PRESENTING HER BUDGET TO THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3.
MOTION: TO SCHEDULE THIS BUDGET FOR JUNE 9, 2015 DURING THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE MEETING. SO VOTED.
2. BRISTOL COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL #380
MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.
3. BRISTOL PLYMOUTH REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL #390
MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

1. MUNICIPAL COUNCIL #111
MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.
2. OFFICE SERVICES #159
MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.
3. MAYOR #121
QUESTIONED WAS THE LINE ITEM FOR LOWER PIONEER VALLEY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$39,000.00. IN THE PAST THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT DID THIS INTERNALLY, THEN IT WAS SENT OUT TO THIS COMPANY WHICH HAS A CONTRACT.
MOTION: THAT DR. HACKETT INVESTIGATE WHAT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO HAVE THIS DONE BY THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT – WHY CAN'T IT BE DONE INTERNALLY.
SO VOTED.
COUNCILOR CROTEAU STATED THAT HE THINKS A PART TIME CLERK COULD DO THIS WORK. IT WAS NOTED THAT THE MONEY COLLECTED BY THIS COMPANY COMES TO THE CITY NOW.
MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.
4. AUTOMATION #155
IT WAS NOTED THAT MR. ARIKIAN ASKED FOR \$191,000 IN SALARIES AND WAGES BUT RECEIVED \$136,000.00.. THE REASON FOR THE DIFFERENCE IS THAT A NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR WAS REQUESTED THAT WAS NOT APPROVED.
MOTION: REFER TO SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET THE NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR POSITION TO BE FUNDED. SO VOTED.
MOTION: THAT THE NUMBERS ON GEO TMS BE PROVIDED TO THE COUNCIL – HOW MUCH THE CITY HAS COLLECTED FROM THE FEES AND HOW MUCH HAS BEEN BILLED BY GEO TMS OVER THE LAST YEAR. SO VOTED.
MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

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JUNE 1, 2015

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE – BUDGET HEARINGS – CONTINUED

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

1. LAW

#151

COUNCILOR CLEARY NOTED THAT THE LAW REDPARTMENT REQUESTED AN ASSISTANT CITY SOLICITOR. MR. BUFFINGTON STATED THAT THEY ASKED FOR \$49,000 AND THAT HE ENVISIONED PROBABLY GETTING A FAIRLY NEW LAWYER. THERE IS LOTS OF DEMANDS ON HIS OFFICE FOR CODE ENFORCEMENT AND HE WOULD USE THE NEW PERSON ON THOSE ISSUES.

IT WAS ALSO STATED THAT THERE IS STILL SOME USE OF OUTSIDE LEGAL SERVICES BUT IT IS WAY DOWN AS FAR AS SPENDING FOR THIS.

MOTION: REFER THE ASSISTANT CITY SOLICITOR POSITION FOR CODE ENFORCEMENT BACK TO THE MAYOR FOR RECONSIDERATION AND TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

2. MAINTENANCE OF TAX POSSESSION

#193

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

1. RISK MANAGER

#945

MOTION: THAT THE CURRENT COVERAGE THAT WE CURRENTLY HAVE ON PROPERTIES BE PROVIDED. SO VOTED.

QUESTIONED WAS WHETHER THERE IS AN INVENTORY OF WHAT WAS TAKEN OUT OF CITY HALL AND IS IT INSURED – IS THIS UNDER THE RISK MANAGER'S PURVIEW.

MOTION: REFER THIS MATTER TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC PROPERTY FOR DISCUSSION. SO VOTED.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

2. CLAIMS FOR DAMAGES

#946

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

1. ASSESSOR

#141

MR. CONTI SAID THAT MOST OF THE BUDGET IS CONTRACTUAL, BUT DID NOTE THAT THEY WILL BE COMING BACK TO THE COUNCIL THE FIRST OF THE YEAR TO MOVE A CLERK TO AN ASSISTANT ASSESSOR. QUESTIONED WAS THE TRAVEL ALLOWANCE LINE ITEM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,000.00. IT WAS STATED THAT THIS COVERS ALL 3 ASSESSORS, THAT THEY USE THEIR OWN VEHICLES, AND IS NOT A PER MILE RATE IT IS A STIPEND THEY GET MONTHLY.

COUNCILOR CROTEAU SAID THAT HE WOULD WANT TO HEAR FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEAD, MR. DESANTIS, REGARDING THE PROMOTION MENTIONED.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

2. CITY CLERK

#161

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

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JUNE 1, 2015

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE – BUDGET HEARINGS - CONTINUED

MOTION: REFER THE \$48,000 FOR A BOBCAT AND \$40,000 FOR MAYFLOWER CEMETERY EXPANSION TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET. SO VOTED.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

MOTION: TO TAKE A 10 MINUTE RECESS (9:25 P.M.)

MOTION: TO CALL THE MEETING BACK TO ORDER (9:41 P.M.)

PUBLIC WORKS/FACILITIES/DPW

1. WATER

#450

NOTED WAS THAT SALARIES WENT UP. MR. O'BRIEN SAID THERE ARE SOME POSITIONS THAT THEY WANT TO FILL. MR. O'BRIEN WAS ALSO ASKED IF THE DEBT AND INTEREST WAS SUSTAINABLE, TO WHICH HE ANSWERED YES, AND THAT THEY ARE TAKING A SMALL BREAK SO SOME OF THE DEBT WILL DROP OFF. MR. O'BRIEN SAID THEY WILL BE COMING BACK IN 2016 TO DISCUSS A RATE CHANGE WITH THE COUNCIL. COUNCILOR COSTA-HANLON NOTED THAT LAST YEAR \$300,000 WAS BUDGETED FOR OVERTIME, AND THIS YEAR THE REQUEST IS FOR \$400,000, WHAT IS THE RATIONALE FOR THIS INCREASE.

MR. O'BRIEN SAID IT COVERS EMERGENCIES, DRAIN CLEANING, ETC. AND THEY SPENT JUST ABOUT ALL OF THE \$300,000 THIS YEAR.

IT WAS FURTHER NOTED THAT THERE MAY BE SOME POSITIONS TO FILL, ONE IS VACANT, AND THERE IS 1 THAT IS TRANSFERRING, AND THERE MAY ALSO BE AN INTERNAL PROMOTION.

MR. O'BRIEN SAID THEY ARE CUTTING IT CLOSE AND WILL PROBABLY SPEND JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING THAT WAS BUDGETED IN FISCAL YEAR 2015, AND THAT WATER HAS MAINTAINED THE STABILITY OF THE BUDGET.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

2. DPW COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

#400

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

3. OIL AND ROAD CONSTRUCTION

#421

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

4. STREETS AND DRAINS

#422

MOTION: TO REFER \$135,000 FOR NORTH WALKER STREET, \$65,000.00 FOR COUNTY STREET DESIGN SERVICES, AND \$65,000.00 FOR SURVEY AND ENGINEERING SERVICES TO SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET. SO VOTED.

IT WAS NOTED THAT THEY HAD REQUESTED \$300,000 FOR STREET PAVINGS AND MARKINGS BUT WERE ALLOCATED \$100,000 SO THEY ARE HOPING TO DO WHAT THEY CAN INCLUDING SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, HOSPITALS, ETC.

THEY ALSO ASKED FOR 2 MAINT/MEO III POSITIONS THAT WERE NOT FUNDED.

MOTION: TO REFER THE 2 MAINT/MEO III POSITIONS TO SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET. SO VOTED.

MOTION: REFER ADDITIONAL MONEY FOR STREET PAVINGS AND MARKINGS TO SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET. SO VOTED.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

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JUNE 1 2015

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE – BUDGET HEARINGS - CONTINUED

5. SNOW REMOVAL #423

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

6. TRASH PICK-UP #433

COUNCILOR COSTA-HANLON NOTED THAT THERE IS NO ONE FROM THE CITY OF TAUNTON AT THE LANDFILL, AND THAT IT IS NOT REQUESTED IN THIS BUDGET.

MOTION: REFER THE POSITION AT THE LANDFILL TO SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET. SO VOTED.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

7. WWTP & SEWER MAINTENANCE #443

DISCUSSED WAS THAT THERE IS NO SEWER RATE SET FOR 2016. COUNCILOR CROTEAU WOULD LIKE TO INCREASE THE SEWER RATES BEFORE JULY 1ST SO THAT THEY WILL NOT HAVE TO DIP INTO ANY RESERVE FUNDS.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

8. VEHICULAR MAINTENANCE #480

NOTED WAS A DIFFERENCE IN THE SALARY LINE ITEM AS THEY HAD REQUESTED \$248,849.12 AND RECEIVED \$202,919.84. THE REASON FOR THIS IS THAT THEY HAD REQUESTED A MOTOR VEHICLE REPAIRMAN POSITION THAT WAS NOT FUNDED.

MOTION: TO REFER THIS POSITION TO SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET. SO VOTED.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

9. ENGINEERING #410

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

1. ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATION #196

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

PUBLIC SAFETY

1. SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES #244

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

1. CITY HALL MAINTENANCE #192

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

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JUNE 1, 2015

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE – BUDGET HEARINGS - CONTINUED

PUBLIC WORKS/FACILITIES/BUILDING DEPARTMENT

1. SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS #492

QUESTION WAS MR. WALKDEN'S REQUEST FOR \$22,000 UNDER EQUIPMENT AND CAPITAL. MR. WALKDEN STATED THAT THIS WAS REQUESTED FOR AN AUTOMOBILE FOR THE NEW ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR.

MOTION: REFER THE REQUEST OF \$22,000 FOR AN AUTOMOBILE FOR THE NEW INSPECTOR TO SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET. SO VOTED.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

2. REPAIRS OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS #493

QUESTIONED WAS WITH THE \$363,950.00 ALLOWED FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO BUILDINGS ARE THERE ANY SPECIFIC PROJECTS THAT WERE GOING TO BE DONE. THE ANSWER WAS THAT THEY LOOK AT BIGGER ITEMS.

IT WAS ALSO NOTED THAT THE ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN POSITION REQUESTED WAS NOT FUNDED. MR. WALKDEN SAID THAT MR. PESTANA AND HE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PRESENTATION TO THE COUNCIL ON THIS POSITION.

MOTION: REFER ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN POSITION TO SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET. SO VOTED.

MOTION: MR. WALKDEN IS TO MAKE IS PRESENTATION ON THIS ISSUE TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

3. PUBLIC BUILDINGS/ADA #496

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

MOTION: THAT THE HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR PROVIDE FOR WEDNESDAY COPIES OF ALL NON-UNION EMPLOYEE CONTRACTS THAT HAVE LONGEVITY, TRAVEL AND CAREER INCENTIVES. SO VOTED.

MEETING WAS RECESSED AT 11:04 P.M.



RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

COLLEEN M. ELLIS
CLERK OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

REPORTS ACCEPTED, RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED.

CITY CLERK

CITY OF TAUNTON
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
JUNE 3, 2015

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

PRESENT WERE: COUNCIL PRESIDENT ESTELE BORGES AND COUNCILORS CLEARY, MARSHALL, CROTEAU, POTTIER, QUINN, CARR AND COSTA-HANLON. ALSO PRESENT WERE BUDGET DIRECTOR GILL ENOS, LIBRARY DIRECTOR SUSANNE DUQUETTE, CITY AUDITOR ANN HEBERT, TREASURER/COLLECTOR BARBARA AUGER, HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR MARIA GOMES, VETERANS SERVICES DIRECTOR BOLIVAR RUBIANO, ANN BISSON AND CHARLENE BONENFANT OF HUMAN SERVICES, HEATHER GALLANT AND ADAM VICKSTROM OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR RICHARD FERREIRA, TAUNTON NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATOR JOHN BRENNAN, CHIEF TIM BRADSHAW, CAPTAIN DAVID SANTOS AND KATE GLOVER OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND POLICE CHIEF EDWARD WALSH

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:04 P.M.

1. BUDGET HEARINGS

CULTURE AND RECREATION

1. LIBRARY

#610

COUNCILOR QUINN QUESTIONED WHY THE SALARIES WERE LOWER THEN WHAT WAS SPENT IN FY 15, AND MRS. DUQUETTE SAID THAT THEY HAD 1 RETIREMENT AND THE POSITION WAS VACANT FOR A WHILE. COUNCILOR CLEARY ASKED FOR THE NUMBER THEY NEED IN ORDER TO REMAIN ACCREDITED. THIS FIGURE IS \$1,225,206.00 AND IS ARRIVED AT BY A FORMULA THAT IS PROVIDED BY THE STATE.

IT WAS NOTED THAT THERE ARE 2 PART TIME SECURITY GUARDS THAT WORK 18 HOURS A WEEK. SHE REQUESTED A THIRD WHICH THEY WILL HOPEFULLY HAVE ON BY MID AUGUST.

MRS. DUQUETTE SAID THAT THERE ARE 2 VACANT POSITIONS, A SERIALS LIBRARIAN, WHICH SHE NOTED IS BASICALLY A NON-EXISTENT POSITION NOW AND AN EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY POSITION WHICH IS ALSO NOT NECESSARY. THEY ARE REDEFINING THE POSITIONS AND THE MONEY IS STILL IN THE BUDGET.

DISCUSSED ALSO WERE GRANTS THAT THE LIBRARY RECEIVED. MRS. DUQUETTE STATED THAT SHE DOES NOT APPLY FOR GRANTS

COUNCILOR MARSHALL MADE THE FOLLOWING MOTION

MOTION: THAT A LIST OF GRANTS THAT THE LIBRARY IS ENTITLED TO BUT THE DIRECTOR CHOSE NOT TO APPLY FOR AND THE AMOUNTS BE PROVIDED TO THE COUNCIL. SO VOTED.

COUNCILOR CROTEAU SAID HE WANTS A LIST OF THE GRANTS, ALLOCATED, DISCRETIONARY AND COMPETITIVE.

ALSO, ARE THERE GRANTS THAT TAUNTON COULD COMPETE FOR, AND IF THERE ARE GRANTS THAT COULD BE APPLIED FOR, WHY WEREN'T THEY APPLIED FOR.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

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JUNE 3, 2015

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE – BUDGET HEARINGS – CONTINUED

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

1. AUDITOR

#135

THE CITY AUDITOR STATED THAT SHE GOT WHAT WAS ASKED FOR IN THE BUDGET. QUESTIONED WAS WHETHER IT WOULD MAKE SENSE TO HIRE A PERSON RATHER THAN PAY MR. COPPOLA, THE INTERNAL AUDITOR \$125,000.00. IT WAS STATED THAT HE HAS A YEAR TO YEAR CONTRACT WHICH IS RENEWED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FISCAL YEAR. AT THIS TIME, FISCAL YEAR 2016, HE WILL STILL BE HERE.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – TREASURER

1. TREASURER FORECLOSURE

#144

THE TREASURER COLLECTOR WAS ASKED ABOUT WHITTENTON MILLS PROPERTY, AND WHETHER THE COUNCIL WILL BE NOTIFIED BEFORE THE CITY TAKES THIS PROPERTY FOR TAXES. MRS. AUGER SAID THAT SHE WORKS CLOSELEY WITH THE CITY SOLICITOR ON THESE ISSUES.

COUNCILOR MARSHALL SAID THAT HE WOULD NOT VOTE TO TAKE THAT PROPERTY, AND HE FEELS THAT THE COUNCIL SHOULD BE INVOLVED IN THIS MATTER WHEN THE TIME COMES.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

2. TREASURER/COLLECTOR

#145

IT WAS NOTED THAT THEY ARE DOING PAYROLL IN HOUSE NOW SO THAT WAS THE REASON FOR THE DECREASE FOR HARPERS PAYROLL.

COUNCILOR POTTIER ASKED THAT THE AMORTIZATION SCHEDULED BE PROVIDED WHEN IT IS COMPLETED.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

3. TAX TITLE

#147

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

DEBT AND INTEREST

1. DEBT – LONG TERM (PRINCIPAL)

#710

IT WAS NOTED THAT NOTHING WILL BE COMING OFF THIS YEAR. QUESTIONED WAS WHEN THE LAST TIME THE CITY HAD A CREDIT RATING REVIEW. MRS. AUGER SAID IT WAS IN MAY OF 2014 AND THEY ARE REQUIRED TO DO ANOTHER IN LATE FALL WHEN THEY GO TO BORROW FOR THE PARKING DECK, THE TAUNTON HIGH STADIUM AND A COUPLE OF SEWER PROJECTS. THE RATING NOW IS AA STABLE.

2. INTEREST – LONG TERM DEBT

#751

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

3. INTEREST – SHORT TERM DEBT

#752

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

1. UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

#913

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

PAGE THREE

JUNE 3, 2015

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE – BUDGET HEARINGS – CONTINUED

2. HOSPITAL AND GROUP INSURANCE #914

COUNCILOR POTTIER WOULD LIKE THE INSURANCE BREAKDOWN FOR THE CITY SIDE. IT WAS STATED THAT THIS YEAR THE CITY HAD SEVERAL HIGH CLAIMS SO THAT WAS WHAT DROVE THE \$10 INCREASE. MRS. AUGER SAID THAT SHE HAS HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH THE MAYOR AND HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR TO TRY TO DO SOMETHING WITH THIS, BUT THERE ARE MANY UNIONS TO DEAL WITH SO IT IS NOT AN EASY FIX. ALSO DISCUSSED WITH THE GIC INSURANCE, BUT IT WAS STATED THAT THEY ALSO HAD A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE AND THAT THE COPAYS WENT VERY HIGH. GIC MAY BE AN OPTION, HOWEVER, IF PEOPLE CHOOSE THE MOST EXPENSIVE PLAN, IT WOULD END UP COSTING MORE.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

3. MEDICARE #915

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

4. DISABILITY RETIREMENT #916

MS. GOMES SAID THIS BUDGET IS VERY BASIC AND COVERS DISABILITY MEDICAL CLAIMS FOR POLICE AND FIRE. IT IS THE SAME NUMBER AS LAST YEAR BUT THEY WILL BE COMING BACK TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET BECAUSE THE NUMBER THEY RECEIVED WILL NOT CARRY THROUGH THE YEAR. THEY HAVE 17 ACTIVE CASES.

MRS. GOMES WAS ASKED TO PROVIDE TO THE COUNCIL THE PERCENTAGE OF THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF DISABILITY INSURANCE. WHAT IS THE UTILIZATION. ALSO, THEY WOULD LIKE TO KNOW THE UTILIZATION OF THE SMART PLAN. MRS. GOMES SAID THAT SHE WILL BE ABLE TO PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION AFTER JULY 1ST.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

5. WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION #912

THIS STAYS PRETTY MUCH STANDARD. THE CITY PAYS THE MEDICAL AND SALARY. THEY HAVE A DEDICATED WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ATTORNEY THAT HANDLES ALL THE CITY'S CASES, AND THEY GO OUT TO BID EVERY 3 YEARS. THE CURRENT CONTRACT WILL EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2017.

COUNCILOR CARR WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE DETAILS OF THE PAYOUTS TOTALLING \$750,000.00.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

HEALTH & CITIZEN SERVICES

1. PERSONNEL/TRAINING #549

IT WAS NOTED THAT THERE IS A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN CONTRACTED SERVICES. THIS IS DUE TO THE FACT THAT THEY HAVE ASSUMED 111F POLICE PATROLMEN SERVICES AND THEY ARE ALSO CARRYING A CATASTROPHIC ACCIDENT/INJURY INSURANCE POLICY.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

MOTION: TO TAKE A 10 MINUTE RECESS (7:26 P.M.)

MOTION: TO CALL THE MEETING BACK TO ORDER (7:46 P.M.)

MOTION: TO GO OUT OF THE REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS. SO VOTED.

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JUNE 3, 2015

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE – BUDGET HEARINGS – CONTINUED

HEALTH & CITIZEN SERVICES

1. VETERANS SERVICES #543

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

2. HUMAN SERVICES #500

THEY HAD REQUESTED, BUT IT WAS NOT FUNDED, TO REINSTATE THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNSELLOR POSITION.

MOTION: REFER THIS POSITION TO THE MAYOR NOW AND SUBSEQUENTLY, IF NOT FUNDED, REFER TO SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET. SO VOTED.

THEY ALSO DID HAVE A BILINGUAL CASE WORKER THAT WAS CUT A FEW YEARS AGO. NOW THEY HAVE 2 PART TIMERS THAT WORK 18 HOURS A WEEK. THEY USED TO HAVE 1 FULL TIME PERSON AND 2 PART TIME PEOPLE.

MOTION: REFER FULL TIME BILINGUAL CASE WORKER TO SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET. SO VOTED.

MOTION: THAT MS. BISSON MAKE A PRESENTATION OF THE DIFFERENT PROGRAMS THEY OFFER IN A COUNCIL AS A WHOLE MEETING. SO VOTED.

MOTION: REFER THE HANDOUT PROVIDED BY HUMAN SERVICES TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FOR DISCUSSION. SO VOTED.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

PUBLIC SAFETY

1. ANIMAL CONTROL #292

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

HEALTH & CITIZEN SERVICES

1. BOARD OF HEALTH #510

IT WAS NOTED THAT THE BOARD OF HEALTH AGAIN REQUESTED A GENERATOR TO POWER THE REFRIDGERATOR IN THE EVENT OF AN OUTAGE IN ORDER TO KEEP THE VACCINES SAFE.

MOTION: REFER GENERATOR TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET. SO VOTED.

COUNCILOR CARR STATED THAT \$40,000 FOR A GENERATOR IS A LOT OF MONEY, BUT IT WAS CLARIFIED THAT \$20,000 OF THIS IS FOR LIGHTING AND \$20,000 IS FOR THE GENERATOR.

IT WAS REQUESTED THAT MRS. GALLANT PASS ALONG TO THE MAYOR THE GENERATOR REQUEST ALSO.

COUNCILOR CROTEAU WANTS A BREAKDOWN OF THE COSTS FOR THE GENERATOR AND THE COSTS FOR THE LIGHTING.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

PAGE FIVE

JUNE 3, 2015

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE – BUDGET HEARINGS – CONTINUED

PUBLIC SAFETY

1. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

#291

MOTION: TO REFER THE ISSUE OF THE GENERATOR FOR THE BOARD OF HEALTH TO TAUNTON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, THE BOARD OF HEALTH AND THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT FOR A REPORT ON HOW THIS CAN BE PROVIDED TO THE BOARD OF HEALTH, NO LATER THEN SEPTEMBER 1, 2015. SO VOTED.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

HEALTH & CITIZEN SERVICES

1. TAUNTON NURSING HOME

#520

MR. BRENNAN REPORTED THAT THE DECREASE IN MEDICARE HAS IMPACTED THE NURSING HOME AND THAT HE DOES NOT EXPECT AN INCREASE IN MEDICARE REIMBURSEMENT, HE EXPECTS A DECREASE.

COUNCILOR QUINN NOTED THAT IN SALARIES AND WAGES THERE IS \$675,000 IN OVERTIME WHICH WAS EXCEEDED IN THEIR CURRENT EXPENSES. SHE ASKED WHY THIS IS SO HIGH.

MR. BRENNAN SAID IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO RECRUIT, TRAIN AND MAINTAIN CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANTS. THE NURSING STAFF, KITCHEN STAFF AND MAINTENANCE STAFF ARE ALL STABLE IT IS JUST C.N.A.'S THAT ARE NEEDED.

MR. BRENNAN SAID THAT HE IS WORKING WITH THE CITY SOLICITOR ON SEVERAL LARGE COLLECTION ACCOUNTS THAT TOTAL ABOUT \$500,000.00.

IT WAS ALSO STATED THAT THE \$23,000 FINE THE NURSING HOME WAS ASSESSED WILL BE PAID OUT OF LEGAL FEES. THEY ARE PLANNING ON HAVING THE MONEY TO PAY THE FINE.

MR. BRENNAN WAS REQUESTED TO PROVIDE THE NUMBER THAT THE NURSING HOME WILL HAVE LEFT IN THEIR BUDGET.

MR. BRENNAN FURTHER STATED THAT HE KEEPS A RUNNING LIST OF THINGS THAT HE WANTS TO DO AT THE HOME, AND THAT THE FIRST THING ON THE LIST ARE THE WINDOWS, WHICH WILL COST ABOUT \$500,000. HE DOES USE A LAWYER WHO ASSISTS IN GRANTS FOR THE HOME THAT HAS EXPERTISE IN HEALTH CARE GRANTS.

IT WAS ALSO NOTED THAT THE MEDICAL RECORDS PERSON RETIRED AND THEY NOW HAVE A NEW PERSON IN THAT POSITION.

QUESTIONED ALSO WAS THE LINE ITEM UNDER FIXED OTHER CHARGES FOR AUX. GENERATOR, FIRE MAINT. LAST YEAR THIS WAS \$9,000.00 REQUESTED AND \$29,729.10 WAS EXPENDED. THIS YEAR THEY REQUESTED \$115,000.00 AND DID RECEIVE THAT SUM. MR. BRENNAN SAID THAT HE WILL CHECK ON THIS ITEM AND SEND AN E-MAIL TO THE COUNCIL ON THIS MATTER.

COUNCILOR CROTEAU REQUESTED THAT THE BUDGET DIRECTOR PROVIDE A NUMBER SHOWING HOW MUCH THE TAUNTON NURSING HOME WILL SPEND IN FISCAL YEAR 2015, AND HE NOTED THAT IF THERE IS A DEFICIT, THE CITY WOULD HAVE TO MAKE UP THE DIFFERENCE.

COUNCILOR CROTEAU ALSO MADE THE FOLLOWING MOTION:

MOTION: TO LIST EACH GRANT ON AN INDIVIDUAL SHEET SHOWING HOW MUCH THE GRANT WAS FOR AND HOW MUCH WAS PAID TO THE ATTORNEYS AND CONSULTANTS. ALSO PROVIDE THE AREA OF EXPERTISE THAT THESE LAWYERS OR CONSULTANTS HAVE THAT THE CITY'S GRANT WRITER DOES NOT HAVE. SO VOTED.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

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JUNE 3, 2015

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE – BUDGET HEARINGS – CONTINUED

PUBLIC SAFETY

1. FIRE

#220

THE CHIEF STATED THAT THE OVERTIME BUDGET IS TOO LOW AND HE WILL NOT MAKE IT THROUGH THE ENTIRE YEAR.. THE CHIEF SAID OVERTIME HAS CREEPED UP DUE TO THE WAGE INCREASE, MILITARY ACTIVATIONS, LINE OF DUTY INJURIES AND THINGS LIKE THAT. THEY ARE STAFFED AT 120 WHICH IS THE HIGHEST THEY HAVE BEEN SINCE 2004.

COUNCILOR COSTA-HANLON NOTED THAT THE CHIEF WILL BE TURNING BACK TO THE CITY ABOUT \$200,000.00. THE CHIEF SAID THAT THEY BUDGETED FOR EVERYONE THAT COULD RETIRE, BUT NOT EVERYBODY THAT COULD RETIRE DID RETIRE.

COUNCILOR COSTA-HANLON ASKED IF THE CHIEF WAS CONSIDEREING ENCUMBERING SOME OF THE \$200,000 IN ORDER TO COVER OVERTIME FOR THIS COMING FISCAL YEAR. THE CHIEF SAID THAT HE WAS GOING TO HAVE A CONVERSATION WITH THE BUDGET DIRECTOR. THE BUDGET DIRECTOR THEN STATED THAT YOU CANNOT ENCUMBER OVERTIME MONEY, YOU CAN ONLY ENCUMBER FOR A SIGNED CONTRACTUAL MATTER. COUNCILOR COSTA-HANLON THEN SAID SHE WAS ASKING IF THEY COULD TRANSFER THE MONEY FROM ONE LINE ITEM TO ANOTHER. THE BUDGET DIRECTOR SAID YOU CANNOT DO THAT.

THE CHIEF NOTED THAT THEY USED THE NUMBER OF ABOUT \$30,000 A WEEK FOR THE FINAL WEEKS OF FY 2015, AND THEIR NUMBER WAS ABOUT \$197,000.00 TO BE TURNED BACK TO THE CITY.

COUNCILOR COSTA-HANLON NOTED THAT THE CHIEF HAD REQUESTED \$8 MILLION AND RECEIVED \$7.7 MILLION, IS THE DIFFERENCE FOR NEW HIRES.

THE CHIEF SAID IT WAS FOR THE 4 CALL TAKERS, WHICH IS AN ENTRY LEVEL POSITION, AND WOULD BE 4 NEW HIRES MORE OR LESS. HE ALSO PUT IN FOR A STAFF DEPUTY CHIEF TO TRY TO START THE PLANNING PROCESS OF SOMEBODY OUTSIDE THE UNION AS THEY ARE A BOTTOM HEAVY DEPARTMENT AND THEY REALLY NEED MORE ADMINISTRATIVE HELP. THEY ALSO WOULD LIKE A JUNIOR CLERK WHICH WAS NOT FUNDED.

THE CHIEF ALSO NOTED THAT THEY ARE GETTING A NEW ENGINE 1. THE OLD ENGINE 1 WILL GO TO THE WEIR, THE WEIR TRUCK WILL GO TO EAST TAUNTON AND ENGINE 9 WILL BE DECOMMISSIONED.

COUNCILOR CLEARLY ASKED IF THE NEW WAGES ARE REFLECTED IN SALARIES AND WAGES BEGINNING JULY 1ST. THE CHIEF SAID YES.

COUNCILOR CLEARLY WOULD LIKE A REPORT ON 911, HOW IT IS STAFFED, HOW MUCH IT COSTS, ETC. BECAUSE SOME COMMUNITIES ARE LOOKING TO REGIONALIZE.

COUNCILOR CARR STATED THAT SHE CANNOT BELIEVE THE CHIEF HAS ASKED FOR \$1.00 MORE IN OVERTIME WHEN HE IS TELLING HER EVERY WEEK WHEN THEY GET A REQUEST TO SEND OUT THE SAFE TRAILER THAT HE HAS PLENTY OF MONEY IN HIS OVERTIME BUDGET. HOW CAN HE NEED OVERTIME MONEY?

THE CHIEF NOTED AGAIN THAT HE IS GIVING BACK ABOUT \$200,000 WHICH IS COMING FROM THE SALARIES AND WAGES ACCOUNT.

COUNCILOR CARR THEN SAID THAT THIS IS BECAUSE OF THE OTHER STUFF THAT GOES ON WHICH SHE IS GOING TO BRING UP NEXT. SHE CONTINUED STATING THAT THE CHIEF WAS ONLY BUDGETED \$780,000 IN OVERTIME BUT SPENT \$1.4 MILLION, AND HE DID THAT BY MANIPULATING THE OTHER LINE ITEMS.

COUNCILOR CARR ASKED THE BUDGET DIRECTOR REGARDING IN LIEU OF VACATION, 10 RETIREES AND UNUSED SICK TIME FOR RETIREES, SOMEONE SEEMS TO BE UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT WE HAVE TO BUDGET THESE IN A BUDGET LINE ITEM. IF IT HAPPENBS WE DO HAVE TO PAY IT, WHY CAN'T IT JUST BE PUT INTO RESERVES AND THEN IF IT IS NEEDED, THEY CAN COME AND ASK FOR IT.

THE BUDGET DIRECTOR SAID THE MAYOR ASSEMBLES THE BUDGET THIS WAY AND WANTS TO PUT IT INTO THE DEPARTMENT.

COUNCILOR CARR SAID SO THAT LINE ITEM CAN BE MANIPULATED. THE BUDGET DIRECTOR SAID IT IS NOT

PAGE SEVEN

JUNE 3, 2015

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE – BUDGET HEARINGS – CONTINUED

BEING MANIPULATED.

COUNCILOR CARR SAID IT IS BEING MANIPULATED. WHEN SHE VOTES FOR THIS BUDGET SHE DOES NOT VOTE FOR 1 BIG POT FOR SALARIES AND WAGES OF \$12 MILLION, SHE VOTES FOR WHAT SHE SEES IN THE LINE ITEMS. YET, WHEN IT COMES DOWN TO IT EVERY YEAR, THIS IS WHAT SHE HEARS, IF IT IS WITHIN SALARIES AND WAGES IT CAN BE TRANSFERRED WITHOUT A REQUEST. NO ONE SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO PLAY WITH \$12 MILLION.

THE BUDGET DIRECTOR SAID THAT THIS BUDGET IS VOTED IN 3 CATEGORIES, SALARIES AND WAGES, 5100, OTHER EXPENSES, 5200 AND 5300 IS CAPITAL EXPENSES. THAT IS HOW THE BUDGET IS VOTED EVERY YEAR. IT IS 3 CATEGORIES, THE LINE ITEMS DO NOT MEAN ANYTHING.

COUNCILOR CARR SAID SHE DOES NOT AGREE WITH THIS. COUNCILOR CARR THEN ASKED DOES IT NOT ALLOW ANY OF THOSE NUMBERS IN ANY OF THOSE CATEGORIES TO BE CHANGED WITHOUT PERMISSION. THE BUDGET DIRECTOR SAID THEY ARE NOT BEING CHANGED, THE APPROVED BUDGET IS THE APPROVED BUDGET. NO NUMBERS HAVE BEEN CHANGED.

COUNCILOR CARR SAID THAT 8 MORE FIREFIGHTERS WRE HIRED SO SHE FEELS THAT OVERTIME SHOULD GO DOWN.

THE CHIEF SAID THAT MILITARY, INJURIES AND VACATIONS ALL CAUSE OVERTIME. HE HAS 9 ACTIVE RESERVISTS ON THE DEPARTMENT NOW AND HAS TO FIGURE MANY VARIABLES.

COUNCILOR CARR SAID SHE FEELS THAT IF SOMEONE GOES TO TRAINING MORE THEN 1 WEEKEND A MONTH AND 2 WEEKS A YEAR, THE CHIEF SHOULD HAVE SOME SAY IF THE TRAINING IS NOT MANDATORY. THE CHIEF SAID THAT HE STILL DOES NOT MAN THE TRUCKS ACCORDING TO STANDARDS AND THERE ARE A LOT OF STANDARDS THAT THE CHIEF MUST MEET.

COUNCILOR CARR REQUESTED AN UPDATE ON WHAT IS OWED IN FIRE DETAILS. SHE ALSO REQUESTED THAT THE CHIEF PROVIDE A LIST FOR THE LAST FISCAL YEAR AND THIS FISCAL YEAR TO DATE HOW MANY TIMES THE SAFE TRAILER HAS GONE OUT TO ANY NON PUBLIC SCHOOL, ANY OTHER LOCATION OTHER THEN A PUBLIC SCHOOL, THE COST, HOW MANY FIREFIGHTERS WENT OUT THAT DAY.

IT WAS ALSO NOTED THAT IF A FIREFIGHTER IS OUT LINE OF DUTY, THE CHIEF PAYS THE MEDICAL BILLS AND THE SALARY, AND ALSO SOMEONE TO REPLACE THEM.

COUNCILOR MARSHALL QUESTIONED THE MINIMUM MANNING. HE SAID THERE IS A MINIMUM MANNING CLAUSE IN THE CONTRACT, CORRECT. THE CHIEF SAID IT IS PIECE MANNING, MEANING THAT ENGINE 1 HAS 4 PEOPLE ON IT AND IN THE WINTER IT BUMPS UP TO 6. THE CHIEF SAID HE IS MANNING TOWARD NATIONAL FIRE SAFETY STANDARDS TO A CERTAIN EXTENT, WHEN HE CAN DO IT. THE UNION HAS ALLOWED HIM TO MOVE SOME OF THE MEN ON THE VEHICLES, WHICH HAS ALLOWED HIM TO HAVE 3 FOUR MANNED VEHICLES INSTEAD OF 2 SIX MANNED ENGINES. THIS IS A GREAT ADVANTAGE.

THE CHIEF WAS ASKED TO PROVIDE WHAT THE MINIMUM MANNING IS REQUIRED CONTRACTUALLY.

COUNCILOR MARSHALL ALSO NOTED THAT HE THINKS THERE SHOULD BE A MANNING DISCUSSION IN FIRES AND WIRES COMMITTEE IN THE FUTURE.

COUNCILOR QUINN NOTED THAT FOR A POINT OF CLARIFICATION, SHE DOES NOT THINK THE CHIEF WILL HAVE THE SAME LUXURY OR ABILITY, DUE TO THE FACT THAT THE IN LIEU OF VACATION MONEY AND SICK TIME MONEY, WERE FUNDED IN THE AMOUNT REQUESTED, AND IT LOOKS LIKE THE MAYOR FUNDED IT IN THE AMOUNT ACTUALLY USED, SO THERE WON'T BE THAT EXTRA MONEY IN THE BUDGET.

COUNCILOR CARR DID NOTE THAT THE MAYOR WILL ADD A GOOD AMOUNT TO THAT NUMBER IN THE SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET.

MOTION: TO REFER THE JUNIOR CLERK POSITION TO SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET. SO VOTED.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

2. POLICE

#210

IT WAS NOTED THAT OVERTIME WAS CUT IN THIS BUDGET, AND THAT THE CHIEF REQUESTED ADDITIONAL

PAGE EIGHT

JUNE 3, 2015

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE – BUDGET HEARINGS – CO9NTINUED

HIRES THAT WERE NOT FUNDING. FUNDING WAS APPROVED FOR 2 VEHICLES.

COUNCILOR COSTA-HANLON NOTED THAT IT LOOKS LIKE THE CHIEF WILL BE TURNING BACK ABOUT \$400,000. THE CHIEF SAID THAT THEY WERE BUDGETED FOR 4 NEW HIRES, AND THOSE POSITIONS WERE NOT FILLED. THEY ARE INCLUDED IN THE FY 2016 BUDGET.

COUNCILOR COSTA-HANLON NOTED THAT IN THE 2016 BUDGET THERE WERE 3 REQUESTS FOR PATROL OFFICERS THAT WERE APPROVED, AND 5 REQUESTS THAT WERE NOT APPROVED. SHE SAID SHE WILL REFER THE 3 HIRES IN FULL COUNCIL NEXT WEEK.

THE CHIEF ALSO NOTED THAT HIS OVERTIME BUDGET IS HIGH, AND HIS IS BROKEN DOWN INTO MANY FACTORS THAT HE CANNOT CONTROL INCLUDING COURT TIME. HE ALSO NOTED THAT IT IS GETTING HARDER TO FILL SHIFTS BECAUSE PEOPLE DO NOT WANT TO WORK. HE IS LOOKING FOR NEW BODIES BECAUSE THEY NEED THE BODIES. HE ALSO NOTED THAT THERE IS A LONG HISTORY IN THE CITY OF GIVING PEOPLE TIME INSTEAD OF MONEY, SO THE ONLY WAY HE IS GOING TO BRING OVERTIME INTO TOTAL CONTROL IS TO ADD BODIES. THE MAYOR HAS BEEN SUPPORTIVE AND GAVE ADDITIONAL BODIES LAST YEAR AND HAS ALLOWED SOME THIS YEAR.

IT WAS ALSO NOTED THAT THE UNUSED SICK AND VACATION BUYBACK LINE ITEMS FOR FY 2015 WERE PRETTY MUCH RIGHT ON. HOWEVER, THIS YEAR IT WAS CUT BY THE MAYOR.

IT WAS ALSO ASKED REGARDING THE POLICE DEPARTMENT INTERFACING WITH THE GRANT WRITER. THE DEPARTMENT DOES WORK WITH HER, BUT THERE ARE LIMITED GRANTS OUT THERE.

REGARDING CRUISERS, COUNCILOR CROTEAU ASKED THE CHIEF TO COME UP WITH A NUMBER THAT SHOULD BE REPLACED ON A YEARLY BASIS. SOME SHOULD BE REPLACED ON A REGULAR BASIS.

COUNCILOR CROTEAU ALSO ASKED, IN THE FY 2015, HOW MANY ADDITIONAL POLICE OFFRICERS DID WE ADD. THE CHIEF SAID 4. IN FISCAL YEAR 2016, HOW MANY WILL WE HAVE ADDED? THE CHIEF SAID HE IS BUDGETED FOR 3.

IT WAS ALSO NOTED THAT REGARDING OVERTIME, HE SPENT SLIGHTLY OVER WHAT WAS BUDGETED. THIS YEAR HE ASKED FOR \$2.6 MILLION AND GOT \$1.5 MILLION. THE CHIEF ANTICIPATES ASKING FOR ADDITIONAL MONEY. HE IS ALSO LOOKING AT ADDRESSING THE OVERTIME ISSUE.

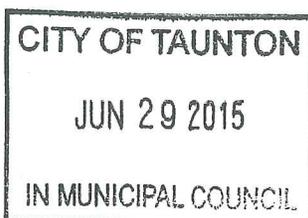
COUNCILOR CARR NOTED THAT THE OVERTIME LINE ITEM WAS VERY CLOSE, AND SO WAS THE UNUSED SICK AND VACATION BUYBACK. THE CHIEF NOTED THAT THEY PUT IN FOR WHO THEY THOUGHT WOULD REALLY GO. IT WAS STATED THAT IN 2016, THERE WILL BE NO ONE AGING OUT.

COUNCILOR CARR SAID THAT IF THEY HAVE SOMEONE DEFINITELY GOING, PUT IT IN THE BUDGET, BUT IF THEY ARE NOT SURE, PUT IT IN RESERVES.

COUNCILOR MARSHALL SAID THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE OVERTIME HOURS USED RATHER THEN DOLLARS. HE FEELS THAT IT WILL BE CLEARER TO SHOW MAN HOURS USED.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

MEETING RECESSED AT 10:40 P.M.



RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Colleen Ellis

COLLEEN M. ELLIS
CLERK OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

REPORTS ACCEPTED, RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED,

RN Beachwell
CITY CLERK

CITY OF TAUNTON
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
JUNE 9, 2015

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

PRESENT WERE: COUNCIL PRESIDENT ESTELE BORGES AND COUNCILORS CARR, QUINN, MCCAUL, POTTIER, CROTEAU, COSTA-HANLON, CLEARY AND MARSHALL. ALSO PRESENT WERE SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT DR. JULIE HACKETT, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR FINANCE AND OPERATIONS JOHN CABRAL AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS JOSEPH MARTIN, PETER CORR, CAROL DOHERTY AND JORDAN FIORE

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:15 P.M.

1. BUDGET HEARINGS

MOTION: TO RE-OPEN THE BUDGET HEARINGS. SO VOTED.

EDUCATION

1. SCHOOLS

#300

THE SUPERINTENDENT PRESENTED TO THE COUNCIL THE TAUNTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS STRATEGIC GOALS AND NOTED THAT THE PURPOSES OF THE PRESENTATION ARE FOR AN FY 16 SCHOOL BUDGET OVERVIEW, PROVIDE UPDATES ON STATE & LOCAL AID AND NET SCHOOL SPENDING, CELEBRATE THEIR SUCCESSES AND IDENTIFY THEIR CHALLENGES AND TO DEMONSTRATE THAT TAUNTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS STILL DELIVERS A "BIG BANG FOR ITS BUCK."

DR. HACKETT NOTED THAT THEY MAY NOT HAVE A TON OF RESOURCES BUT THEY HAVE A TON OF GOOD PEOPLE.

DR. HACKETT ALSO CAUTIONED THAT 100% NET SCHOOL SPENDING IS THE LAW. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH AT LEAST 95% OF THIS REIMBURSEMENT MAY RESULT IN THE NON-APPROVAL OF A MUNICIPALITY'S TAX RATE, ENFORCEMENT ACTION BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND LOSS OF STATE AID. SHE FURTHER STATED THAT DUE TO A LEGISLATIVE CHANGE, RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE NOW COUNTS TOWARD NET SCHOOL SPENDING, CREATING THE ILLUSION OF ADDITIONAL REVENUE FOR SCHOOLS. DUE TO THIS, THE CITY WILL REACH 100%+ NET SCHOOL SPENDING WITH NO ADDITIONAL MONEY FOR SCHOOLS.

COUNCILOR COSTA-HANLON SAID THAT SHE WOULD LIKE TO SEE AN AFTER SCHOOL BUS FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL, AND ALSO WOULD LIKE TO SEE AN INCREASE IN THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT BUDGET.

COUNCILOR CROTEAU STATED THAT HIS MAJOR CONCERN IS A TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM, EDUCATIONAL NOT MANAGERIAL. YOU CANNOT MINIMIZE THE NEED AND STUDENTS NEED TO BE TECHNOLOGICALLY LITERATE.

COUNCILOR POTTIER NOTED THAT ON PAGE 12 OF THE PRESENTATION IT STATES THAT THE MAJORITY OF SCHOOL SYSTEMS ACROSS THE COMMONWEALTH ROUTINELY SPEND MORE THAN 100% ON NET SCHOOL SPENDING. HE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW, OF THE 297 THAT WERE MEETING/EXCEEDING THE 100%, HOW MANY WERE MEETING IT AND HOW MANY WERE EXCEEDING IT. COUNCILOR CROTEAU ASKED THAT WITH THOSE EXCEEDING THE 100%, HE WOULD LIKE A BREAKDOWN OF INDIRECT AND DIRECT. COUNCILOR POTTIER ALSO REFERRED TO PAGE 16 OF THE PRESENTATION WHICH SHOWS THE PERCENTAGE OF THE CITY'S BUDGET THAT GOES TO EDUCATION IN OTHER MUNICIPALITIES, AND ASKED WHAT CHALLENGES DOES TAUNTON HAVE THAT THESE OTHER DO NOT. TAUNTON IS VERY LARGE COMPARED TO SOME OF THE CITIES LISTED. HE ALSO NOTED THAT WE HAVE NEW SCHOOLS SO THE

PAGE TWO

JUNE 9, 2015

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE – BUDGET HEARINGS - CONTINUED

CITY'S DEBT SERVICE LOAD COVERS THESE NEW SCHOOLS. ALSO, HEALTH INSURANCE COSTS IS GOING TO EAT UP THE 2% TAX INCREASE.

HE ASKED THAT THE BUDGET DIRECTOR PROVIDE WHERE THE MONEY IS GOING – SALARIES, DEBT SERVICE, ROADS, ETC. TO GET A BETTER UNDERSTANDING ON THIS.

COUNCILOR QUINN ASKED IF THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT WAS ADDING ANY MORE VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS. DR. HACKETT SAID THERE ARE 2 IN THE PIPELINE, BUT IT TOOK 2 YEARS FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE CURRENT VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS. IT IS A VERY LONG PROCESS.

COUNCILOR COSTA-HANLON NOTED THAT THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT ALWAYS COMES IN AND PRESENTS WHAT THEY WILL NEED, SO SHE WOULD TRY IN THE SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET PROCESS TO GIVE TAUNTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS MORE MONEY. SHE ALSO SAID THAT BRISTOL PLYMOUTH AND BRISTOL AGGIE ARE FULLY FUNDED SO TAUNTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS SHOULD BE AS WELL.

MOTION: TO TAKE THE BUDGET UNDER ADVISEMENT. SO VOTED.

MOTION: TO CLOSE THE BUDGET HEARINGS. SO VOTED.

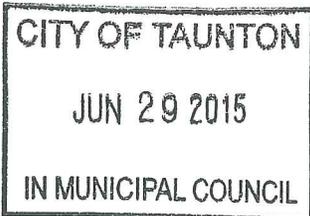
MOTION: TO REFER THE FISCAL YEAR 2016 BUDGET TO A FIRST READING ON JUNE 16, 2015. SO VOTED.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:57 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



COLLEEN M. ELLIS
CLERK OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES



REPORTS ACCEPTED, RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED.



CITY CLERK

CITY OF TAUNTON
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
JUNE 29, 2015

THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND SALARIES

PRESENT WERE: COUNCILOR GERALD CROTEAU, CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILOR CARR

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:39 A.M.

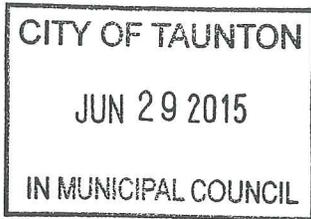
- 1. MEET TO REVIEW THE WEEKLY VOUCHERS & PAYROLLS FOR CITY DEPARTMENTS
MOTION: MOVE APPROVAL OF THE PAYROLLS FOR THE WEEK IN ABSENTIA. SO VOTED.
MOTION: MOVE APPROVAL OF THE VOUCHERS FOR THE WEEK. SO VOTED.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:40 A.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,¹



COLLEEN M. ELLIS
CLERK OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES



REPORTS ACCEPTED, RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED.



CITY CLERK