



CITY OF DANBURY

155 DEER HILL AVENUE

DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

COMMON COUNCIL

REPORT

May 2, 2006

Mayor Mark D. Boughton
Members of the Common Council

Re: **General Government II Budget**

The General Government II Budget Committee met on April 19, 2006 at 6:30 P.M. in the Third Floor Caucus Room in City Hall. In attendance were committee members Basso, Nolan, Johnson, Rotello and Taborsak. Also in attendance were Director of Finance & Personnel Dena Diorio and Council Members Cutsumpas, Saracino, Chianese, Stanley and Teicholz.

Finance Department – A part-time position for payroll has been added. The Professional Services line item has been reduced by \$10,000.

Independent Audit – The fee is \$134,000 per year and the City is in the fourth year of a five-year contract.

Data Processing – Four servers were requested, but three were funded. 100 Gateway computers will be replaced this year.

Tax Collector – The postage account is deceiving because most of the mailings are done in July. This office will be getting a network printer. A stuffing and folding machine was purchased last year. Mr. Johnson asked about the entry-level salary for the new tax collector. Ms. Diorio said it would be posted this weekend at \$82,000 because there is a high experience requirement.

Purchasing – There is \$50,000 in outside services to hire a firm to do a physical inventory of all equipment. This is now required every four years.

Personnel/Civil Service – There are two full-time people in this department – a civil service examiner and a personnel assistant. A police exam will be conducted this year and more training will be done. Training will include customer service, supervisory training and other types that can be done on-site or locally. The job description for the personnel assistant has been

changed because they want to hire someone with Human Resources experience.

Ms. Diorio explained FICA, Pension Expenses, Employee Service Benefit, Worker's Compensation, State Unemployment, Employee Health and Life Insurance, Dental Insurance, Union Welfare, Insurance and Debt Service.

Capital Budget – There are two sources of funding. Each year \$500,000 in notes are bonded, but not permanently financed. It is paid off each year. This year's budget contains four vehicles, removal of underground storage tanks and computers and cameras for police cars. The second source of funding is LoCIP. These funds will be used for renovations on Memorial Drive and sidewalk repairs. These funds will not be used for big construction projects.

Grants – Ms. Taborsak provided a chart ranking the grants by amounts awarded. She said that a budget would tell you what you value. There is very little for culture and arts. Ms. Diorio explained that two years ago the Cultural Commission budget was increased and they make allocations. Ms. Taborsak said there were pitiful amounts for organizations such as DAWS and Amos House. She would like to take money from the War Memorial grant and add money to organizations that deal with issues such as homelessness. A discussion following regarding the War Memorial grant and the YMCA grant.

Mr. Nolan said he could agree with giving more money but this has always been politically arbitrary. The Common Council has debated going with a United Way mode. He supports leaving this along, but would encourage the Council to continue to look for changes in the way this is administered.

Mr. Nolan made a motion to recommend adoption of the General Government II Budget as proposed by the Mayor, and to include a resolution to the Common Council to look at revising the grant agency funding. Seconded by Mr. Johnson. Motion carried with Ms. Taborsak abstaining.

Respectfully submitted,

PAULINE BASSO, Chairman

VINCENT P. NOLAN

JAMES JOHNSON

PAUL ROTELLO

LYNN TABORSAK