

~CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORT~

Budget Hearing ~ General Government II

Thursday, April 12, 2012

12-B

Chairwoman Mary Teicholz called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. on Tuesday, April 12, 2012, in Room 3C, 3rd Floor, Danbury City Hall, 155 Deer Hill Avenue. Present were Committee members Joseph Cavo, Shay Nagarsheth and Peter Nero. Committee member Stephen Darcy was absent due to illness. Also present to address the Budget: David St. Hilaire, Director of Finance; and, Dan Garrick, Assistant Finance Director. Ex Officio Members: Philip Curran, Warren Levy, Paul Rotello, and Gregg Seabury.

Chairwoman Teicholz introduced everyone present at the meeting then opened up the meeting to Mr. St. Hilaire.

Mr. St. Hilaire reviewed the line items as follows:

Director of Finance:

Budget increased from \$845,569 to \$884,671 due to contractual salary increases noting part-time salaries increased as a result of additional help.

Independent Audit:

Budget remained flat (\$40,000).

Retirement Administration:

Budget remained flat (\$20,000).

City Treasurer:

Budget remained flat (\$22,134). Dan Jowdy was present. There was a typo which does not affect the overall budget, the number of positions currently reads nine and it should read two.

Information Technology:

Budget increased from \$1,223,703 to \$1,226,514 due to contractual salary increases. There was a reallocation within budget to different line items. Frank Gentile was present.

Bureau of Assessments:

Budget increased from \$440,667 to \$446,331 due to contractual salary increases. There was a reallocation within budget to different line items. Colleen Lahood was present.

Board of Assessment Appeal:

Budget increased from \$4,465 to \$7,475 due to the reval slated for 10/1/12 and the costs associated will be incurred in the year following the reval. Colleen Lahood was present.

Tax Collector:

Budget increased from \$561,013 to \$564,345 due to contractual salary increases. The department has two open positions and one of the positions will be defunded as it has been vacant for two years. There was a vacancy for part of a year due to retirement. Scott Ferguson was present.

Purchasing:

Budget was reduced from \$225,585 to \$204,848 due to a vacant position. The full-time position is being defunded and there is an increase in part-time salaries. Chick Volpe was present.

Human Resources:

Budget increased from \$311,232 to \$314,880 due to contractual salary increases. Virginia Werner was present.

Labor Negotiations:

Budget was reduced from \$165,300 to \$100,300. This line item is driven by labor contracts.

Gen'l Govt. Emp. Ser. Bene.:

Budget increased from \$14,484 to \$20,000 due to a need to cover vacant positions.

FICA:

Budget remained flat (\$1,600,000).

Pension Expense:

Budget increased from \$7,677,000 to \$9,460,00 due to payouts. With the new contracts, the numbers should decrease significantly in future years.

Employee Service Benefit:

Budget remained flat (\$200,000).

Worker's Compensation:

Budget remained flat (\$1,051,950).

State Unemployment Comp.:

Budget increased from \$45,000 to \$65,000.

Employee Health & Life Ins.:

Budget decreased from \$15,416,146 to \$14,724,402 due to a switch in insurance carriers—from Anthem to Cigna.

Union Welfare:

Budget increased from \$1,200,000 to \$1,325,000 due to contractual salary increases.

Ins. & Official Bond Premium:

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Budget increased from \$2,534,351 to \$2,690,210 due to professional services increasing. There is a typo: Proposed by Department, under bond premium position, currently reads 95806, should read 9506.

Interest on Debt:

Budget increased from \$5,111,496 to \$5,157,481.

Interest On Debt—School:

Budget decreased from \$854,554 to \$750,115.

Redemption Of Debt:

Budget increased from \$8,018,600 to \$8,264,292.

Redemption Of Debt—School:

Budget increased from \$2,663,000 to \$2,852,278.

Capital Projects:

Budget increased from \$1,953,500 to \$2,093,369 due to funding of projects (i.e., fire ladder truck, replacement vehicle for the Police Department, pumpers, window project, CRM project, roof condition survey of City buildings, fire apparatus replacement).

Contingency:

Budget increased from \$407,452 to \$716,876. Of note is an operating transfer out to animal fund.

A motion was made by Councilman Cavo and seconded by Councilman Nagarsheth that the Committee recommends to the City Council that they accept the Mayor's proposed budget for General Government II as presented subject to Public Hearing. The motion carried with one opposition Councilman Nero.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Cavo and seconded by Councilman Nagarsheth. The motion carried unanimously at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Teicholz, Chairwoman

Joseph Cavo

Shay Nagarsheth

Peter Nero