

20-8

**REPORT**  
General Government II Budget  
Monday, April 21, 2008

Chairperson Mary Teicholz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the caucus room 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Danbury City Hall. Present were committee members Phil Curran, James Johnson, Warren Levy, and Charles Trombetta, also attending were David St. Hilaire, Director of Finance; Virginia Alosco-Werner, Personnel Director; Daniel Jowdy, Treasurer; ex-officio Council Members Joseph Cavo, Louise McMahon, Colleen Stanley, Duane Perkins, Fred Visconti, Ben Chianese, Paul Rotello; and members of the public

Chairperson Teicholz stated the purpose of the meeting was to review the general government departments for the budget and asked the Finance Director to speak about each.

The Director of Finance Mr. St. Hilaire started with **Finance** and said that the department is fully staffed so regular salaries are up, but that most of the numbers are in line with last year.

**Independent Audit** is up a little, but is in line with contractual obligations

**Retirement Administration** needs additional funds due to anticipated retirements.

**City Treasurer** is in line with last year and reflects a salary change.

**Data Processing:** some expenditure from Town Clerk and Assessor will be transferred into the IT budget and those departments will show corresponding reductions.

**311 and T3:** in house web hosting has seen significant increases for communication services.

**Leased Equipment** has gone up and is based upon a lease schedule to replace computers periodically

**Maintenance office equipment & furniture** has increased due to software and equipment changes. *Mr. Trombetta asked how the amount originally requested was reduced to the currently proposed amount and Mr. St. Hilaire said the amount was deferred to another year. Mr. Perkins asked what percentage is for the 311 line. Mr. St. Hilaire said it is \$80K.*

**Assessor:** the drop in this department will be reflected in the increase to the Data processing / IT budget.

**Assessment Appeals** is a little less than last year. There will be no Re-Val next year. Tax Collector has a change due to the cost associated with the collection of delinquent taxes by an outside service which has been very successful in bringing in revenue for the city.

**Purchasing** budget is flat with last year.

**Personnel/Civil Service:** professional services have gone up and there's a slight increase in salaries. We now have a full acting Personnel director with an increase in responsibilities and salary, and the Finance Director has a decreased salary with reduced responsibility. This results in a \$10K net savings.

**Labor Negotiation:** we expect \$75K to be sufficient for this year.

**FICA** is based on salaries

**Pension Expense** has been dropping due to the performance of our portfolio

**Employee Service Benefit** contains sick leave payouts, longevity payouts and DMEA contract amounts.

**Workers Compensation** is expected to be about \$600K.

**State Employment Compensation** is flat

**Employee Health & Life Insurance** we're controlling the growth of the costs so the result will be 8%-10% instead of 15%

**Union Welfare Benefit& Contributions** is a calculation of their salaries.

**Risk Management** amounts are about the same as last year.

**Interest on Debt** for the schools and the city collectively is going up due to the bond issues over the last few years. These are all fixed items.

**Contingency** is for items of uncertainty

**Capital:** \$2.5 million in Notes for five separate projects: LOCIP is for annual items such as sidewalk repair, boilers, traffic items, etc. There was much discussion about the Capital items. Questions were asked about patrol vehicle replacement, School Technology, Richter House and the Enterprise Fund.

Councilman Johnson **moved to Accept General Government II Budget as presented by the Mayor.** Seconded by Councilman Curran. The ***motion passed 4 yes 0 nay and 1 abstention (with Councilman Levy Abstaining).***

Mr. Johnson **moved to adjourn at 8:20 p.m.** Seconded by Mr. Curran. ***Motion passed unanimously.***

Respectfully submitted,

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Mary Teicholz, Chairperson

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Phil Curran

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Johnson

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Charles Trombetta

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Warren Levy