

The General Government II Budget Committee met on March 12, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. in the third floor Caucus Room in City Hall. In attendance were Chairwoman Basso, committee members Johnson, Rotello and Taborsak. Mr. Trombetta is out of town (his father is ill).

Also in attendance was Director of Finance and Personnel Dena Diorio, Chief of Staff Michael McLachlan of the Mayor's office, Council members Cutsumpas, Saadi, Chianese, Seabury, Visconti, Esposito, Cavo, Stanley and Perkins, City Treasurer Dan Jowdy & Assistant Director of Finance Dan Garrick and members of the public.

Ms. Diorio read from the narratives and explained the functions of the line items.

Finance Department - Salaries is lower. The finance director replacement will make less than what Ms. Diorio makes. Mr. Rotello asked: 5030 overtime - what is it used for? Preparation of budget; new Kronos program; at both the end of fiscal year / beginning of next year; Ms. Taborsak: loss of exec secretary and addition of new position - Ms. Diorio said same person with new increased responsibilities. Ms. Taborsak asked will there be a separation of positions of finance & personnel director? Can we lower the \$120,000 to \$100,000 and still get a good person? Ms. Diorio said it would be separated and that's the average for the state. Mr. Saadi - separation of finance & personnel director - how will the separation work? Mayor plans to keep Ms. Alosco-Werner as acting personnel director and keep the finance director as just the finance director Ms. Diorio - no plan to increase the salary in personnel. Mr. Chianese - objective to go electronic but postage is the same. Working with vendors on the electronic - still need regular postage. Will the procedural manual be done through finance office? Ms. Diorio said yes.

Independent Audit - 07/08 year 5 of 5 year contract - it will have to go out to bid

Retirement Administration - fees paid to actuary charged off to pension fund - dollars associated with pension proposals

City Treasurer - all elected officials got 3% increase & w/c allocation

Data Processing - 75% to police & 25% fire - Wendell Ward - not paid from data processing but he is counted in personnel total - leased equip: Kronos lease payments / 2 year lease. Ms. Taborsak asked: why are these reduced? 5315 update to enterprise Q alert will not be done / 5330 req. for 2 new applications / 5600 software for pictometry / Is staffing @ 4 people good? Mr. Chianese: why overtime for DP? Ms. Diorio said there could be an equipment failure during the night - major upgrade over the weekend - cannot interrupt daily work

Mr. Saadi: There was a 3% increase for elected officials - did the Council approve this? Ms. Diorio said Council voted for a 2 year approval (this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year) and then adopt at the subsequent budget process

Bureau of Assessments - increase O/T; in the middle of revaluation / Site development work - increase in charge for website / outside services for Sewall to update maps / Software costs for vision appraisal.

Board of Assessment Appeals - increase O/T and postage - revaluation is going on. Ms. Taborsak asked who are the citizen commission members?

Tax Collector - training increased - Mr. Ferguson going to Certification & Ms. DeVine for her certification / outside services increase: (1) pay DM/V to do registration holds \$13,900 (2) hired a collection agency to track down very old motor vehicle accounts. Mr. Chianese: why did gross assessment M/V go down? Ms. Diorio said people are not buying new cars - assessment stays

flat - we did just hire a company who is going to check on people who are not registering. Mr. Rotello: for training in the middle of CT what do we reimburse for mileage? Ms. Diorio said 0.48

Purchasing - outside services to update fixed asset inventory last year – nothing this year

Personnel/Civil Service - increase in O/T for staff to attend civil service tests in the evening – new project HRIS system to interface with payroll – 2 part time @ 19 hrs each / Training increase – management development training \$1,500 / module – will do 4 modules next year and computer training. Mr. Saadi: how were the firms picked for the background checks & drug analysis – Ms. Diorio said we bid on the background check and went to CCM for drug testing– which works through the state – corporate health was not available 24 hrs /day in case a driver was in an accident we would need someone available @ 2 am. Mr. Rotello: how did you arrive @ \$14,000 for employer reference services – driven on what we project in new hires / Drug testing - \$65 to corporate health. Ms. Taborsak: professional services less \$65,000 – Deputy Personnel Director over estimated - training figure – lower now. Mr. Johnson: who would management training target? Ms. Diorio said the management at City Hall. Mr. Johnson asked if maybe later there could be succession training for those who may want to move up – get promoted.

Labor Negotiations - outside labor counsel – Shipman & Goodwin – negotiations with Fire & DMEA coming up this year. Mr. Rotello asked why professional services is lower. Ms. Diorio said last year we were in arbitration with police.

FICA - withholding tax – police & fire only pay Medicare portion) driven by budgeted salaries)

Pension -going down

Employee Service Benefit - paying contractual payment to employees for unused sick & longevity payments – amount coming down with retirees.

Workers' Compensation – payment for heart & hypertension payments

State Unemployment Compensation – keep flat at \$35,000 – this year we had a lot of claims so we'll probably spend the whole thing.

Employee Health & Life Insurance - 3% increase over current year – retirement portion carved out & moved to post. Life insurance – 17% over current year – budget high / Dental insurance – 13% over current year / Drugs 15% over current year / Post employment benefits 5.4 million. Mr. Rotello: 05/06 - \$422 for dental – now it's 510 / hard figure? Ms. Diorio: we try to negotiate renewal to the very end – predict a 13% increase. Mr. Chianese: retirement benefits: pay as you go portion: 4.1 million City's required contribution is \$7 million - we're doing \$1.2 million. Saadi asked what is our total unfunded accrued liability: \$73.4 million liability and Board of Education is \$20 million / Increasing by \$1.2 million / year – how long until we're fully funded: amortized over 30 years.

Union Welfare - health insurance for teamsters – rates are negotiated hourly rate \$6.26 /hr for every employee that is a teamster

Insurance - professional services going down to \$70,000 – evaluation is done so it will be taken out – not due again until next year / insurance up – volunteer firefighter policy - increased benefit / Deductible expenses & w/c – increased. Ms. Taborsak: Does auto include police & fire and public works? Yes. Mr. Rotello: is that what we actually pay out for deductibles? Yes

Interest on Debt - includes all interest payment on outstanding bonds and for bond sale planned for July

Interest on Debt/School - current interest payments and another bond sale in July

Redemption of Debt - principal payment on current bonds – pay down \$500,000 / year

Redemption of Debt /School - payment due on outstanding school bonds

Contingency - 1.3 million outstanding labor contracts. Mr. Saadi asked roughly how much is divided up. Ms. Diorio gave him a %

Capital - no referendums next year - \$500,000 in notes and \$550,000 for LOCIP – listed out on page 334 – new vehicles for health / 5 for police / replace roof @ public works / renovation at public works complex / 50,000 for spill prevention control at public utility – DEP requirement / \$100,000 in paving & drainage / 75,000 Richter Park Authority / master plan / Park Avenue school / burners @ mill ridge school / \$100,000 sidewalk / \$250,000 to White Street streetscape / repairs to field @ Rogers park

Mr. Saadi: with regards to Richter park master plan – do you recall cost of Tarrywile master plan? Ms. Diorio: City paid for that update - don't know the cost. Mr. Saadi \$75,000 feels this is high – do we know who will be doing this? Mike McLachlan said Jane Didona. Mr. Chianese: what type of vehicles? Purchased or leased? Out of this line item they are purchased.

Mr. Johnson moved to accept the General Government II Budget as presented by Mayor Boughton. Mr. Rotello seconded. Motion passed unanimously

Mr. Rotello moved to adjourn. Mr. Johnson seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned @ 6:55 p.m.

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Pauline Basso, Chair

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Jim Johnson

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Paul Rotello

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Lynn Taborsak

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Charles Trombetta