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ACTION REPORT (MINUTES) OF THE BOARD OF FINANCE SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING

Monday, April 15, 2019
Stamford Government Center
Board of Finance Conference Room

A special meeting to approve the Mayor's Proposed FY 2019-20 Operating, Special Fund, and Capital and the Board of Education Budgets of the City of Stamford was held by the Board of Finance on Monday, April 15, 2019 at the Stamford Government Center in the Board of Finance Conference room on the 4th Floor. *Members present* were Chair Richard Freedman, Vice-Chair Mary Lou Rinaldi, and Board members, Sal Gabriele, David Kooris, Kieran Ryan and Dudley Williams. Also present were Jay Fountain, Director of OPM, Anthony Romano, OPM Management Analyst, Adrienne Tovar, OPM Management Analyst and Cynthia Winterle, Clerk of the Board. Chair Freedman opened the meeting at 7:02 PM and invited all to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mr. Freedman reviewed the budget process to this point and then asked all to turn to page 317 of the budget book to start with the Board of Education.

The Board adjourned the meeting at 10:12 PM after passing the following motions:

OPERATING BUDGET

On a motion by Mr. Freedman which was seconded by Mr. Williams, to reduce \$2,661,000 from the Board of Education total budget (Program 9000), consisting of a reduction of \$561,000 from Board of Education Pension & OPEB and \$2,100,000 from the Board of Education which passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0-0.

On a motion by Ms. Rinaldi, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to make an additional reduction to the Board of Education of \$2,400,000 failed to pass with a vote of 3-3-0 with members Freedman, Kooris and Williams opposed.

On a motion by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Gabriele, to make a total reduction of \$50,000 to the Full Time Salary lines allocated to the following positions listed below (all reductions proposed are to Fund 01 except as noted):

- \$6,405 Mayor (Program 5010)
- \$4,764 Chief of Staff (Program 5010)
- \$4,764 Director of Administration (Program 1010)
- \$4,764 Director of Legal Affairs (Program 4010)
- \$4,764 Director of Public Safety, Health and Welfare (Program 3101)
- \$4,283 Director of Economic Development (Program 1200)
- \$4,517 Director of Health (Program 3810)
- \$4,517 Director of Human Resources (Program 4020)
- \$3,815 Board of Representatives Legislative Officer (Program 5020)
- \$4,283 Bureau Chief of Transportation and Traffic (Fund 29, Program 2139)
- \$5,000 'other salary' two (2) special assistants to the Mayor (Program 5010)

After a discussion on this matter, before a vote was taken, Mr. Kooris made a motion, seconded by Mr. Williams, to amend the total reduction of the above salaries to \$20,000, allocated proportionally, which passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0-0.

Ms. Rinaldi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to reduce the Full Time Salary line in Controller - Financial Processing and Reporting (Program 1032) by \$133,704. The motion failed to pass with a vote of 3-3-0 with Messrs. Freedman, Kooris and Williams opposed.

Ms. Rinaldi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to reduce the Other Salary line in Purchasing – Purchasing (Program 1040) by \$15,000, which passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0-0.

Ms. Rinaldi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Williams, to reduce the Other Salary line in the Office of Policy & Management – Office of Policy & Management (Program 1011) by \$30,000. The motion failed to pass with a vote of 3-3-0 with Messrs. Freedman, Kooris and Williams opposed.

Mr. Gabriele made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to reduce the Overtime line in the Office of Policy & Management – Office of Policy & Management (Program 1011) by \$1,000. The motion failed to pass with a vote of 2-4-0 with Ms. Rinaldi and Messrs. Freedman, Kooris and Williams opposed.

Mr. Kooris made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to reduce the Full Time Salary line in Technology Management Services - Technology Management Services (Program 1060) by \$34,524, which passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0-0.

Mr. Kooris made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gabriele, to reduce the Overtime line in the Assessor – Assessor (Program 1020) by \$2,500, which passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0-0.

Mr. Gabriele made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to reduce the Full Time salary line in Road Maintenance - Road Maintenance (Program 2111) by \$7,697. The motion failed to pass with a vote of 2-4-0 with Ms. Rinaldi and Messrs. Freedman, Kooris and Williams opposed.

Mr. Williams made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce the Overtime line in Fleet Management - Vehicle Maintenance (Program 2121) by \$25,000, which passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0-0.

Mr. Freedman made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce the Professional Consultant line in Fleet Management - Vehicle Maintenance (Program 2121) by \$15,000, which passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0-0.

Mr. Gabriele made a motion to reduce the Full Time Salary line in Fleet Management - Vehicle Maintenance (Program 2121) by \$25,000. Before a vote was taken, Mr. Freedman made a motion to amend the reduction to \$3,000, which was seconded by Ms. Rinaldi and passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0-0.

Ms. Rinaldi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to reduce the Full Time Salary line in Facilities & Parks Maintenance – Maintenance Administration (Program 2128) by \$53,097, which passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0-0.

Mr. Ryan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kooris, to reduce the Miscellaneous Contingency line in Facilities & Parks Maintenance – Maintenance Administration (Program 2128) by \$25,000, which failed to pass with a vote of 3-3-0 with Messrs. Freedman, Kooris and Williams opposed.

Ms. Rinaldi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kooris, to reduce the Full Time Salary line in Facilities and Parks Maintenance – Leased Facilities (Program 2129) by \$200,374, which failed to pass with a vote of 3-3-0 with Messrs. Freedman, Kooris and Williams opposed.

Mr. Williams made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce the Overtime line in Full Time Salary line in Facilities and Parks Maintenance – Government Center (Program 2133) by \$10,000, which passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0-0.

Ms. Rinaldi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to reduce the Diesel Fuel line in Solid Waste - Recycling (Program 2142) by \$9,851, which passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0-0.

Mr. Kooris made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce the Full Time Salary line in the Building Department - Building Department (Program 2137) by \$44,323, which passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0-0.

Ms. Rinaldi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to reduce the Full Time Salary line in the Building Department - Building Department (Program 2137) by \$38,637 which failed to pass with a vote of 3-3-0 with Messrs. Freedman, Kooris and Williams opposed.

Ms. Rinaldi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gabriele, to reduce the Full Time Salary line in Land Use – Land Use Administration (Program 2300) by \$37,463, which passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0-0.

Mr. Gabriele made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce the Full Time Salary line in Land Use – Planning (Program 2310) by \$33,779, which passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0-0.

Ms. Rinaldi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gabriele, to reduce the Full Time Salary line in Land Use - Zoning (Program 2320) by \$50,077, which passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0-0.

Ms. Rinaldi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to reduce the Part-Time Salary line in Land Use - Environmental Protection (Program 2340) by \$36,767 but, before a vote was taken, Mr. Freedman made a motion to amend the amount to \$26,767, which passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0-0.

Mr. Kooris made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce the Facility Rental line in Leisure Services - Star Center (Program 2528) by \$85,471 and to reduce the Other Salary line by \$10,000, which passed with a vote of 4-1-1 with Mr. Gabriele opposed and Mr. Ryan abstaining.

Ms. Rinaldi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Williams, to reduce the Contracted Services line in Leisure Services – Self-Sustaining Programs (Program 2535) by \$6,377, which passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0-0.

Mr. Freedman made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce the Full Time Salary line in Public Safety, Health and Welfare Administration - Emergency Communications Center (Program 3350) by \$45,758, which passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0-0.

Mr. Kooris made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce the Full Time Salary line in the Police Department – Police Department Administration (Program 3300) by \$23,841, the equivalent of partial-year salary of an office support specialist, which passed with a vote of 5-1-0 with Mr. Gabriele opposed.

Ms. Rinaldi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to reduce the Full Time Salary line in the Health Department - Director of Health (Program 3810) by \$43,075, which passed with a vote of 4-2-0 with Messrs. Freedman and Williams opposed.

Mr. Ryan made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce the Professional Consultant line in Legal Affairs – Legal Department by \$25,000, which passed with a vote of 5-0-0 (Mr. Kooris left the room briefly).

Ms. Rinaldi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to reduce the Full Time salary line in Human Resources - Human Resources (Program 4020) by \$76,572 eliminating two new positions (customer service specialist \$28,725 and human resources generalist \$47,847), which passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0-0.

Mr. Gabriele made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce the Full Time Salary line in Citizen's Service - Citizen's Service Center (Program 2520) by \$89,159, which passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0-0.

Mr. Freedman made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce the Youth Services - Youth Services Bureau (Program 5081) by \$25,000 to be taken proportionally out of the three salary lines, which passed with a vote of 5-1-0 with Mr. Gabriele opposed.

Mr. Gabriele made a motion to reduce the Overtime line in Government Services - Board of Representatives by \$5,000, which failed to pass due to there being no second to the motion.

Mr. Ryan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Freedman, to reduce the Professional Consultant line in Government Services - Board of Finance (Program 5030) by \$12,500, which passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0-0.

Mr. Freedman made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to make a reduction to the Human Resources - Active Medical and Life (Program 8301) line of \$500,000, but before a vote was taken, Mr. Ryan made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Gabriele, to amend the amount to \$750,000. Following a discussion Mr. Gabriele withdrew his motion to amend the original motion. The Board then voted on the originally proposed reduction of \$500,000, which passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0-0.

Mr. Gabriele made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to reduce Inspirica in Non-City Agencies - Social Services (Program 6055) by \$300,000, but before a vote was taken, Ms. Rinaldi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to amend the amount to \$27,000, which passed with a vote of 5-1-0 with Mr. Freedman opposed.

Mr. Kooris made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce the Bartlett Arboretum in Non-City Agencies – Cultural and Environmental (Program 6056) by \$10,000, which passed with a vote of 5-0-1 with Mr. Williams abstaining.

Mr. Kooris made a motion, seconded by Mr. Williams, to reduce the Stamford Partnership in Non-City Agencies - Cultural and Environmental (Program 6056) by \$10,000, but, before a vote was taken, Mr. Ryan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gabriele, to reduce the Stamford Partnership \$60,000 but the motion failed to pass with a vote of 3-3-0 with Messrs. Freedman, Kooris and Williams opposed. The Board then voted on the originally proposed reduction of \$10,000, which passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0-0.

Mr. Kooris made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce the Community Grants program in Non-City Agencies, Cultural and Environmental (Program 6056) by \$10,000, which passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0-0.

Ms. Rinaldi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to reduce OTHRA in Non-City Agencies – Cultural and Environmental (Program 6056) by \$39,639, which passed with a vote of 4-2-0 with Messrs. Kooris and Williams opposed.

Mr. Gabriele made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan (at this point in the meeting Mr. Williams recused himself) to reduce the Mill River Collaborative in Non-City Agencies – Cultural and Environmental (Program 6056), by \$129,000 but before a vote was taken, Mr. Ryan made a motion to increase the amount to \$331,000, which failed with a vote of 2-3-0 with Ms. Rinaldi and Messrs. Freedman and Kooris opposed. When the Board voted on the originally proposed reduction of \$129,000 it also failed with a vote of 2-3-0 with Ms. Rinaldi and Messrs. Freedman and Kooris opposed. Mr. Williams then returned to the meeting.

Mr. Ryan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gabriele to reduce the DSSD in Non-City Agencies – Cultural and Environmental (Program 6056) by \$26,000, which failed to pass with a vote of 2-3-1 with Messrs. Freedman, Kooris and Williams opposed and Ms. Rinaldi abstaining.

SPECIAL FUNDS

Mr. Freedman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Williams, to a reduction of \$500,000 to Risk Management Active Medical and Life medical claims, which passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0-0.

Mr. Kooris made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce \$58,728 from Administration - Transfer to Other Funds but before a motion was taken another motion was made by Mr. Kooris, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi to reduce \$57,728 from Grants Administration - Immunization Expansion Program Grant. Following a discussion, both motions were withdrawn, with no action taken.

Mr. Gabriele made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to reduce the general fund by \$4,000,000, which failed to pass with a vote of 2-4-0 with Ms. Rinaldi and Messrs. Freedman, Kooris and Williams opposed.

At this point in the meeting Chair Richard Freedman proposed a 15-minute break beginning at 9:45 p.m.

Following the break, at 9:58, the meeting resumed.

CAPITAL FUNDS

Mr. Freedman made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce \$650,000 from District Wide Modular Construction (000671). The motion passed with a vote of 5-1-0 with Mr. Gabriele opposed.

Mr. Freedman made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce \$950,000 from District Wide Fixed Construction (000670). The motion passed with a vote of 5-1-0 with Mr. Gabriele opposed.

Mr. Williams made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi to reduce \$50,000,000 from District-wide Building Envelope Work and Mechanical System Renovation (000672) as it was appropriated at the Board of Finance April monthly meeting. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0-0.

Ms. Rinaldi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to reduce \$500,000 from Bartlett Arboretum – Greenhouse (000360). The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0-0.

Mr. Freedman made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce \$100,000 from District-Wide Facilities Equipment (CPB002). The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0-0.

Mr. Kooris made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce \$925,000 from Perna Lane Area Sewers (C22046). The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0-0.

Mr. Kooris made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce \$500,000 from Wedgemere Road Sewers (C20052). The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at 10:12 p.m.

This meeting is on video.

[Part 1](#)

[Part 2](#)

Cynthia Winterle

Cynthia Winterle, Clerk of the Board