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

Tuesday, April 19, 2022

A special meeting to approve the Mayor's Proposed FY 2022-23 Operating, Special Fund, Capital and Board of Education Budgets of the City of Stamford was held by the Board of Finance on Tuesday, April 19, 2022, via webinar. The meeting was convened at 7:02 PM. Members present were Chair Richard Freedman, Vice-Chair Mary Lou Rinaldi, Geoff Alswanger, Dennis Mahoney, David Mannis and J.R. McMullen. Also present were Sandy Dennies, Director of Administration, Lee Berta, Assistant Director, OPM, Adrianne Tovar, OPM Management Analyst, and Anthony Romano, Management Analyst, OPM.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: There were no speakers.

Mr. Freedman gave a short update on the current state of the budget and summarized the Board of Finance's process leading to this evening's meeting. He reviewed the order of the meeting.

The Board adjourned the meeting at 9:17 PM after passing the following motions:

BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET

On a motion by Mr. Freedman, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce the Board of Education budget (Program 9000) by \$4,350,000 passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0-0. Before passing, a motion to amend the original motion to reduce the Board of Education budget (Program 9000) by \$8,500,000 was made by Dennis Mahoney. The amended motion failed by a vote of 2-4. Ms. Rinaldi, Mr. Alswanger, Mr. Mannis and Mr. Freedman voted against.

CITY OPERATIONS BUDGET

A motion by Mr. Mannis, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce Controller/Salaries (Program 1032) by one position, \$143,700, passed unanimously (6-0-0).

A motion by Ms. Rinaldi, seconded by Mr. McMullen, to reduce Government Center Overtime (Program 2133) by \$15,000 passed unanimously (6-0-0).

A motion by Ms. Rinaldi, seconded by Mr. Alswanger, to reduce Star Center (Program 2528) by \$100,000 passed unanimously (6-0-0).

A motion by Mr. Alswanger, seconded by Mr. McMullen, to reduce Police Administration (Program 3300) by \$500,000 passed unanimously (6-0-0).

A motion by Mr. Mahoney, seconded by Mr. Alswanger, to reduce Police/Body Worn Cameras by \$266,302 passed unanimously (6-0-0). [\$113,500 (Program 3300), \$150,000 (Program 3301) and \$2,802 (Program 3303)]

A motion by Mr. Mannis, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce Fire Administration (Program 3510) by \$100,000 passed unanimously (6-0-0).

A motion by Mr. Alswanger, seconded by Mr. Mannis, to reduce Legal Department (Program 4010) by \$50,000 passed unanimously (6-0-0).

A motion by Mr. Freedman, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to make a reduction of \$60,000 to Non City Social Services (Program 6055) passed unanimously (6-0-0).

A motion by Mr. Freedman, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to reduce the Cultural & Environmental-Non City Cult/Mill River Collaborative (Program 6056) by \$25,000 passed unanimously (6-0-0).

A motion by Ms. Rinaldi, seconded by Mr. Mahoney to reduce the Cultural & Environmental-Non City Cult/Sound Waters (Program 6056) by \$20,000 passed unanimously (6-0-0).

A motion by Mr. Mannis, seconded by Mr. Mahoney to reduce Cultural & Environmental-Non City Cult/Chamber of Commerce (Program 6056) by \$30,000 passed unanimously (6-0-0).

CAPITAL BUDGET

A motion by Ms. Rinaldi, seconded by Mr. Mannis, to reduce Observatory – Astronomy & Physical Science Center (000122) by \$1,000,000 passed (4-2-0). Mr. Mahoney and Mr. McMullen voted against.

A motion by Mr. McMullen, seconded by Mr. Mahoney to reduce Animal Shelter (CP6670) by \$2,200,000 failed (2-3). Ms. Rinaldi, Mr. Mannis and Mr. Alswanger voted against. Mr. Freedman recused himself from this item.

A motion by Mr. Freedman, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to eliminate Pakenmer Road Reconstruction (00594) item of \$300,000 passed unanimously (6-0-0).

A motion by Mr. Freedman, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, to eliminate Playground Rehabilitation (C56139) item of \$250,000 City Funds and \$575,000 Grant Funds passed unanimously (6-0-0).

A motion by Mr. Alswanger, seconded by Mr. McMullen, to reduce John Boccuzzi Park @ Southfield (CP8701) by \$900,000 passed unanimously (6-0-0).

FY 22-23 Summary of Reductions	
Board of Education budget reductions	(\$4,350,000)
City budget reductions	(\$1,310,002)
Capital budget reductions	(\$3,025,000)
Total reductions across all funds	(\$8,685,002)

The next and last Board of Finance Special Meeting in the budget cycle is to set the Mill Rate on Tuesday, May 17, 2022 at 7 p.m. via webinar.

On a motion by Mr. McMullen, seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, the meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

This meeting is on video.

Tracy Donoghue
Tracy Donoghue, Clerk of the Board