

SPECIAL
MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
June 29, 2016

The meeting was called to order in the City Council Chamber, Municipal Building, 59 Court Street, Westfield, MA at 7:00 PM by the President.

The City Clerk called the roll. All thirteen Councilors were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States was led by the President.

Upon motion of Councilor Paul, it was
VOTED: That the Council resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to review FY 2017 Budget.

Councilor Paul, Chair of Finance Committee assumed the role of Chair of the Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Mark Cressotti, City Engineer requested the Council not support the proposed cut to the Engineering Department, Construction account in the amount of \$240,000.00. He informed the Council that with that cut his department would not be able to provide services to the City.

Councilor Dondley gave a power point presentation relative to the Levy Ceiling.

Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that you can't go back that far in time per Councilor Dondley's presentation. He informed Councilor Dondley that it is crazy to think that by not cutting any budgets any extra money will go to the reserves, if the money is in the budget, then it will all be spent.

Ms. Meghan Kane, City Treasurer requested the Council not support the proposed cut to the Collector's Department, Full Time Salary account in the amount of \$30,000.00 She informed the Council that the \$30,000 represents half year salary for a Collector.

Chair, Councilor Paul set the stage for the meeting. He informed everyone that the proposed cuts (as presented on the spreadsheet to the Councilors) came from recommendations of the Finance Committee as well as from other Councilors. He informed everyone that each item on the list will be addressed and that if anyone has additional cuts, they may offer them at the end of the meeting.

Councilor Paul addressed the first item, which was actually last on the list, for a cut of \$194,449.41 which represents 1% pay increases for City employees, spread across many line items within the budget.

Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$194,449.41 be CUT from various departments representing 1% pay increases for City employees.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Mary Ann Babinski	Yes
Brent Bean II	No
Steve Dondley	No
Ralph Figy	No
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	No
Daniel Knapik	No
Mary O'Connell	Yes
William Onyski	No
Robert Paul, Sr.	No
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Matthew VanHeynigen	No
Dan Allie	Yes

Chairman Paul declared the motion LOST.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$1,000.00 be CUT from City Council, Purchase of Services account #11110000-520000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Mary Ann Babinski	Yes
Brent Bean II	No
Steve Dondley	No
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Daniel Knapik	Yes
Mary O'Connell	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Robert Paul, Sr.	Yes
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Matthew VanHeynigen	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

Chairman Paul declared the motion PASSED.

Upon motion of Councilor O'Connell, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$2,000.00 be CUT from Auditor's Department, FT Hourly account #11350000-511100.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Mary Ann Babinski	Yes
Brent Bean II	No
Steve Dondley	No
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	No
Daniel Knapik	No
Mary O'Connell	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Robert Paul, Sr.	Yes
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Matthew VanHeynigen	No
Dan Allie	Yes

Chairman Paul declared the motion PASSED.

Upon motion of Councilor Bean, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$41,000.00 be CUT from the Purchasing Department, Purchase of Services account #11380000-520000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Mary Ann Babinski	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes
Steve Dondley	No
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Daniel Knapik	Yes
Mary O'Connell	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Robert Paul, Sr.	Yes
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Matthew VanHeynigen	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

Chairman Paul declared the motion PASSED.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Bean informed the Council that the cut represents a savings of 10% on more efficient LED street lights that have been installed within the City.

Councilor Flaherty offered a motion which was duly seconded to either amend the proposed cut of \$30,000.00 in the Collector's Department, FT Salary to zero to withdraw the proposed cut. Councilor Figy was opposed. Councilor Figy suggested sending the \$30,000.00

to the Auditor's Department to be used as a transition plan when City Auditor Debbie Strycharz retires in the fall. Councilor Knapik informed him that the Council cannot add money to departments, they only may cut money. Councilor Flaherty suggested that at the time of the Auditor's retirement funds can be appropriated or transferred at that time. Councilor Figy withdrew his opposition.

Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was
VOTED: That the proposed cut of \$30,000.00 within the Collector's Department, FT Salary be
WITHDRAWN.

Upon motion of Councilor O'Connell, it was
VOTED: That the sum of \$25,000.00 be CUT from the Law Department, Purchase of Services
account #11510000-520000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Mary Ann Babinski	Yes
Brent Bean II	No
Steve Dondley	No
Ralph Figy	No
Dave Flaherty	No
Cindy Harris	No
Daniel Knapik	No
Mary O'Connell	Yes
William Onyski	No
Robert Paul, Sr.	No
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Matthew VanHeynigen	No
Dan Allie	Yes

Chairman Paul declared the motion LOST:

Prior to the vote, Councilor Bean expressed his concern that it was a significant cut and that the department has done an outstanding job. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that the department is doing work for the Schools and that there should be a chargeback for those services and if the chargeback was received the account could be cut. Councilor O'Connell explained the rationale for the significant cut which was due to the fact there are a large number of Attorneys in the department therefore there is no need for outside Counsel. Councilor Figy informed the Council that if the Police Department was to have a suit filed against them involving a lot of Officers, each Officer must be provided an Attorney and then outside Counsel would be necessary.

Councilor O'Connell offered a motion which was duly seconded to cut \$25,000.00 from the Law Department, Judgments account #11510000-576000. She informed the Council that if the department needs more money for a judgment they can come before the Council and that way the Council is aware of the judgments that are being paid out. Councilor Figy informed the Council that he wouldn't want to see the department come before the Council for every

pothole claim that was settled. Councilor Harris expressed her concern that not having the funds in the department may tie their hands in making decisions relative to settlements.

Upon motion of Councilor Surprise, it was

VOTED: That the above motion be amended to the sum of \$10,000.00 be CUT from Law Department, Judgments account #11510000-576000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Mary Ann Babinski	Yes
Brent Bean II	No
Steve Dondley	No
Ralph Figy	No
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	No
Daniel Knapik	No
Mary O'Connell	Yes
William Onyski	No
Robert Paul, Sr.	No
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Matthew VanHeynigen	No
Dan Allie	Yes

Chairman Paul declared the motion LOST.

Councilor O'Connell withdrew her original motion to cut \$25,000.00.

Upon motion of Councilor O'Connell, it was

VOTED: That the sum of \$2,000.00 be CUT from Personnel Department, Purchase of Services account #11520000-520000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Mary Ann Babinski	Yes
Brent Bean II	No
Steve Dondley	No
Ralph Figy	No
Dave Flaherty	No
Cindy Harris	No
Daniel Knapik	No
Mary O'Connell	Yes
William Onyski	No
Robert Paul, Sr.	No
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Matthew VanHeynigen	No
Dan Allie	Yes

Chairman Paul declared the motion LOST.

Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was VOTED: That the proposed cut of \$20,000.00 within the IT Department, Purchase of Services account be WITHDRAWN.

Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that the cut was proposed relative to the cost of the MUNIS system which is a very expensive system with the idea to look at other systems or to consolidate with other cities to share license costs.

Upon motion of Councilor O'Connell, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$500.00 be CUT from Community Development Department, Overtime account #11820000-513000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Mary Ann Babinski	Yes
Brent Bean II	No
Steve Dondley	No
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	No
Daniel Knapik	No
Mary O'Connell	Yes
William Onyski	No
Robert Paul, Sr.	No
Andrew Surprise	No
Matthew VanHeynigen	No
Dan Allie	Yes

Chairman Paul declared the motion LOST.

Prior to the vote, Councilor O'Connell informed the Council that the Department Head informed the Finance Committee that he was ok with the cut. Councilor Bean informed the Council that he didn't know how many meetings that money would entail but informed the Council that there is no reason the secretary didn't get paid for doing the meetings.

Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that the proposed cut of \$15,000.00 from the Community Development, Purchase of Services account was a combination recommendation from the Finance Committee and two different Councilors. Councilor VanHeynigen offered a motion to amend the cut to \$10,000.00. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that part of the cut was to cut the money for the Music Fest because it should not be paid with taxpayers money. He informed the Council that last year he made a personal donation for the Music Fest and that others should make donations this year to the Music Fest.

Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$5,000.00 be CUT from Community Development Department, Purchase of Services account #11820000-520000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Mary Ann Babinski	Yes
Brent Bean II	No
Steve Dondley	No
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Daniel Knapik	No
Mary O'Connell	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Robert Paul, Sr.	No
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Matthew VanHeynigen	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

Chairman Paul declared the motion PASSED.

Councilor O'Connell offered a motion which was duly seconded to cut \$20,000.00 from Community Development, Economic Development account. Councilor Figy informed the Council that money should not be cut from any account that is trying to bring in more business. Councilor Knapik informed the Council that he would not support the cut.

Upon motion of Councilor O'Connell, it was

VOTED: That the above motion be amended to the sum of \$5,000.00 be CUT from Community Development, Economic Development account #11820000-580500.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Mary Ann Babinski	Yes
Brent Bean II	No
Steve Dondley	No
Ralph Figy	No
Dave Flaherty	No
Cindy Harris	No
Daniel Knapik	No
Mary O'Connell	Yes
William Onyski	No
Robert Paul, Sr.	No
Andrew Surprise	No
Matthew VanHeynigen	No
Dan Allie	No

Chairman Paul declared the motion LOST.

After the vote, Councilor O'Connell informed the Council that the Finance Committee was trying to get to a certain number for cuts and with no support this number would not be reached. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that after spending a lot of time with the Department Head, he does not support cutting any money from that account. Councilor

Dondley informed the Council that money should not be cut from economic development. Councilor Babinski informed the Council that per the Community Development Director the funds are earmarked for shovel ready projects at the Airport development but due to the water situation the projects may not be shovel ready.

At this point Councilor VanHeynigen left the meeting.

Upon motion of Councilor O'Connell, it was VOTED: That the sum of \$5,000.00 be CUT from Westfield Redevelopment Authority account #11890000-560000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Mary Ann Babinski	Yes
Brent Bean II	No
Steve Dondley	No
Ralph Figy	No
Dave Flaherty	No
Cindy Harris	No
Daniel Knapik	No
Mary O'Connell	Yes
William Onyski	No
Robert Paul, Sr.	No
Andrew Surprise	No
Matthew VanHeynigen	Absent
Dan Allie	No

Chairman Paul declared the motion LOST.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Knapik informed the Council that the Elm Street project is starting to get rolling and would not want to slow down the appraisals and property takings and will not support the cut. Councilor Bean questioned what the cut is for. Councilor Paul informed him that the cut came from a budget meeting. Councilor O'Connell informed the Council that she put the request for the cut to the Finance Committee. Councilor Bean questioned Councilor O'Connell as to the reasoning behind the cut. Councilor O'Connell informed him that the goal is to cut the budget so not to be faced with increased taxes. Councilor Dondley informed the Council that cutting does not get City safer unless money goes into reserve accounts. Councilor Allie informed the Council that values have been flat for years and only the Mayor can allot for reserve accounts and what money to put there, it doesn't have to do with budget.

At this point Councilor VanHeynigen returned to the meeting.

Councilor Figy offered a motion which was duly seconded to cut \$2,500.00 from the Airport Department, Purchase of Services account #11990000-520000 for Marketing. He informed the Council that the Community Development can do the marketing for the Airport. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that the Airport Department Head needs the money for a potential million dollar revenue project for the hangars and will support leaving the

money in the account. Councilor Knapik informed the Council that it's a unique operation for revenue at the Airport and it's important to have the money available.

Councilor Figy withdrew the motion. Councilor Babinski was opposed.

Upon motion of Councilor O'Connell, it was

VOTED: That the sum of \$10,000.00 be CUT from Airport Department, Noise Mitigation account #11990000-580000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Mary Ann Babinski	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes
Steve Dondley	No
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	No
Cindy Harris	Yes
Daniel Knapik	No
Mary O'Connell	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Robert Paul, Sr.	Yes
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Matthew VanHeynigen	No
Dan Allie	Yes

Chairman Paul declared the motion PASSED.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Onyski informed the Council that the Noise Mitigation project could get away with the cut. Councilor Knapik informed the Council that the project has a clockwork program and it cannot be cut. Councilor VanHeynigen informed the Council that the Airport Manager was not specifically asked about the noise project. Councilor O'Connell informed the Council that there have been a lot of complaints about the project and how it's being run. Councilor Knapik informed the Council that the Wylie Association is under contract with the City. Councilor Paul informed the Council that there was no direct conversation with the Airport Manager. Councilor Bean agreed with Councilor O'Connell that the program is falling short and clearly not running efficiently and that they could come back to the Council for an appropriation if needed. Councilor Dondley informed the Council that if the money is left in that account and not used it can be put into a reserve account. Councilor Flaherty informed Councilor Dondley that it's not a proportionate thing where extra money goes into reserve accounts. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that there has only been \$49,000.00 of cuts so there is no free extra money, it does not exist. Councilor Dondley informed the Council that it's an analogy to capture as much as possible and can't do it if taxing the max. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that there has to be a balanced budget.

Upon motion of Councilor O'Connell, it was

VOTED: That the sum of \$50,000.00 be CUT from the Police Department, Overtime account #12100000-513000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Mary Ann Babinski	Yes
Brent Bean II	No
Steve Dondley	No
Ralph Figy	No
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	No
Daniel Knapik	No
Mary O'Connell	Yes
William Onyski	No
Robert Paul, Sr.	No
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Matthew VanHeynigen	No
Dan Allie	Yes

Chairman Paul declared the motion LOST.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was

VOTED: That the sum of \$10,000.00 be CUT from Fire Department, Buildings account #12200000-582000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Mary Ann Babinski	Yes
Brent Bean II	No
Steve Dondley	No
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	No
Daniel Knapik	No
Mary O'Connell	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Robert Paul, Sr.	Yes
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Matthew VanHeynigen	No
Dan Allie	Yes

Chairman Paul declared the motion PASSED.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Figy informed the Council that the department has enough money for the substation renovation. Councilor Knapik informed the Council not to neglect City buildings and go backwards and that the new Director of Facilities Bryan Forrette will have ideas on how to use the money for the buildings.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was

VOTED: That the proposed cut of \$68,744.00 within the Fire Department, FT Salary account be WITHDRAWN.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was
VOTED: That the proposed cut of \$13,748.00 within the Fire Department, Education account
be WITHDRAWN.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was
VOTED: That the proposed cut of \$10,000.00 within the Fire Department, Education account
be WITHDRAWN.

Councilor Figy offered a motion which was duly seconded to cut \$100,000.00 from the
Fire Department, Purchase of Services account. He informed the Council that the revenue from
the ambulance account can be put to that account. Councilor Knapik informed the Council
that only ambulance stuff can be taken from the ambulance account. He questioned what was
the money in that account going to be used for, was it maintenance or to purchase a pumper.
Councilor Dondley informed the Council that departments have been level funded for many
years and now to cut to the bone is very difficult. Councilor Bean informed the Council that
Chief Regan has managed the department extraordinarily and to cut a line item without a
detail of projects contained in the line item is not fair. He informed the Council he may
support a small cut, but not \$100,000.00. Councilor Knapik informed the Council that the
Chief has sat with the Mayor and there was a cut on the original submission so the Mayor has
to be comfortable with the projects for this line item to keep it in the budget.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was
VOTED: That the above motion be amended to the sum of \$25,000.00 be CUT from Fire
Department, Purchase of Services account #12200000-520000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Mary Ann Babinski	No
Brent Bean II	Yes
Steve Dondley	No
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	No
Daniel Knapik	No
Mary O'Connell	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Robert Paul, Sr.	Yes
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Matthew VanHeynigen	No
Dan Allie	Yes

Chairman Paul declared the motion PASSED.

Upon motion of Councilor O'Connell, it was
VOTED: That the sum of \$5,000.00 be CUT from Public Safety Communications Department,
Overtime account #12250000-513000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Mary Ann Babinski	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes
Steve Dondley	No
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Daniel Knapik	Yes
Mary O'Connell	Yes
William Onyski	Yes
Robert Paul, Sr.	Yes
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Matthew VanHeynigen	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

Chairman Paul declared the motion PASSED.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Knapik informed the Council that it is fine to cut this account because the department is hiring more full time employees. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that the overtime money was traded in in order to hire two new people. Councilor Dondley informed the Council that if the money is not going to be used for overtime it can be put into reserve accounts. Councilor Knapik informed him that if the \$5,000.00 is not used here it will be used in other accounts such as snow and ice. Councilor Flaherty agreed that the money will be used in other areas and won't end up in free cash.

At this point Councilor O'Connell left the meeting.

Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was

VOTED: That the sum of \$7,000.00 be CUT from Plumbing Inspector, Full Time Salary account #12430000-511000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Mary Ann Babinski	Yes
Brent Bean II	Yes
Steve Dondley	No
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Daniel Knapik	Yes
Mary O'Connell	Absent
William Onyski	Yes
Robert Paul, Sr.	Yes
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Matthew VanHeynigen	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

Chairman Paul declared the motion PASSED.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Knapik informed the Council that the Building Inspector has negotiated the salary with the new hire for the Plumbing Inspector and does not need this money.

At this point Councilor O'Connell returned to the meeting.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was

VOTED: That the proposed cut of \$4,000.00 from the Animal Control Department, Purchase of Services account be WITHDRAWN.

Councilor O'Connell abstained due to a personal conflict.

Councilor Flaherty offered a motion which was duly seconded to cut \$600,000.00 from the Westfield Public Schools budget. Councilor Dondley offered a motion which was duly seconded for a cut of \$0.00. Councilor Flaherty informed the Chair that there has not been discussion on the first motion. The Chair allowed discussion on the first motion at this time. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that a lot of time was spent on this issue. He informed the Council that the School Department informed the Finance Committee that there were no salary increases in the budget only step and educational increases, but that on the night of the Finance Committee meeting with the Schools there were approved labor contracts that valued at over \$500,000 the first year and a total value \$4 million dollars. He informed the Council that the Schools can absorb this cut. Their budget is larger and larger each year and their State Aid is declining, but their student population is declining also. He expressed is disappointment in attendance of only parents concerned with Special Education at the public hearing this past Monday (June 27th, 2016) to try to shame the Council into not voting for the cut. He informed the Council that it is the choice of the Superintendent on how to spend the budget money and it would only be the Superintendent's decision to cut Special Education, not the Council's. Councilor Surprise informed the Council that no one wants to make cuts to the Schools but they keep growing and keep raising the taxes. Councilor Figy, liaison to the Schools, informed the Council that the Schools did cut \$750,000.00 from their budget and requested that the Council not handcuff the new Superintendent by cutting the budget so severely. He informed the Council that the new Superintendent was not allowed to have input in preparing the FY17 budget. Councilor Figy offered a motion which was duly seconded to amend the cut of \$600,000.00 to a cut of \$200,000.00. Chairman Paul informed the Council that there is already an amendment out there and allow Councilor Dondley to discuss his amendment. Councilor Dondley stressed that the City's priorities has to be the kids' future and they must be supplied with adequate education and that he will vote no on any cut to the Schools. Councilor Allie reiterated that the Council cannot decide where the cuts are made. He informed the Council that even after their own cut the testing, assessment and data collection is still increasing. Councilor Bean again reiterated that only the Superintendent can cut specific line items. He agreed that a cut of \$600,000.00 is too much. He expressed his concern relative to a Level 3 District. He requested that the Council give the new Superintendent the tools he needs to be successful. Councilor O'Connell expressed her disappointment in the motion for a zero cut right out the gate. She requested that there be

further discussion on other possible cuts. Councilor Babinski informed the Council that this is a very difficult decision, that she has received a lot of emails wanting a zero tax increase and for a zero cut in the Schools. She informed the Council that the budget does have to be brought down and even though her heart is the education there has to be some kind of a cut to the School budget. Councilor Knapik reiterated that the new Superintendent needs to be given a chance to succeed and that he has a previous record of success when he was Principal at the Westfield Technical Academy.

Upon motion of Councilor Dondley, it was

VOTED: That the sum of \$0.00 be CUT from Westfield Public Schools account #13010000-000000.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Mary Ann Babinski	No
Brent Bean II	Yes
Steve Dondley	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	No
Cindy Harris	Yes
Daniel Knapik	Yes
Mary O'Connell	No
William Onyski	Yes
Robert Paul, Sr.	Yes
Andrew Surprise	No
Matthew VanHeynigen	Yes
Dan Allie	No

Chairman Paul declared the motion PASSED.

Upon motion of Councilor VanHeynigen, it was

VOTED: That the sum of \$240,000.00 be CUT from the Engineering Department, Construction account #14110000-589200.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Mary Ann Babinski	No
Brent Bean II	No
Steve Dondley	No
Ralph Figy	No
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	No
Daniel Knapik	No
Mary O'Connell	Yes
William Onyski	No
Robert Paul, Sr.	Yes
Andrew Surprise	Yes
Matthew VanHeynigen	Yes
Dan Allie	Yes

Chairman Paul declared the motion LOST.

Prior to the vote, Councilor VanHeynigen informed the Council that he has received input from residents from Western Avenue and that they do not have an appetite for the Western Avenue project. Also that Dave Billips informed the Finance Committee that the Public Works Department could maintain the fountains in Westfield so for those reasons he would support the cut. He informed the Council that he would support the Rte 187 Project and the bike path project. Council Figy informed the Council that the Federal government is looking for candidates for shovel ready projects and therefore is opposed to cut. Councilor O'Connell expressed her frustration with the lack of cuts thus far in the meeting. She informed the Council that most Councilors ran their campaigns with promises to not increase taxes and by not supporting proposed cuts that cannot happen. Councilor Harris informed Councilor O'Connell that she ran her campaign on stopping the shift to residents and moving it towards businesses. Councilor VanHeynigen informed the Council that he was forthright with the Mayor on the cuts he would support and that he did not campaign for no taxes it was for reducing taxes. Councilor Dondley informed the Council that departments have had to level fund for many years and the Mark Cressotti cannot operate his budget if this cut passes. He also informed the Council that he would like to give the taxpayers a break but not by passing cuts, by looking for revenue streams. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that the concept for level funding is crazy. He informed the Council that items contained in this line item such as the bridge for the bike path can wait because it doesn't go anywhere, don't have to have big sidewalks on Western Avenue, the levy walkway is nice but it can wait. Councilor Allie informed the Council that he will support the cut. He informed the Council the only way government will do a better job in spending to have balanced budget. He informed the Council that he has had a motion for a working group to work with the Mayor on cost saving ideas and there has been no action on putting this group together. Councilor Surprise informed the Council that he went door to door during his campaign and his constituents did not support the bike lane on Western Avenue especially because the residents would have to maintain it. Councilor Figy informed the Council that residents do not move out of the City because of taxes. Councilor Knapik informed the Council that if you buy a \$400,000.00 house you will pay more in taxes and that with a modest house you do not pay as much in taxes.

Upon motion of Councilor Knapik, it was

VOTED: That the following proposed cuts be WITHDRAWN.

\$175,000.00 from Waste Collection, Full Time Hourly; \$75,000.00 from Waste Collection, Purchase of Services; \$55,000.00 from Waste Collection, Vehicles; \$55,000.00 from Waste Collection, Additional Small Equipment.

Councilor Knapik informed the Council that the initial thought for the proposed cuts was due to the fact the waste collection may be privatized but at this time the plan has not be finalized and still needs more work, therefore the money needs to stay in the budget.

Upon motion of Councilor O'Connell, it was

VOTED: That the proposed cut of \$2,000.00 from the Solid Waste Recycling, Purchase of Services account be WITHDRAWN.

Upon motion of Councilor Knapik, it was
VOTED: That the proposed cut of \$350,000.00 from the Sanitary Landfill, Purchase of Services
account be WITHDRAWN.

Councilor VanHeynigen informed the Council that at this time this cut would be risky,
maybe in time it could be cut, but not at this time.

Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was
VOTED: That the proposed cut of \$50,000.00 from the Land & Natural Resources, Purchase of
Services account be WITHDRAWN.

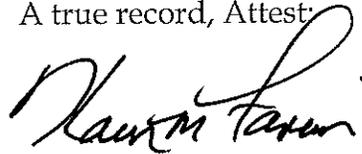
Upon motion of Councilor Bean, it was
VOTED: That the proposed cut of \$5,000.00 from the Health Department, Purchase of Services
account be WITHDRAWN.

Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that \$106,000.00 in cuts have been at tonight's
meeting. He informed the Council that is not sufficient to balance the budget. Councilor
Knapik informed the Council that it can wait until the time the tax rate is set.

Councilor O'Connell thanked the Finance Committee and especially Chair Councilor
Paul for their hard work on the budget hearings.

At 9:37 PM, and upon motion of Councilor Babinski, it was
VOTED: To ADJOURN.

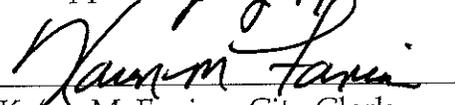
A true record, Attest:



Karen M. Fanion
City Clerk/Clerk of the Council

Presented to the Mayor

Approved by the Mayor

For approval July 19 2016

Karen-M. Fanion, City Clerk

July 20 2016

Brian P. Sullivan, Mayor