

Finance Committee
Budget Hearing Meeting
Wednesday, June 19, 2019
Time: 5:30 p.m. Room 201 (Council Chambers)
Brent Bean, Chair – Dan Allie – John Beltrandi

Attendance: John Beltrandi, Brent Bean, Dan Allie, Mary Ann Babinski, Mike Burns, Andrew Surprise, Nick Morganelli, Matt Emmershay, Cindy Harris, Ralph Figy, Cindy Harris, Peter Currier, Bill Onyski, Stefan Czaporowski, Ron Rix, Sue Phillips, Michael McCabe, Jerome Pitoniak, David Billips, Mark Cressotti, several members of the school department

Agenda

Recording meeting: Peter Currier, Westfield News & Matt Emmershay, City Council

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Schools – 5:30 p.m.

Stefan Czaporowski, Superintendent of Schools

Ron Rix, Chief Financial Officer

Stefan was asked to give the finance committee an overview of his budget and hit on anything he felt was important to address by Brent. Questions posed to Stefan and Ron came from Onyski, Babinski, Emmershay, Morganelli, Allie, Beltrandi, Bean. Class size, union contracts and the increase from the State for special education were discussed.

\$500,000 reduction. Chapter 70 updated formula to reduce some unfunded mandates. Reduced severance by \$70,000. \$98,000 increase in transportation. 37 less positions from FY 2019. Charter school population down. Reinvesting funds saved through efficiencies in capital improvements, such as HVAC, athletic fields.

Law – 6:00 p.m.

Sue Phillips, City Solicitor

Sue was asked to give the finance committee an overview of his budget and hit on anything he felt was important to address by Brent. Questions posed to Sue came from Onyski, Babinski, Emmershay, Morganelli, Allie, Beltrandi, Bean. The department's purchase of services account was discussed at length. The committee was concerned about the cost of outside legal fees within that account.

Police – 6:30 p.m.

Michael McCabe, Captain and budget manager

Mike was asked to give the finance committee an overview of his budget and hit on anything he felt was important to address by Brent. Questions posed to Mike came from Onyski, Babinski, Emmershay, Morganelli, Allie, Beltrandi, Bean. Overtime costs and officers out on sick and military leave was a concern.

Public Works – 7:00 p.m.

Dave Billips, Head of Department

Dave was asked to give the finance committee an overview of his budget and hit on anything he felt was important to address by Brent. Questions posed to David came from Onyski, Babinski, Emmershay, Morganelli, Allie, Beltrandi, Bean. Maintenance of road, equipment and vehicle were discussed. The committee was looking for a master plan to address these items. Trash trucks are in the budget to purchase rather than lease. David showed the committee the savings in the next 3 years.

Engineering – 7:30 p.m.

Mark Cressotti, Head of Department

Mark was asked to give the finance committee an overview of his budget and hit on anything he felt was important to address by Brent. Questions posed to Mark came from Onyski, Babinski, Emmershay, Morganelli, Allie, Beltrandi,

Bean. Mark discussed outsourcing and the need for it. Mark also talked about the Flood Control budget and how the City has kicked those projects down the road for long enough.

Adjourned: 8:15 p.m.