

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

April 5, 2011

Upon Recess of BMA

Mayor Gatsas called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Craig, Ludwig, Long, Roy, Osborne, Corriveau, O'Neil,
Lopez, Shea, DeVries, Shaw, Greazzo, Ouellette, Arnold

3. Resolutions:

On motion of Alderman O'Neil, duly seconded by Alderman Roy, it was voted to waive reading of the Resolutions.

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to increase the Health Insurance Reserve Account for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to utilize surplus funds from the Fiscal Year 2011 budget to fund a prepayment of \$400,000 for Fiscal Year 2012 City pension costs.”

On motion of Alderman O'Neil, duly seconded by Alderman Shea, it was voted that the Resolutions ought to pass and be Enrolled.

4. Budget Resolutions:

On motion of Alderman Long, duly seconded by Alderman Roy, it was voted to waive reading of the Budget Resolutions.

“Continuation of the Central Business Service District.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to apply a credit of \$208,899 from the City's Fiscal Year 2011 City Retirement System contribution against the City's Fiscal Year 2012 City pension costs.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to transfer \$130,877 from the Special Revenue Reserve Account to the Parking Division in Fiscal Year 2012 to reimburse the Parking Division for Fiscal Year 2012 debt service associated with the Hampshire Plaza parking garage.”

(Note: These Resolutions have been referred to a public hearing to be held on April 6, 2011; the CBSD, at a meeting held on March 28, 2011, has approved the boundaries of the district and has submitted recommendations, which are attached.)

On motion of Alderman Roy, duly seconded by Alderman Long, it was voted that the Budget Resolutions ought to pass and be Enrolled.

5. Appropriating Resolutions:

On motion of Alderman Roy, duly seconded by Alderman Long, it was voted to waive reading of the Appropriating Resolutions.

“Appropriating to the Parking Fund the sum of \$4,929,771 from parking revenues for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

"Appropriating the sum of \$13,779,048 from Sewer User Rental Charges to the Environmental Protection Division for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

“Appropriating the sum of \$2,257,354 from Recreation User Charges to the Recreation Division for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

“Appropriating to the Manchester Transit Authority the sum of \$982,825 for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

“Appropriating to the Manchester School District the sum of \$150,200,000 for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

“Appropriating all Incremental Meals and Rooms Tax Revenue Received by the City in the Fiscal Year 2012 and held in the Civic Center Fund, for the payment of the City’s Obligations in Said Fiscal Year under the Financing Agreement.”

“Appropriating to the Manchester Airport Authority the sum of \$46,309,448 from Special Airport Revenue Funds for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

“Appropriating to the Manchester School Food and Nutrition Services Program the sum of \$5,796,000 from School Food and Nutrition Services Revenues for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

“Raising Monies and Making Appropriations of \$133,615,233 for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

“Appropriating to the Central Business Service District the sum of \$258,000 from Central Business Service District Funds for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

(Note: These Resolutions have been referred to a public hearing to be held on April 6, 2011.)

Alderman Ouellette moved that the Appropriating Resolutions ought to pass and layover. The motion was duly seconded by Alderman Shaw.

Alderman Lopez stated explain the last motion please. If the motion was ought to pass and layover, is it still in the Finance Committee?

City Clerk Matthew Normand replied that's correct.

Alderman Long stated I have the same question. It says ought to pass and layover so are we voting that these ought to pass and layover?

Mayor Gatsas replied yes.

City Clerk Normand stated you are voting that they ought to pass and layover. When I read the Committee report during the Board meeting, the clock will start on the five day layover period.

Alderman Long asked we still have these in the Finance Committee?

City Clerk Normand replied no.

Alderman Lopez stated that is the point that I want to make.

Mayor Gatsas stated they go to the full Board.

Alderman Lopez stated I just want to clarify for the Aldermen. You don't want to do this. You want to keep it in Finance, unless they want to send it and pass it and then the five days start.

Mayor Gatsas stated we can send it to the full Board and let it sit there.

Alderman Lopez stated we could send it to the full Board and let it sit there, but the five days starts ticking. We can pass any budget we want.

Mayor Gatsas stated it can tick for more than five days.

Alderman Lopez stated my recommendation is to leave it in the Finance Committee and not pass it tonight.

Alderman DeVries asked if we, as a Board of Aldermen, wish to continue to work on a budget we would want to be voting no on this budget so that this work will continue to be in the body of Finance where we will continue to work on it? Would that be correct?

Mayor Gatsas replied you can work on it whether it is in the body of Finance or the body of the full Board. The difference is that if you put it in the body of the full Board and if for some reason this Board wants to have a special meeting to move something out, the clock starts ticking from tonight and we have the ability to have a meeting whenever and vote something out and it moves forward. I would say that the Board still has control of this at the full Board. It doesn't go anywhere other than starting the clock ticking because I think there is no question. I have had conversations with some of you that the School District has to RIF principals and assistant principals by the 15th of April. They have to be in a position to RIF teachers by May 10th. I'm not looking to rush any process, but I think the clock should start running so we at least have it at the full Board so if we are prepared do something we can do it.

Alderman DeVries stated I have a further parliamentary inquiry. Our holding this body of work in the Committee of Finance by voting no on this roll call vote does not prevent the public hearing from occurring tomorrow evening?

Mayor Gatsas replied even if you voted yes, the public hearing would still be held tomorrow and we could have public input. The only difference would be that these resolutions would be at the full Board level and the clock would start ticking.

Alderman Shea stated if anyone wants to make amendments to any existing appropriation listed here, they may do so.

Mayor Gatsas stated at the full Board, absolutely. We are not doing anything to get any budget out tonight. All that does is move it from the Finance Committee to the full Board so that the clock starts ticking.

Alderman Shea stated but if someone wants to make an amendment at a later date they can. That is the procedure that we have used in the past.

Alderman Lopez stated I bring it up in fairness to everybody. We have done it the way you explained it. We take it out of Finance, we send it to the Aldermen then we could have a special meeting. We could move Enterprise resolutions and everything else. There are some resolutions that we aren't going to do anything with. From talking to some of the Aldermen, if they want to change it, I'm comfortable either way, but I wanted to be fair and say that as long as it is in Finance then the five days will not start.

Mayor Gatsas stated correct, but I would say that putting it to the full Board, there are resolutions that we can move out of here. I don't think we want to tie anything up at the Airport. I don't think we want to tie anything up with EPD. I think that if we move them all in, it doesn't shut anyone off from doing what they want to do. If someone has another budget, trust me, you have the opportunity to bring it in. It doesn't change anything. If you want to change appropriations we can do that.

Alderman O'Neil asked haven't we, in the last four or five years, referred it to the full Board pretty quickly?

City Clerk Normand replied that's correct.

Alderman O'Neil stated I don't think it has hindered the process. It really just saves us meetings. Am I correct.

Mayor Gatsas replied yes.

City Clerk Normand stated that's correct.

Alderman O'Neil asked does it go back more than four or five years that we have been doing that? I think Alderman Roy's predecessor was the one who pushed for it. It doesn't matter to me. I think we can make changes whether it is in Finance or at the full Board.

Mayor Gatsas replied absolutely. There is nothing that doesn't have the ability to be changed. They can all be changed, I just think it gives us an opportunity to start the clocks.

Alderman Shea stated that's what I was stating before. It is almost perfunctory. We have done this leaving it as it is and then if someone wants to amend it or we want to change it we can. I have been on the Board almost 16 years and we have done it that way. I have never referred it back to Finance that I remember.

Alderman DeVries stated if one did not want to be recorded in favor of all of the amendments that have been presented by the Mayor in what is before us for this vote, we would be voting no so that we can keep the body of this work in this Committee, amended in this Committee, and then our vote will be reflecting an outcome that we can endorse.

Mayor Gatsas stated Alderman DeVries, stated I'm sure that you never stopped it in the past when any other Mayor presented a budget. You let it follow the same suit so you voted yes, even when we were talking about furloughs. You did vote for them and moved them on to the full Board. You have done it in the past. I don't think this is any different.

Alderman DeVries called for a roll call vote on the motion that the Appropriating Resolutions ought to pass and layover. Aldermen DeVries and Greazzo voted nay. Aldermen Shaw, Ouellette, Arnold, Craig, Ludwig, Long, Roy, Osborne, Corriveau, O'Neil, Lopez and Shea voted yea. The motion carried.

6. CIP Budget Authorization:

211211 DHHS BDAS Alcohol Block Grant- OYS

On motion of Alderman O'Neil, duly seconded by Alderman Roy, it was voted that the budget authorization be approved subject to the final adoption of related resolutions.

There being no further business, on motion of Alderman Lopez, duly seconded by Alderman Shea, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

Clerk of Committee