



BOARD OF ALDERMEN SPECIAL PUBLIC HEARING ON THE BUDGET MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, MAY 15, 2017 AT 7:00 PM
IN THE AUDITORIUM AT SHELTON CITY HALL
54 HILL STREET, SHELTON, CT

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman John Anglace called the Special Public Hearing on the Budget of the Board of Aldermen to order in the Auditorium at 7:10 p.m. All those present rose and pledged allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

Alderman John F. Anglace, Jr., President of Board of Aldermen – Present
Alderman Eric McPherson- Vice President of Board of Aldermen - Not present
Alderman Lynne Farrell- Not present
Alderman John “Jack” Finn- Present
Alderman Stanley Kudej- Not present
Alderman Noreen McGorty- Present
Alderman Jimmy Capra - Present
Alderman Anthony Simonetti- Not present

ADMINISTRATION

Ron Pavlucik, 287 Eagles Landing Aspetuck Village, Shelton CT
Judson Crawford, 8 Jordan Avenue, Shelton, CT
Mark Holden, Board of Education Chairmen

AGENDA ITEM

John Anglace: I'd like to start this meeting tonight with a roll call report. First Ward Alderman Finn had surgery, he got out of his sick bed to come here tonight and I think that deserves a lot of praise and thanks for making himself available. Anthony Simonetti has another meeting, a conflict scheduled, unfortunately we have a couple of conflicts because in putting together our schedule for the budget we changed it several times, and other people had other things scheduled, and this is one of the dates that conflicted. Noreen is in another meeting, and she will be in as soon as that meeting is over. Second Ward Alderman McPherson has serious pneumonia and other issues/problems, and he just had some fluid taken out of his lungs today so he is in no condition to travel. Alderman Kudej was just released from Griffin Hospital today, and he is not feeling too well so it will be awhile until he is back on his feet. Alderman Farrell is in an ongoing medical situation, she is in and out of the hospital, currently she is home and things are settling

down for her, I hope she does well. So, as you can see there is more of us that are not well than are well, so bear with us and we will get through this. The purpose of the call of the meeting of course, is to hear public comment in respect to the budget that has been proposed by the Board of Apportionment and Taxation in which, the budget is a modification to the Mayors Budget. We'll take comment on any portion of the budget, any comments in respect to the revenues, state's position on the budget, which is still so uncertain it's mind boggling. We'll also take any comments in respect to any expenditure proposed. So, with that, an appropriate notice did appear in the Connecticut Post on May the 7th, 2017 and with that we will move to take public comment on respect to the budget.

1. BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018

Ron Pavlucik: Good evening, I looked at the numbers in the latest budget briefly and let's say this year the numbers and the priorities seem to be fair and balanced and reasonable. All I want to add to that tonight was, if there is any extra money left over in the contingency account, and I'm sure it already has a lot of plans for it. If not, the following fiscal year, I would like to see something done with the physical appearance of the Plumb Memorial Library. Maybe it can be evaluated for the next fiscal year. I go there quite a bit, it's a great place, I like the old architecture of it, the people are great, but it really is getting a little long in the tooth. Someone brought a letter to the editor about this, and I looked around, they were right. The rugs are really in bad shape, and there is some missing ceiling tiles, there is a lot of places where a little touch of paint can make the place sparkle. Maybe all it would take is a visit from Stanley Steamer for one to two days, maybe on Sunday when it's closed, to clean the carpet. I am a basic down to earth person, I'm pretty frugal when it comes to budgets, I like one aspect of this town, that we don't have any unnecessarily showy buildings or image. A lot of good happening in this town, I'm very happy with the activities of the Planning and Zoning Commission turn to our growth, but sometimes they go to Vermont and Maine and you see very humble practical buildings, you don't see any flashy buildings like you see sometimes when you go down the line to Westport or Fairfield, I go to those libraries too once in a while to do some investigation. I'm not saying turn over the Shelton library or build a new library to look like the Westport Library, which I think it going through another renovation, but I think certainly some certain cost effective changes could be made to the Plumb Library. If there is not enough funds in there for Mr. Stanley Steamer to come for a couple Sunday's then maybe put some money aside to spruce it up. I didn't go through the details of the library department's budget but maybe if you could look at it again, or maybe you can steal some money from the contingency account to spruce it up. There probably really are people who want to move to Shelton and they check out certain places, retail opportunity's, recreation facilities, restaurants. We're in good shape, our sports teams are well, staffed and funded, successful, and probably the schools are in pretty good shape, after all the renovations and new contractions. For example, Perry Hill School modifications in the last 10-12 years. They are not class A but they are B which is good enough for me, I'm thinking about Maine and Vermont where the schools are C and yet they are functional, and that keeps people's taxes down and I want to see the same thing here, but if there is some way you can review the aesthetics and appearance of the library, if not this fiscal year but the following one, I would be in favor of any expenditure on that effort. Thank you.

Judson Crawford: Good evening to you members of the Board of Alderman, I was looking through last year's budget and I just have a few questions to propose to the Board of Alderman for this year. Last year, either the Mayor did not fund Municipal Sewer Usage. Yet, you (Board of Alderman) had to make a transfer at the years end to cover the expenses. I give a credit to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation for The Board of Education requested \$1,989,413 more for this coming year's budget. The Board of Apportionment and Taxation supported an increase of \$519,574 more than what the Mayor had requested, yet it still leaves them short by \$1,469,839. I hope you can find more funds to be transferred to the Board of Education. Third, Christian Counseling requested \$1,000 yet why were they given \$10,000? (John Anglace reports it was an error). Fourth, Mr. Dunns report on the salary for Mayor, was his recommendations used in this year's budget? Final, is Ordinance 707 still in effect? Has to do with Republican and Democratic Registers of Voters, they are to receive a one each \$100 increase yet the figures from last years are still the same as proposed for this year, it was not done.

John Anglace: Is that in the Mayors Budget? What you're talking about?

Judson Crawford: Straight across from the Mayors recommendation to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation.

John Anglace: Is the department included?

Judson Crawford: Yes

John Anglace: I don't know why. That's strange, good point.

Judson Crawford: When you get to Police Private Duty, you have under the revenue side \$900,000, under the expenditure side you got a figure of \$50,000, discrepancies of \$40,000, Just asking why?

John Anglace: We won't be able to pay the policemen when they do their private duty work.

Judson Crawford: You can. Last is, I have to say to you the Board of Aldermen, how can you even come up and make a sound recommendation for a budget when the state figures are being changed almost daily and even if you make a recommendation, it can be completely wrong twenty-four hours later. This is why I say, to you the Board of Alderman, you have a very tough proposed decision to make. Thank you.

Jack Finn: Thank you Mr. President, I'm reading over the notice at the public hearing tonight on the budget and I can't find education included in the notes for the hearing tonight. (Page two, on the bottom where it says total expenditures of Education pointed out by John Anglace). Now my question is, is this the Mayor's budget?

John Anglace: This is the Board of Apportionment and Taxation budget.

Jack Finn: The Board of Apportionment and Taxation budget, so should be approved in here, so far you increased it by some \$5,000, is included in the public hearing tonight?

John Anglace: Yes that is included in the number at the bottom.

Jack Finn: Okay, Thank you.

John Anglace: I think you may have hit upon an issue that we all have to realize, the Mayor in his budget, did not include any increase in the Board of Education. It's pretty obvious that we have a new teacher's contract, certified contracts and class wide contracts to fund, and our deliberations on Thursday's meeting of this week, is for resolving these issues.

Jack Finn: Due my medical issue, I was absent for the first public workshop that you had on this and I wasn't sure what was going on with education. We have two more workshops, and I hate to put everybody on the spot, we're going to stay giving education the additional monies they need so they have a funding of education to a number of importance based upon what is happening with this year's state budget.

John Anglace: You're not putting anybody on the spot. I'm sure with all of the money that the Mayor did not address the issue of how much money to give the Board of Education because the uncertainty of the state level budgets. At the time the Mayor set his budget, the uncertainties were worse now then they were then, and I'm not talking about taking 3.8 million away, they are talking about taking the whole 5.8 million away. It just got worse and they are talking about taking \$25,000 and they just can't, their just out of their minds up there. We're going to have to set a budget, come the 25th, because we have to get tax bills out.

Jack Finn: I'm not sure I can make it down to the last few workshops, and by the time we vote on the budget, I'll be here for that, I can drive. One thing everyone is thinking about was we don't know what is going to happen up in Hartford and if we get cut in various items, such as road repair, various other items, we have to find a way to come up on how to balance our budget. Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT

John Anglace MOVED to adjourn at approximately 7:35 pm. SECONDED by Jim Capra. A voice vote was taken and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Conklin, Clerk

DATE APPROVED: _____ BY: _____

Mayor Mark A. Lauretti

CITY OF SHELTON

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PURSUANT TO SECTION 7.6 OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF SHELTON, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN WILL CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 **ON MONDAY, MAY 15, 2017 AT 7:00 PM IN THE AUDITORIUM AT SHELTON CITY HALL, 54 HILL STREET, SHELTON, CT 06484.**

ALL PERSONS WHO HAVE AN INTEREST THEREIN MAY APPEAR AND BE HEARD IN RELATION THERETO. COPIES OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE.

WRITTEN COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS MAY ALSO BE SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN AND MUST BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO THE PUBLIC HEARING.

ANTICIPATED REVENUES

Government Grants	\$8,982,732
Local Taxes	\$104,762,310
Other Local Revenue	\$4,692,893
General Fund Surplus	\$4,893,096

TOTAL ANTICIPATED REVENUES **\$123,331,031**

PROPOSED EXPENDITURES

Administrative Office	\$2,012,961
Employees Resources	\$5,983,411
Legislative	\$164,055
Board of Ethics	\$600
Elections	\$160,396
Inland/Wetlands	\$89,840
Economic Development Commission	\$46,801
Economic Development - SEDC	\$100,000
Planning & Zoning	\$320,453
Recreation	\$1,671,030
Probate Court	\$12,900
Elected/Appointed Officials	\$18,450
Conservation Commission	\$64,771

City/Town Clerk	\$442,196
Public Employees Appeals Board	-0-
Senior Center	\$348,040
Drug & Alcohol Commission	\$1
Zoning Appeals Board	\$20,465
Corporation Counsel	\$200,971
Public Safety	\$114,548
EMS Commission	\$125,327
Fire Marshal	\$283,331
Animal Control	\$233,394
Fire Department	\$990,552
Police Department	\$7,658,400
Youth Service	\$225,982
Public Health	\$292,878
Building Department	\$236,504
Highways & Bridges	\$3,585,359
Road Repairs	\$50,000
Public Works Director	\$50,081
Engineering	\$283,377
Tree Warden	\$110,000
Recycling Program	\$36,702
Sanitation	\$2,198,933
Library	\$1,201,168
Debt Service	\$12,791,254
Utilities	\$2,822,349
Building Maintenance	\$1,453,995
Management Information Services	\$448,407
Assessor	\$572,551
Tax Collector	\$353,035
Purchasing	\$355,446
Public Risk Management	\$2,162,560
Accounting	\$578,705
Community Development	\$78,883
Miscellaneous	\$901,300
Capital Spending	-0-
Outside Agency Contributions	\$369,095
Contingency	\$125,000

TOTAL EXPENDITURES - CITY DEPARTMENTS **\$52,341,457**

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES - BOARD OF
EDUCATION** **\$70,989,574**

TOTAL PROPOSED EXPENDITURES **\$123,331,031**

