

BOARD OF ESTIMATE & TAXATION MEETING ACTIONS

FEBRUARY 12, 2007

ATTENDANCE: Fred Wilms, Chairman; James Clark; Michael Lyons; Stuart Wells; Leo Mellow; James Feigenbaum; Mayor Richard Moccia (8:05).

STAFF: Mary Roman, City Clerk; Thomas Hamilton, Director of Finance; Ossie Lewis, Director of Management and Budgets.

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by the Chairman, who noted that Mr. Hamilton would make a formal presentation of the 2007-08 recommended Operating budget.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

DECEMBER 4, 2006 REGULAR MEETING

The following correction was made: On page 4, 3rd paragraph, 1st sentence, "Mr. Clark" was corrected to "Mr. Feigenbaum".

** MR. LYONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED.

** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS AGENDA

FISCAL YEAR 2006-07

\$259,000 FROM CONTINGENCY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO PAY FOR TREE MAINTENANCE AND REMOVAL

Mr. Lewis said that this program has spent its available funds. After review of other accounts in Public Works, including the snow removal account, they have reduced this request to \$75,000 and will make a subsequent request to transfer any surplus snow removal funds. This fund has \$394,659 as of today.

Mr. Alvord said he did not disagree with the rationale related to the snow account. There is a significant amount in this account. They don't know what the snow will be like for the rest of the season.

The Chairman asked if an increase had been approved for the tree account. Mr. Hamilton said that there had been an increase of 25% two years ago and an inflationary increase this year. Mr. Alvord said it was intended that the amount in the tree removal account

would be \$104,000 in 2004. The Public Works Committee wanted to split up the contract for this work between two contractors. There were two \$75,000 tree removal contracts; only one of which was approved, leaving them with an approved budget of \$75,000. Mr. Hamilton said that the \$75,000 was the starting funding level, which Mr. Alvord proposed at \$150,000.

The Chairman noted that, if approved, the approved funding for this year would actually be \$189,000.

**** MR. WILMS MOVED: RESOLVED, THAT A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$75,000 BE AND THE SAME IS HEREBY TRANSFERRED FROM CONTINGENCY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO PAY FOR TREE MAINTENANCE AND REMOVAL (ACCOUNT NO. 01-4029-5298).**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

TRANSFER AGENDA

There were no transfers.

OTHER BUSINESS

ADOPT TENTATIVE MEETING SCHEDULE – CALENDAR YEAR 2007

**** MR. LYONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE SCHEDULE AS PRESENTED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** MR. LYONS MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO ADD PRESENTATION OF THE 2007-08 OPERATING BUDGET TO THE AGENDA.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

PRESENTATION OF THE 2007-08 OPERATING BUDGET

Mr. Hamilton made a presentation to the members of the Board of Estimate & Taxation.

At 8:05 p.m., Mayor Moccia arrived at the meeting.

In response to a question from Mr. Mellow, Mr. Hamilton said that there are labor contracts that are unsettled. They anticipate that they will be settled at a cost to the City in 2007-08. Mayor Moccia said that arbitrations are tentatively scheduled for the police and fire contracts.

**** MR. WELLS MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Telesco
Telesco Secretarial Services

