



**CITY OF DERBY
BOARD OF APPORTIONMENT & TAXATION
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 20, 2018
7:00 PM
JOAN WILLIAMSON ALDERMANIC CHAMBERS**

**Jerry Borrelli
Ray Bowers
James Butler
Christopher Carloni.
Carlo Malerba, Jr.**

**Shirley Miani
Rose Pertoso
Sam Pollastro, Jr.
Phyllis Sochrin
Judy Szewczyk, Chairperson**

Ms. Szewczyk opened the meeting at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Present: Mr. Borrelli, Mr. Bowers, Mr. Butler, Mr. Malerba, Ms. Pertoso, Ms. Sochrin, and Ms. Szewczyk. Mr. Pollastro arrived late.

Absent: Mr. Carloni and Ms. Miani

Additions, Deletions and Corrections to Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

Public Portion

No one from the public spoke

Motion to Approve Minutes of Meeting of January 16, 2018

A motion was made by Mr. Butler and seconded by Ms. Pertoso to file the minutes .
Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. McLiverty said notes are coming due in September. We are watching the 10 year Treasury bonds that are currently at 3% which is an indicator of the rate we will be getting. We are drawing down on the WPCA bond project for Roosevelt Drive.

Budget Procedure, Status and Advisory

Ms. Szewczyk stated the board has asked for Counsel to come and address the board with some advice that they could use in preparation for the next budget. Attorney David B. Zander, from Cohen & Wolf, came to address the board. Attorney Zaler said if the board cuts the budget for a department, what is the board's latitude. If it is a non-union position, there is no issue, unless the position affected is part of the union contract. In regards to a union position, the city does have the right to dictate and adjust the manpower. The board can do this without bargaining with the union, unless there is what's called "impact bargaining" which is what impact there will be as a result of these cuts. As an example, a department has 10 employees and they have to cut 5 people, based on seniority, it is decided who gets laid off. By doing this, you are putting all the work on the remaining 5 people, You as a board may have to bargain over this as it would be a "substantial impact" on the other employees.

Mr. Butler asked if we could cut the budget by going line by line, and having the department cut expenses that are not fixed as an example the BOE has about 85% of fixed expenses. The board has the right to make these cuts, however, the department will have to decide how they can do it. As an example if the Police Department is asked to cut patrolmen, for safety reasons, they must have at 3 patrolmen on duty each shift, you couldn't cut this. Ms. Sochrin asked if a department should present their new budget 8% higher than the previous budget, we tell them we want their budget at 6%, not cutting positions, but cutting other expenses. He said this is up to the department to see where should cut.

Attorney Zaler said the city is presently in negotiations with all the departments as all the contracts are due to expire. If they get voted down, then they must go to arbitration. If other jobs are affected, we will have to negotiate. As an example, if the city decides to purchase a computer program that would eliminate 2 positions, the union has the right to negotiate.

Ms. Sochrin asked Attorney Zaler if he could explain "substantial impact" and he honestly said he could not. We have requested a copy of the "correct" City Charter and no one is

able to find it. Ordinances that have been passed and without these, we cannot give a legal opinion. The City Charter should have where the authority of this board sits.

Ms. Szewczyk asked if the board members had any other questions, and that she felt comfortable with the information that Attorney Zaler had given. The board thanked him.

Mr. Coppola addressed the board that the city is looking at a way to cut the health costs in the future with the possibilities of correcting the short falls. Ms. Szewczyk said she would be sending out the letter to all the departments. Mr. Borrelli said he wants to go after all the departments, and has some ideas on how to do this. Ms. Szewczk asked if he would like to share the ideas, and he said he would like to further develop them, and he wants to be able to cut every budget. People in the city want change and no increase in taxes. Ms. Szewczyk said she will be putting out the schedule for the workshops beginning in mid March. They would like the departments to come to present and defend their budgets.

Mr. Butler questioned one of the line items for electricity, and questioned some of departments that were listed as they are no longer being used. Mr. McLiverty explained that he was looking at what was already spent. Ms. Szewczyk said she was in favor of study to check things like this and asked Mr. Baklik to check with the Mayor. Dr. Conway added that with the new plan that is being looked at, there would be a substantial savings to the City, but no one should be looking at this as more money that could be spent. He said there would be no more pensions, everything would be under a 401K. The medical and prescription drugs would not change, and before anything is done, the city must put a plan in place. We don't need any study, the board should challenge the department heads and be stern. Dr. Conway explained the state regulations on Alliance Schools. Cities must comply by not decreasing this portion of the BOE budget.

Ms. Szewczyk said she would like to talk with the Mayor, Mr. Baklik and the Board of Aldermen/Alderwomen to see what ideas they may have as to where to save. The budget sheets should be returned by March 30th, and the meetings will be held on Tuesdays, the soonest being the end of March, going through April.

Transfer Legal (1600) Expenses \$3,190.00

- From Account (001-1600-150-0150 Corp Counsel Legal Services \$3,190.00
- To Account (001-1600-280-0280) Appraisals \$3,190.00

Mr. Coppola said that Mr. Guardiano had to leave, but he is doing the appraisal on the property located at 600 New Haven Avenue/Sodom Lane, and this was his bill for the appraisal that he had done. A motion was made by Mr. Pollastro and seconded by Ms. Pertoso. After discussion the vote was taken. Mr. Pollastro abstained on voting for the motion. Motion Carried.

Transfer, Sanitation (4300) \$1,500.00

- From Account (001-4300-390-0391) Recycling Bins \$1,500.00
- To Account (001-4300-380-0380) Supplies \$1,500.00

A motion to accept was made by Mr. Butler and seconded by Ms. Pertoso. Mr. Coppola explained that this transfer was for pesticide treatments and supplies, which also included Witek Park. Motion Carried.

Transfer Fire Department (3200) \$654.22

- From Account (001-3200-460-0464) Turnout Gear \$14.49
- From Account (001-3200-330-0336) Service Contracts \$16.42
- From Account (001-3200-270-0272) Firemen Physicals \$623.31
- To Account (001-3200-150-0152) Fire Watch Duty \$654.22

A motion to accept was made by Ms. Pertoso and seconded by Mr. Malerba. Ms. Szewczyk explained to the board that Mr. Petrino who is the Fire Commissioner works nights so was unable to attend. However, if the board has any questions, he will make arrangements to be in attendance. Motion Carried.

Appropriate from Special Working Balance (8400) \$3,500.00

- From Account (001-8400-390-0391) Special Working Balance \$3,500.00
- Increase Account (0018200-250-0259) Championship Rings \$3,500.00

A motion to accept was made by Mr. Malerba and seconded by Mr. Pollastro. Mr. Malerba then made a friendly amend to the motion that this money should not be taken from the Fund Balance, but from the Special Working Balance. The Boys Track Team had won the championship, the discussion went on that in the minutes of the BOA from 3/23/17, they had approved a motion that the BOA and BOAT would each put aside a \$2000.00 limit to take care of these awards. The bill reflects the BOAT to pay the entire amount. After much discussion, it was decided that BOAT would pay the entire amount. Ms. Szewczyk asked for a vote on the motion. Mr. Pollastro voted No, so a roll call vote was taken. Mr. Borrelli, Yes, Mr. Bowers, Yes, Mr. Butler, Yes, Mr. Malerba, Yes, Ms. Pertoso, Yes, Mr. Pollastro, No, Ms. Sochrin, Yes, and Ms. Szewczyk, Yes. Motion Carried.

Appropriate From Special Working Balance (8400) \$10,900.00

- From (001-8400-30-0391) Special Working Balance \$10,900.00
- Increase (001-3200-460-0460) New Equipment \$10,900.00

A motion to accept was made by Mr. Malerba and seconded by Mr. Butler. Mr. Malerba made an amendment to the motion stating this money should be taken from the Special Working Balance. Mr. Butler seconded the motion. Mr. Coppola explained that the turn-out gear had to be replaced as a result of an OSHA inspection. This had been discussed at a previous meeting. Motion Carried.

Transfer, Employee Benefits (2400) \$12,000.00

- From Account (001-2400-270-0271) Employee Life Insurance \$12,000.00
- To Account (001-8400-390-0390) Special Working Balance \$12,000.00
- From Account (001-8400-390-0390) Special Working Balance \$12,000.00
- To Account (001-2600-270-0271) Unemployment Benefits \$12,000.00

A motion was made by Mr. Bowers and seconded by Ms. Sochrin. Mr. Coppola said this was to fund the unemployment benefits through the end of this fiscal year. There were a couple of circumstances that had occurred this year, which had used some the money and this transfer would hopefully take us to the end of the fiscal year. Motion Carried.

Transfer City Engineer (8600) \$7,000.00

- From Account (001-8600-150-0151) City Engineer \$561.80
- To Account (001-8600-150-0161) P&Z Engineers \$561.80

A motion to accept was made by Mr. Malerba and seconded by Ms. Pertoso. Mr. Butler questioned the charges from Milone & Macbroom for work on 75 Chatfield Street, the Football and Softball fields, and Baseball Field and Field House. He thought all this was to be done through the grant. Dr. Conway was not sure what these bills would be. After further discussion, Mr. Bowers made a motion to pay the Derby Wetlands Commission portion of the bill which is \$561.80. The motion was seconded by Mr. Malerba. Ms. Scewczyk asked if every board had a representative on this commission. The BOAT does not have any representative; Mr. Butler said he would do it. The board would like to have someone come to the next meeting to explain the remaining charges. The motion was made to pay just Invoice #84288 for \$561.80, and to table the balance of the bills to the next meeting. Motion Carried.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Pertoso and seconded by Ms. Sochrin. Motion Carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Louise Pitney

Recording Secretary

*** These minutes are subject to the approval by the Board of Apportionment & Taxation
at their next regular meeting.