

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS
SPECIAL MEETING
JULY 16, 2012**

ATTENDANCE: Angel dePara, Co-chair; Robert Curwen, Co-chair; Lydia Martinez, Susan Brannelly

OTHERS: Scott Baillie, O&G; Thomas Sherwood, OPM Director; Council Member Andre Baker

CALL TO ORDER.

Council Member dePara called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. He introduced the Council Members present.

111-11 Modification to the FY 2013-2017 Five Year Capital Plan concerning the Longfellow School and Roosevelt School Projects.

Mr. Sherwood introduced himself and Mr. Baillie from O&G. He explained that there had been two significant changes in project scope for Longfellow School and Roosevelt School. The Longfellow School Project had changed from a renovation to complete rebuild and the Roosevelt School would be a total reconfiguration.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN MOVED TO ENTER THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:**

**MEMORANDUM DATED JUNE 21, 2012 AS EXHIBIT #1-7/16/12;
MEMORANDUM DATED APRIL 30, 2012 AS EXHIBIT #2-7/16/12; AND
ROOSEVELT SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS AS EXHIBIT #3-7/16/12**

****COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Baillie from O&G then gave an overview some of the environmental issues that were discovered during the renovation of Longfellow that indicated that it should become a new construction.

The Roosevelt School will be reconfigured for maximum use, along with the addition of new amenities for the community. There would be a soccer field with artificial turf.

Mr. Baillie said that with Longfellow, everything should be an 80/20 split, but Roosevelt would require the City to \$3,281,725.00. Council Member Curwen had several questions about the soccer field and pointed out that Seaside Park was close by. Mr. Sherwood said that there simply were not enough soccer fields in the City.

Council Member Martinez asked about the remediation of the Longfellow ground site. Mr. Baillie said that the remediation of the site was already factored into the costs.

The discussion moved to the reconfiguration of the site where Longfellow School was when the new construction goes in. Questions were raised about the increase in the cost for Longfellow. It went from a remodel project to a total rebuild.

Council Member Baker asked who would be responsible for managing the fields and the areas around the school. Mr. Sherwood reviewed this.

Council Member dePara asked how much more money these projects would leverage from the State. Mr. Baillie then reviewed the figures and the cost percentages that the State would be providing.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 111-11 MODIFICATION TO THE FY 2013-2017 FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PLAN CONCERNING THE LONGFELLOW SCHOOL AND ROOSEVELT SCHOOL PROJECTS.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNELLY SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Council Member dePara requested that this item be put on the consent calendar.

112-11 Approval of Additional Capital Project Authorization to the 2013-2017 Capital Plan.

Mr. Sherwood said that there were two steps in approval of the Capital Project Plan. Council Member dePara asked how much this would increase the debt service. Mr. Sherwood said that there were two factors, one being that the State money would be drawn down first. There will be other factors that will affect the City's costs when the time comes down to start using the City's funding. There could be a bond refunding or other projects that have surpluses that could be used against the costs.

Council Member Baker had several detailed questions about the debt service calculations, which Mr. Sherwood answered.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 112-11 APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL CAPITAL PROJECT AUTHORIZATION TO THE 2013-2017 CAPITAL PLAN.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Council Member dePara requested that this item be put on the consent calendar.

113-11 Approval of General Obligation Bonds - To fund Certain Capital Improvements Projects.

Mr. Sherwood said that this item was the additional authorization for the bonds.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 113-11 APPROVAL OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS - TO FUND CERTAIN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECTS.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Council Member dePara requested that this item be put on the consent calendar.

Approval of Committee Minutes: May 4, 2012; May 5, 2012 (Special Meeting); May 14, 2012 (Regular Meeting)

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNELLY MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE MINUTES:**

MAY 4, 2012; MAY 5, 2012 (SPECIAL MEETING); AND MAY 14, 2012 (REGULAR MEETING).

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

General discussion regarding the review of Monthly Financial Report.

Mr. Sherwood explained that the report would be issued on July 20, 2012. There is currently a one week lag in the payroll. The City Clerk should have the report available for publication on Friday, July 20, 2012. Council Member Curwen asked if there would be a surplus this year. Mr. Sherwood said that it would be borderline and listed some of the items that would impact the P&L sheet.

Council Member Brannelly asked if the Budget & Appropriations Committee could schedule a meeting to review the Financial Report. Council Member dePara said that the new format was markedly different what the Council Members were used to. Mr. Sherwood said that after the former Financial Director left; assembling the report was done in a more concise format to compact the report. He said that the new format would be more of a list of items of concerns. Council Member dePara said that if there were any changes, it should be discussed with the Council Members first.

Council Member Baker asked if there were any revenues from the renovations at St. Vincent's. Mr. Sherwood said that with colleges and hospitals, the 71% percentage of assessment may be one thing but the State just gives the City whatever the State determines. The 71% is chosen arbitrarily by the State Legislature. The formula is done, and the amount is known, but the Governor and Legislature decided how much the check would actually be.

Council Member Curwen pointed out that Bridgeport only have 6 representatives in Hartford. When there is a shortfall, the legislature often takes the needed funds from the PILOT payments. There are only 15 accredited general hospitals in the State that are affected by the PILOTS and Bridgeport has two of them.

ADJOURNMENT.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNELLY SECONDED.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services

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