

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Wednesday, December 20, 2017

Members present; President Davis, Aldermen Notte, Humphrey, *Ryan, Etori, Tommola, Mattis, **Cook, Larson, DePoy, and Donahue. Also present, Mayor Allaire, Attorney Bloomer and Clerk Heck. There were various Department Heads and Officials. *Alderman Ryan arrived at 5:38 PM. Alderman Cook arrived at 5:45 PM.

President Davis called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

FY 2018 Budget Committee Minutes

President Davis noted the first order of business was to decide on COLA raises. Alderman Etori moved to set COLA for non-union employees at 1.5%. This motion was seconded by Alderman DePoy for debate. The debate was lengthy with Alderman speaking for and against the motion. The **Motion failed** when it was called. A motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Larson) to set non-union employee COLA's at 2%. Again there was lengthy debate from members of the Board. When that vote was called, **Motion failed**. With no further debate or motions, President Davis moved on in the budget process with the COLA remaining at 3% for non-union employees.

President Davis noted a large turnout supporting the Library Budget and she asked Alderman DePoy, Chair of the Recreation Committee to present his report on that budget.

Alderman DePoy; Chair, Recreation Committee, Municipal Budget
Rutland Free Library-

Alderman DePoy read his committee report from December 12, 2017 and stated that this budget was up 3%. The committee did approve this budget of \$738,573 5-0 and Alderman DePoy so moved that motion to the full Board. Alderman Etori seconded. **Motion passed** to fund the library budget at \$738,573.

President Davis then asked Alderman Larson to report out his Public Works Committee Budget.

Alderman Larson; Chair, Public Works Committee, Municipal Budget

DPW Admin-

Alderman Larson stated his report by making a motion to cut the employee CDL reimbursement line 100-7-30-10-800.001 by \$1,000. Alderman DePoy seconded. There was brief debate specific to the actual line that was cut. It was noted that the line cut was the travel line. Alderman Larson withdrew his motion and presented a new motion, moving to cut \$1,000 from the travel line, 100-7-30-10-800.000 not the CDL Line. Alderman Mattis seconded, **Motion passed**.

Alderman Larson then moved the DPW Admin line at \$1,178,454 for their final budget. Alderman DePoy seconded. There was no debate. **Motion passed**.

Streets Division-Including Winter Maintenance

Alderman Larson then moved on to the Streets Division and presented a budget of \$2,596,156. A motion was presented to cut the vehicles line by \$142,000 for a large 5 ton plow truck. Debate followed. **Motion failed**. The budget was still \$2,596,156. There was some debate to the healthcare & vehicle lease line items, with no further debate, **Motion passed**.

DPW Traffic & Street Lights-

Alderman Larson read his report from committee on traffic & street lights, noting the committee moved to approve as presented. Alderman Larson so moved the recommendation from committee to approve the Traffic & Streets Budget at \$346,565. Alderman DePoy seconded. There was brief debate to the increase from last year and it was noted it was due to the electric rate increase. **Motion passed**.

DPW Vehicle Maintenance-

Alderman Larson noted the committee approved the budget as presented at \$583,534 and moved to approve as recommended. Alderman DePoy seconded. There was brief debate. **Motion passed**.

Stormwater Budget-

Alderman Larson continued with the stormwater budget and so moved his committee's recommendation approving the budget at \$74,438. Alderman Mattis seconded. There was some debate, with a motion from Alderman Donahue to cut \$3,000 from the overtime line. Alderman

Humphrey seconded. There was some debate. **Motion failed.** The budget of \$74,438 was still on the floor. With no further debate, **Motion passed.**

Water Treatment Budget –

Alderman Larson noted the several categories comprising the water treatment budget and presented a budget from committee of \$718,478. Alderman Mattis seconded. Alderman DePoy moved to cut the State Fees line of \$56,700 to zero (0). Alderman Donahue seconded. There was debate on the motion. **Motion failed.** The original motion approving the budget at \$718,478 was back on the floor. There was no further debate. **Motion passed.**

Water Distribution Budget –

Alderman Larson again noted the various lines discussed in committee and moved their recommendation approving the budget at \$552,439. Alderman Mattis seconded. There was no debate. **Motion passed.**

Water Meter Budget-

Alderman Larson moved his committee's recommendation on this budget of \$428,305. Alderman Donahue seconded. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

Alderman Larson was going to continue with transfers, but was asked by Commissioner Wennberg to hold off until the rest of the budget was set.

Wastewater Treatment-

Alderman Larson continued with the wastewater treatment budget and noted a motion out of committee, cutting the State fees of \$13,500 and he so moved. Alderman DePoy seconded. There was a lot of debate. Alderman Notte then spoke on the issue and moved to present the original budget of \$2,740,207. Alderman Etori seconded. There was some debate on the electricity line being reduced. Alderman Notte asked to amend his motion and sought to add the fees line back into the budget and to reduce the Electricity Buildings Line by \$17,050. President Davis noted the motion and asked Treasurer Markowski for a new bottom line. While the Treasurer was working on the new total, Alderman DePoy asked for the amended motion to be split. There was some confusion and President Davis sought to vote on the first motion by Alderman DePoy of reducing the budget by \$13,500. **That motion failed.** So with Alderman Notte's motion of adding the \$13,500 back into the budget and reducing the electricity line by \$17,050, the new budget total was \$2,723,157. There was brief debate on that motion. **Motion passed.**

Wastewater Collection Budget-

Alderman Larson noted this budget was down from the previous year and moved his committee's recommendation of \$631,348. There was no debate. **Motion passed.**

Pump Stations-

Alderman Larson noted there were several pump stations with in this budget and listed them all. The motion from committee was to approve the Pump Station Budget at \$57,615. Alderman Mattis seconded. There was no debate. **Motion passed.**

Transfer Out- Water & Sewer Budget

Transfers Out-Wastewater

Holding off on the transfers, the Board moved onto setting the water & sewer rates.

Alderman Larson moved the following; water and sewer rates are approved for Fiscal 2019 with the understanding that additional out of town and private rates are automatically adjusted per contract based upon the approved City rates. Alderman Larson then stated that Water was to be set at \$3.359 per 100CF, Sewer Treatment at \$4.406 per 100FC and Sewer Maintenance at \$1.344 per 100CF. Alderman Mattis seconded. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

Alderman Humphrey; Chair, Finance Committee, Municipal Budget

Treasurer's Budget-

Alderman Humphrey read her committee report and noted a motion in committee to cut \$6,200 from the salary line and she so moved. Alderman Etori seconded. There was no debate. **Motion passed.** Alderman Humphrey continued and noted a motion in committee to cut \$1,000 from the office supply line and she so moved. Alderman Etori seconded. **Motion passed.** Alderman Humphrey then noted a cut in committee to the City Employee Pension of \$3,000 and so moved the recommendation to the full Board. There was some debate to this motion and then the Board discussed further cuts to the FICA and Workers Comp lines. A new total for the Treasurer's Budget was presented at \$633,652 and was so moved and seconded (Humphrey, Ryan). **Motion passed.**

Alderman Humphrey continued with her report and moved on to Employer Pension Contributions. Alderman Humphrey noted the debate in committee and presented a budget of \$692,223 to the full

Board. Alderman Notte seconded. Alderman Etori moved to amend that motion and moved to cut \$325,000 from that line. Alderman DePoy seconded for debate. There was lengthy debate on that motion. **Motion failed.** (Alderman Larson abstained from voting). Alderman Etori moved to cut \$125,000 from the Employer Pension Contribution line. Alderman Humphrey seconded. Debate followed. **Motion failed.** (Alderman Larson again abstained). The original motion approving the Employer Pension Contributions line was back on the floor at \$692,223. There was no further debate. **Motion passed.**

Alderman Humphrey had one other request and that was to approve the Transfer-Out line 100-7-99 of \$295,000 for Fire, Police, Rec, and DPW equipment. Alderman DePoy seconded. There was no debate. **Motion passed.**

At this point in the meeting the Board recessed for a quick dinner break.

Alderman Tommola; Chair, General Committee, Municipal Budget

Community Development-

Alderman Tommola noted his committee voted to approve the Community Development Budget at \$180,000 and he so moved. Alderman Mattis seconded. **Motion passed.**

Legislative Budget-

Alderman Tommola noted this budget was \$29,055 coming out of committee and he so moved their recommendation. Alderman Mattis seconded. **Motion passed.**

Clerk Budget –

Alderman Tommola moved the Clerk's Budget from committee and sought clarification on the final number based on the health care findings. It was noted that the final number was \$422,033 and he so moved. Alderman Mattis seconded. **Motion passed.**

Executive Budget –

Alderman Tommola moved the Executive Budget from committee at \$107,768 to the full Board. Alderman Mattis seconded. **Motion passed.**

Human Resource-

Alderman Tommola noted there was discussion in committee on the salary line and explained how that number was derived. A motion out of committee cutting \$9,650 under miscellaneous wellness passed and Alderman Tommola so moved that motion to the full Board. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.** President Davis asked Alderman Tommola to revisit the salary line so they could get a motion approving the figure presented by Mayor Allaire of \$80,213. Alderman Tommola so moved the request. Alderman Mattis seconded. **Motion passed.** President Davis then noted a motion decreasing FICA by -162, VEMERS by -117 and Workers Comp by -11 would be in order. Alderman Tommola so moved. Alderman Mattis seconded. **Motion passed.** Alderman Tommola then moved to set the health care line at \$13,444. Alderman Ryan seconded. **Motion passed.** The final HR Budget was then reduced from \$133,274 to \$118,523 and so moved and seconded (Tommola, Mattis). **Motion passed.**

Elections Budget-

Alderman Tommola moved to approve this budget from his committee at \$32,119 and he so moved. Alderman Mattis seconded. **Motion passed.**

Attorney's Budget-

Alderman Tommola then moved on to the Attorney's Budget and moved to approve the budget at \$298,290. Alderman Mattis seconded. Debate followed. Alderman Etori noted several items within the budget and moved to cut \$25,000 from the regular Legal Services Line. There was no seconded. **Motion failed.** President Davis then noted the budget at \$298,290 and called for a vote. **Motion passed.**

CAIR Committee –

Alderman Tommola asked the board to approve the budget at \$1,000. Alderman Notte seconded. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

Assessor Budget –

Alderman Tommola noted his committee approved this budget at \$126,959 and he so moved this number to the full Board. Alderman Mattis seconded. **Motion passed.**

Building & Zoning Budget –

Alderman Tommola noted his committee approved this budget at \$446,814 and he so moved that budget to the full Board. Alderman Notte seconded. **Motion passed.**

Government Buildings Budget -

Alderman Tommola moved to approve the budget of \$354,006 for Government Buildings. Alderman Mattis seconded. Debate. There was some discussion to related benefits cost and a motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Notte) to cut the Healthcare line \$7,809, Dental line \$273, Vision line \$104, Choice Care Admin Fee Line \$114 and HRA line \$1,875 from the budget. **Motion passed.** The original budget of \$354,006 was reduced to \$343,831 and the **Motion passed** approving Government Buildings.

General Fund Miscellaneous Budget-

President Davis explained the lines within this budget. Alderman Tommola moved to approve the miscellaneous budget at \$368,925. Alderman Notte seconded. Debate. Alderman Etori moved to cut the contingency line \$25,000. Alderman DePoy seconded. Debate. **Motion passed.** A new budget was presented at \$341,925 with the \$25,000 cut. **Motion passed.**

Alderman DePoy; Chair, Recreation Committee, Municipal Budget

Recreation Admin-

Alderman DePoy read the approved motion from committee to lower the salary line by \$7,000 and he so moved to the full Board. Alderman Mattis seconded. Motion passed. There was some discussion on the associated reduction of that salary and a motion was made and seconded (DePoy Etori) to reduce the FICA Line by -\$536, the Workers Pension Line by -\$742 and Workers Comp by -\$35. **Motion passed.** Alderman DePoy continued with his report noting one failed motion in committee to reduce the band line and then moved to approve the Recreation Admin Line at \$538,362. Alderman Etori seconded. **Motion passed.**

Recreation Giorgetti Park-

Alderman DePoy read the recommendation from committee to approve the Giorgetti Budget at \$122,439 and he so moved. Alderman Mattis seconded. **Motion passed.**

Recreation Godnick Center-

Alderman DePoy read his committee report recommending a budget cut to the Buildings Line of \$10,000 (bathroom renovation project) and he so moved. Alderman Ryan seconded. **Motion passed.** Alderman DePoy then noted the Giorgetti Budget as presented at \$15,696 and he so moved. Alderman Mattis seconded. **Motion passed.**

Recreation White Park-

Alderman DePoy read his committee's recommendation to approve a budget of \$93,492 and he so moved. Alderman Mattis seconded. Alderman DePoy noted the \$60,000 increase was due to the pool opening. **Motion passed.**

Recreation Maintenance-

Alderman DePoy read this report and moved the recommendation out of committee to approve the budget at \$779,923. The motion was seconded by Alderman Mattis. There was no debate. **Motion passed.**

Recreation Programs-

Alderman DePoy noted the final recreation programs item was approved in committee as presented and he so moved the budget of \$244,417. Alderman Ryan seconded. There was some discussion on generating more revenues which have fallen significantly over the past couple years. **Motion passed.**

Library Budget-

Was taken up earlier in the meeting and passed.

Alderman Notte Chair, Public Safety Committee, Municipal Budget

Rutland City Police Budget-

Alderman Notte read his committee report from December 19th noting a motion coming out of committee approving the Police budget at \$6,346,263. Alderman Ryan seconded. Debate. Alderman DePoy moved to cut the Overtime Line of \$225,000 to \$200,000 (\$25,000 cut). Alderman Etori seconded. Debate was lengthy. **Motion passed.** Alderman Notte noted with the cut to the OT line the new Police Budget total was \$6,321,263 and he so moved. Alderman Etori seconded. **Motion passed.**

Parking Meter Fund-

Alderman Notte noted the committee approved the budget at \$160,685 and he so moved that number to the full Board. Alderman Mattis seconded. **Motion passed.**

Rutland City Fire Department Budget-

Alderman Notte noted the motion out of committee was to approve the budget as recommended, \$3,708,258, but did note the committee was having trouble understanding the salary/modified salary line and he so moved. Alderman Mattis seconded. Mayor Allaire spoke on the salary issue noting the

difference was to track salaries. Alderman Humphrey spoke at length debating this issue. A motion was made and seconded (Humphrey, DePoy) cutting the Modified Duty Salary Line by \$18,000. **Motion passed.** There was some debate on the Overtime Line making sure the budget of \$190,550 was accurate. Hearing from Chief Lovett and being assured that number was accurate on that issue and with no further discussion a new bottom line of \$3,690,258 was so moved and seconded (Notte, Mattis). **Motion passed.**

President Davis noted the Board needed to revisit DPW transfers. With updated information from Commissioner Wennberg, Alderman Larson presented those totals.

WATER FUND	Fiscal 2018 Budget	Fiscal 2019 Proposed
600-7-99 TRANSFERS OUT		
600-7-99-00-892.000 Transfer Out - Capital	\$ 340,000	\$ 375,000
600-7-99-00-892.001 Trnsf Out - Admin Treas	\$ 190,270	\$ 190,096
600-7-99-00-892.002 Trnsf Out - Admin DPW	\$ 359,135	\$ 392,818
600-7-99-00-892.003 Trnsf Out - Admin Atty	\$ 23,206	\$ 37,286
600-7-99-00-892.004 Trnsf Out - Vehcl Maint	\$ 137,101	\$ 145,883
600-7-99-00-892.005 Trnsf Out - Admin G Bldg	\$ -	\$ -
Totals	\$ 1,049,712	\$ 1,141,083

Alderman Larson noted the total transfers out of the Water Fund were \$1,141,083 and he so moved. Alderman Mattis seconded. There was brief discussion on the transfers and there benefits. **Motion passed.**

Alderman Larson then read the transfers for the Sewer Fund.

SEWER FUND	Fiscal 2018 Budget	Fiscal 2019 Proposed
610-7-99 TRANSFERS OUT		
610-7-99-00-892.000 Transfer Out - Capital	\$ 306,300	\$ 349,460
610-7-99-00-892.001 Trnsf Out - Admin Treas	\$ 190,270	\$ 190,096
610-7-99-00-892.002 Trnsf Out - Admin DPW	\$ 359,135	\$ 392,818
610-7-99-00-892.003 Trnsf Out - Admin Atty	\$ 23,206	\$ 37,286
610-7-99-00-892.004 Trnsf Out - Vhcl Maint	\$ 137,101	\$ 145,883
610-7-99-00-892.005 Trnsf Out - Admin GBldg	\$ -	\$ -
610-7-99-00-892.006 Trnsf Out - Plant PILOT	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ 1,016,012	\$ 1,115,543

Alderman Larson then moved the total transfer out of the Sewer Fund at \$1,115,543. Alderman Mattis seconded. **Motion passed.**

President Davis asked for a quick second to get a total bottom line on the FY 19 Budget. Treasurer Markowski noted the total to be \$21,393,763, Alderman Etori confirmed that total. President Davis asked for a motion approving the FY 19 Budget at \$21,393,763. The request was so moved and seconded (DePoy, Mattis). Debate. There was some discussion on the bottom line and the total dollars saved. With a reduction of \$74,501 the Board sought to find further cuts and moved to reconsider the motion approving the plow truck. There was no second on the motion to reconsider. President Davis then called the motion to approve the FY 19 Budget at \$21,393,763. **Motion passed.**

President Davis asked the Board to hear Alderman Humphrey's report on setting the LAZ Budget.

A motion was made and seconded (Humphrey, Ryan) to un-table the LAZ Budget. **Motion passed.**

After brief discussion and explanation from Alderman Humphrey a motion was presented approving the LAZ Budget. Alderman Ryan seconded. **Motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded (Mattis, Ryan) to adjourn. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Henry A. Heck
Rutland City Clerk