

MINUTES
Administrative Committee-Finance Committee
May 27, 2014

- I. Administrative-Finance Committee Co-chair George Smiley convened the Administrative-Finance Committee meeting at 1:01 p.m. on 5/27/14 in the 8th Floor Council Conference Room.
- II. Council members present were: Mr. Bullock, Mr. Cartier, Ms. Diller, Mr. Hollins, Ms. Kilpatrick, Mr. Reda, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Sheldon, Mr. Tackett and Mr. Weiner.
- III. Councilwoman Kilpatrick made a motion to accept the minutes from the 5/13/14 Finance Committee Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Diller and was unanimously approved.

Councilman Reda made a motion to accept the minutes from the 5/14/14 FY15 Budget Hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Diller and was unanimously approved.

IV. Discussion of Resolutions & Ordinances

Resolutions:

R14-093, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Cartier

ADOPTING THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY CAPITAL PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015 THROUGH 2020.

1. Councilman Smiley read the title explained that this resolution would approve the Capital Program for New Castle County for the next six fiscal years. Councilman Smiley noted that there were two amendments to this resolution.
2. Councilman Smiley noted that Amendment No. 1 would change the funding for the Glasgow Regional Park Hermitage project in FY15, FY16 and FY17.
3. Councilman Smiley noted that Amendment No. 2 would reduce the funding for Carousel in FY17.
4. Ed Milowicki, Office of Finance, noted that a footnote was being added to the capital program book regarding land acquisition.
5. Jim McDonald, Executive Office, commented on the footnote.
6. Councilman Cartier requested that the topic of Farmland Preservation be placed on an upcoming Land Use Committee agenda.
7. There were no questions or discussion amongst Council.
8. Floor was opened to the public. There were no questions from the public.

Ordinances:

***14-049, Mr. Sheldon, Mr. Powers**

AMEND THE FY2014 APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$200,000 FROM THE GENERAL FUND TAX STABILIZATION RESERVES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL SERVICES TO COVER THE COST OF VEHICLE AND FACILITIES MAINTENANCE.

1. Councilman Smiley read the title.
2. Councilman Sheldon stated that this ordinance would appropriate funds to cover the additional cost associated with vehicle and facilities maintenance.
3. Wayne Merritt, Acting General Manager of Department of Special Services, provided Council with some additional history and background on the need for additional funding.
4. Floor was opened to the public. There were no questions from the public.

***14-050, Mr. Tackett, Mr. Reda**

AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$250,000 FROM THE GENERAL FUND TAX STABILIZATION RESERVES TO THE PROPERTY MAINTENANCE REVOLVING FUND.

1. Councilman Smiley read the title.
2. Councilman Reda stated that this ordinance would appropriate \$25,000 from the reserves to the property maintenance revolving fund.
3. Councilwoman Kilpatrick asked how much money is returned to the revolving fund once the properties are sold.
4. Eileen Fogarty, General Manager of Land Use, responded to Councilwoman Kilpatrick's questions and explained the need for the additional funds.
5. Ed Milowick, Office of Finance, provided additional information of funds that are recuperated.
6. Floor was opened to the public. There were no questions from the public.

°14-051, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Cartier

AMEND THE FY2014 APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET: INCREASE THE FY2014 APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF FINANCE, BY \$200,000 TO FUND THE STREET LIGHT PROGRAM.

1. Councilman Smiley read the title and stated that this ordinance would amend the FY14 Operating Budget to transfer funds to the Street Light Program due to Delmarva Power's rate adjustment.
2. There were no questions or discussion amongst Council.
3. Floor was opened to the public. There were no questions from the public.

°14-031, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Cartier

THE ANNUAL REVENUE ORDINANCE OF NEW CASTLE COUNTY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015 BEGINNING JULY 1, 2014

1. Councilman Smiley read the title and stated that this ordinance would essential establish the tax rate for New Castle County.
2. Councilman Weiner asked a question regarding Amendment number 1 to 14-031.
3. Councilman Smiley stated that Amendment No. 1 is needed due to Delmarva Power's rate increase.
4. Ed Milowicki, Office of Finance, responded to Councilman Weiner's previous question under ordinance 14-031.
5. Floor was opened to the public on both the ordinance and the amendment. There were no questions from the public.

°14-032, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Cartier

CALCULATION OF SEWER SERVICE CHARGES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015.

1. Councilman Smiley read the title and stated that this ordinance would set the County's sewer rate for FY15.
2. Councilman Cartier commented on the ordinance and asked the Office of Finance to confirm that the FY15 sewer fund will be balanced.
3. Ed Milowicki, Office of Finance, noted that the County is currently in negotiations with the City of Wilmington and reserve funds may be needed pending the outcome of those negotiations.
4. Floor was opened to the public. There were no questions from the public.

°14-033, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Cartier

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF NEW CASTLE COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING CERTAIN CAPITAL PROJECTS APPROVED IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2015 CAPITAL BUDGET.

1. Councilman Smiley read the title and stated that this ordinance would authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds for the purpose of financing the Capital Projects approved in the FY15 Capital Budget.
2. Councilman Smiley stated that Amendment No. 1 will reduce the authorize bond amount from \$49,904,000 to \$48,625,000 to reflect the changes made to the Glasgow Regional Park Hermitage project.
3. Councilman Smiley noted that the approval of the bonding ordinance requires a super majority.
4. There were no questions or discussion amongst Council.
5. Floor was opened to the public. There were no questions from the public.

°14-034, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Cartier

THE CAPITAL BUDGET ORDINANCE OF NEW CASTLE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2014.

1. Councilman Smiley read the title and stated that this ordinance would authorize the capital spending in the amount of \$59,665,000 for 48 County projects. This ordinance also sunsets 10 capital projects.
2. Councilman Smiley stated that Amendment No. 1 reduces the authorized capital spending to \$58,386,000 which reflects the changes due to the Glasgow Regional Park Hermitage project.
3. Councilman Weiner requested that the General Manager of the Department of Land Use comment on the Planning Boards' joint recommendation.
4. Eileen Fogarty, General Manager of the Department Land Use, responded to Councilman Weiner's request.
5. Floor was opened to the public. There were no questions from the public.

°14-035, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Cartier

ADOPT THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET OF NEW CASTLE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2014.

1. Councilman Smiley read the title and stated that this ordinance would authorize the annual operating budget in the amount of \$254,496,976 in FY15.
2. Councilman Smiley stated that Amendment No. 1 appropriates additional funding in the amount of \$1,242,500 to the Department of Public Safety for the FOP New Castle County Lodge No. 5 Collective Bargaining Agreement which creates a new position of Master Corporal.
3. Councilman Smiley stated that Amendment No. 2 will be replaced by Amendment No. 4.
4. Councilman Smiley called on Councilwoman Kilpatrick for Amendment No. 3.
5. Councilwoman Kilpatrick stated that Amendment No. 3 would remove the \$225,000 that allocated to the City of Wilmington Fire Department.
6. Councilman Smiley stated that Amendment No. 4 would increase the Grants to Fire Companies within the Department of Public Safety for ambulance services from five to ten percent (\$358,692).
7. Councilman Smiley stated that Amendment No. 5 is under Councilman Street's sponsorship and that the amendment would increase grant funding to the Garfield Park PAL in the amount of \$650,000. Jim Boyle provided further details on the amendment.
8. Floor was opened to the public. There were no questions from the public.

V. Item J, Item K & Item L – None

VI. Other Business –

New Castle County Council Grant Requests

New Castle County Council considered and approved the following grant requests at the 5/27/14 Finance Committee meeting:

- | | | | | |
|---|--------|-----|-----|-----------------------|
| 1. Newark Senior Center*
(Diller \$1500, Tackett \$500) | \$2000 | 9 Y | 0 N | 1 Not Voting (Smiley) |
| 2. Urban Youth Golf Program Assoc./
The First Tee of Delaware
(Reda \$2500) | \$2500 | 9 Y | 0 N | 1 Not Voting (Smiley) |

*Councilman Smiley made a motion to suspend the limits of Council's contribution rules to allow for Newark Senior Center/Meals on Wheels to receive \$2700 in FY14. The motion was seconded by Councilman Diller and approved.

- Councilman Powers, Bell and Street were absent for grants.

Expense & Revenue Round Table –

- No items were brought forth.

Other

- Councilman Weiner stated that a previously approved grant to the Delaware Natural History will be delayed until FY15 due to the lack of funds.
 - o Councilman Smiley noted that the applicant would need to re-apply for the grant in the new fiscal year.
- Jim McDonald, Executive office thanked Finance Department and County Council for all their hard work and cooperation on this year's budget.
- Councilman Cartier inquired about Pfizer/AstraZeneca sale and transfer tax. Ed Milowicki, Office of Finance, commented on the recent sale of AstraZeneca's south campus. Councilman Weiner noted that the sale of the company to Pfizer has not been agreed upon.

VIII. Public Comment – None

IX. Councilman Reda made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Kilpatrick and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 1:39 PM.