

**Legislative Council**  
**Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget Deliberations**  
**(Budget Changes)**

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(Line item changes and the meeting recording link can be found at the end)

**May 8, 2021** – Out of recess at 9:09 AM

Members Present: Dominique Baez; Marjorie Bonadies; Austin Cesare; Kristin Dolan; Justin Farmer; Valerie Horsley; Brad Macdowall; Mick McGarry; Berita Rowe-Lewis; Kathleen Schomaker; Adrian Webber; Betty Wetmore; Jody Clouse; Jeron Alston (after roll call); Athena Gary (after roll call)

Members Absent:

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**Engineering:**

**Revenues:**

Ms. Bonadies requested a motion to accept the Mayor's revenues as proposed. Moved by Mr. McGarry, seconded by Mr. Macdowall. There was some discussion on sidewalk permits before a vote was taken and approved unanimously.

**Positions:**

Ms. Bonadies moved a motion to approve the positions as proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Mr. McGarry.

There was some discussion on the Inspector position. There was also discussion on competitive salaries for a Town Engineer. Ms. Schomaker expressed concern about the Town Engineer's salary. A list of comparable Town Engineer's salaries was provided with the average being \$119,000.

Ms. Horsley moved a motion to increase the salary of Town Engineer to \$120,000. The motion was seconded by Ms. Schomaker.

Mr. Farmer said he'd like to see data on the comparable Towns as far as debt and cash on hand.

A roll call vote was taken and the item failed with 8 opposed (Baez) (Bonadies) (Cesare) (Dolan) (Farmer) (Macdowall) (Webber) (Wetmore) – 5 in favor (Clouse) (Horsley) (McGarry) (Rowe-Lewis) (Schomaker) and 2 absent (Alston) (Gary)

A vote was then taken on positions as proposed and it passed with 2 opposed (Cesare) (Farmer)

**Expenditures:**

(Mr. Alston is now in attendance)

Ms. Bonadies requested a motion to accept the Mayor's expenditures as proposed. Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Mr. McGarry.

After some discussion on the Professional/Technical and Overtime lines a vote was taken and the proposed expenditures passed unanimously.

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**Community, Youth Services & Arts:**

Mr. Sendroff explained the memo sent by the Mayor saying they're requesting the Grants Consultant expense line be moved to Finance.

**Revenues:**

Ms. Baez requested a motion to accept the Mayor's revenues as proposed. Moved by Mr. Cesare, seconded by Mr. Farmer.

Ms. Smith was asked for her thoughts on this revenue. Ms. Smith said she was optimistic. There was then some discussion on how much we can or can't do this year.

A vote was taken and the revenues passed unanimously.

**Expenses:**

Ms. Baez requested a motion to accept the Mayor's expenses as proposed. Moved by Mr. McGarry, seconded by Ms. Wetmore and Mr. Farmer.

Ms. Schomaker moved a motion to move line #12001-0511 Grants Consultant to the Finance Dept., seconded by Ms. Horsley.

Ms. Smith explained how at the Keefe Center they needed help with Grant Administration (back end of the grant) as opposed to finding them. After a little more explanation she said moving this Grant Consultant in Finance would be a game changer.

A vote was taken on the motion and it was approved unanimously.

There was then some discussion on the Warming Center and the Community Garden line. Ms. Schomaker asked if Sunday hours at the Library were needed for the Warming Center. Ms. Smith said doing it for the cold months would be a huge help.

There was then some discussion on the Community Ambassador Program. Ms. Smith said she believes this will be a part-time position and additional funds for stipends for participants within the program. Ms. Bonadies said she would like more information and clarity on this line.

Mr. Farmer moved a motion to table line #12002-0670V Community Ambassador Program. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wetmore and approved with 8 in favor (Alston) (Baez) (Bonadies) (Dolan) (Farmer) (Macdowall) (Webber) (Wetmore) - 6 opposed (Cesare) (Clouse) (Horsley) (McGarry) (Rowe-Lewis) (Schomaker) and 1 absent (Gary) **TABLED ITEM**

After some discussion on line #12002-0366 Juvenile Review Board Mr. Farmer moved a motion to table this line. The motion was seconded by Mr. Macdowall.

Mr. Farmer said he wants more information on data being collected, what it is, and what it's used for and where it is going. He also wants to know what other Towns are taking advantage of such a benefit.

The vote to table was taken and it failed with 2 in favor (Farmer) (Macdowall) and all others opposed.

Mr. Lopes and Ms. Smith tried to better explain what is done with this program and data collected. Mr. Farmer stated he's not comfortable with this.

After some more discussion Mr. Cesare moved a motion to call the question. The motion was seconded by Ms. Schomaker and approved with 3 opposed (Farmer) (Macdowall) (Baez)

A vote was taken on the expenses as amended and approved with 2 opposed (Bonadies) (Farmer)

**Positions:** (Ms. Clouse is absent, Ms. Gary is present)

Ms. Baez requested a motion to accept the Mayor's positions as proposed. Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Ms. Horsley.

Ms. Baez then moved a motion to accept the Mayor's amended changes, seconded by Mr. Cesare.

In response to Mr. Farmer Ms. Smith said there are two positions here that are non-union, the Marketing Director and the Town/BOE Arts, Culture and Marketing Manager. She said the rest are all contractual.

Mr. McGarry said in addition to this amended page (on display) we still have the old salary page 28 and he asked Mr. Jackson if they needed to make a motion to merge the two documents. He asked for clarification on what they should do with the salaries and positions. Mr. Jackson said it's a mechanical operation. He said we can just use the revised sheet to work off of and then they'll put that into the control document to manage changes. Mr. McGarry asked should he make a motion to add the union positions from page 28 on to this page. Ms. Baez said the Clerk Typist and Comm. Service Technician are on there. Mr. McGarry said do we have everything and Ms. Baez said yes.

Ms. Wetmore asked what the Technician does and then said it also looks like there are two positions getting a \$27,000 raise. Ms. Smith said she doesn't really see it as a raise, there's more responsibility. She said a raise is given doing the same work, this also oversees 4 departments and is comparable with other Department Heads. She said the Marketing Manager will be running a department by themselves.

There was then some discussion on the Community Services Technician.

Ms. Wetmore moved a motion to decrease the Town/BOE Arts, Culture and Marketing Manager by \$10,000. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cesare. After some discussion Mr. Cesare asked if Ms. Wetmore would take a friendly to increase it up \$5,000. Ms. Wetmore declined.

Mr. Farmer asked for a spreadsheet if there is one of grants subsidizing positions.

A roll call vote was then taken on Ms. Wetmore's motion and it failed with 5 in favor (Bonadies) (Cesare) (Dolan) (Farmer) (Wetmore) and all 9 other opposed (Ms. Clouse absent)

A vote was then taken on Ms. Baez's motion to accept the Mayor's amended position changes and it passed with 5 opposed (Farmer) (Dolan) (Wetmore) (Bonadies) (Cesare)

A vote was taken on the positions as amended and it passed with 4 opposed (Wetmore) (Bonadies) (Dolan) (Farmer)

There was then a recess for lunch.

In recess at 12:44 pm

Out of recess at 1:21pm

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**Mayor's Office:**

**Positions:**

Mr. McGarry requested a motion to accept the Mayor's positions as recommended. Moved by Ms. Horsley, seconded by Ms. Schomaker.

After some discussion on the Director of Town/BOE Legislative Affairs a vote was taken and approved with 1 opposed (Farmer)

**Expenses:**

Mr. McGarry requested a motion to accept the Mayor's expenditures as proposed. Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Ms. Schomaker.

Mr. Farmer asked about the reduction line. Mr. Sendroff said it represents holding back on expenses throughout the year Town wide. Mr. Galarza said he thinks it's a manageable number. Mr. Farmer asked for a breakdown of last year's savings.

There was then some discussion on the National League of Cities and Mr. Morton listed some of the things membership allows.

Ms. Dolan moved a motion to reduce to reduce line #10201-3636 to \$0. The motion was seconded by Mr. Farmer.

Ms. Dolan said she sees no need for a negative expense, these savings can drop down and go into the general fund.

(Ms. Bonadies and Ms. Wetmore are now absent)

After some discussion on this line a roll call vote was taken and it passed with 4 opposed (Horsley) (McGarry) (Rowe-Lewis) (Schomaker) - 3 absent (Bonadies) (Clouse) (Wetmore)

A vote was taken on expenses as amended and approved with 1 opposed (Horsley)

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## **Planning & Economic Development:**

Ms. Schomaker stated she would be recusing herself on this department.

Mr. Sendroff explained the mayor's memos. One about combing Economic Development and Planning & Zoning, and the other about decreasing the HEDC line to \$0.

Mr. Johnson explained why he thinks this merge makes sense and said he believes he has the ability to play both roles.

### **Positions:**

Ms. Baez requested a motion to accept the Mayor's positions as proposed. Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Ms. Baez.

Ms. Baez then moved a motion to accept the Mayor's amended version in his memo dated May 7, 2021. The motion was seconded by Ms. Horsley.

There was some discussion on positions with Mr. Johnson explaining how the departments would work together. There was some discussion on the Development & Small Business Manager position.

Ms. Horsley moved a motion to increase the salary of the Development & Small Business Owner salary to \$65,000. The motion was seconded by Mr. Macdowall and approved with 1 abstention (Farmer)

A vote was taken on positions as amended and approved with 1 opposed (Farmer)

### **Expenses:**

Ms. Baez requested a motion to accept the Mayor's expenses as proposed. Moved by Ms. Horsley, seconded by Mr. Farmer.

After a discussion on the HEDC Mr. McGarry moved a motion to eliminate line #11411-0679 HEDC. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cesare.

There was some discussion on why this line is no longer needed and about the properties that have been turned over to the HEDC.

A roll call vote was taken on eliminating this line item and approved unanimously. (4 absent – Alston, Bonadies, Clouse, Wetmore) (Schomaker did not vote)

Mr. McGarry moved a motion to table the expenses until Wednesday the 12<sup>th</sup>. The motion was seconded by Mr. Farmer and approved unanimously. – TABLED ITEM

Mr. McGarry the said they would do the tabled items Wednesday, the Public Hearing will be Thursday, and they will vote on Saturday.

The meeting then recessed at 3:07 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Renta, Clerk

Meeting recording:

[https://zoom.us/rec/share/\\_XGogZYwWkWy6T0incxjKb-U3GZjmxduFt-RHOfqj7bQdV1Odu-wEGy51aaO5lIB.bXxAn4hQ4WGA0h1h](https://zoom.us/rec/share/_XGogZYwWkWy6T0incxjKb-U3GZjmxduFt-RHOfqj7bQdV1Odu-wEGy51aaO5lIB.bXxAn4hQ4WGA0h1h)

Password: ^SQK4g\*6

**FY 21-22 Budget changes on May 8, 2021**

**Community, Youth & Arts changes:**

**Expenditures:**

Move line #12001-0511 Grants Consultant at \$60,000 to the Finance Dept.	(-\$60,000)
Create line #12001-0511 Grants Consultant in the Finance Dept. funded at \$60,000	(+\$60,000)

**Positions:**

(Approved as laid out in the Mayor's memo "Keefe Community Center Reorganization" dated May 7, 2021 attached)

**Mayor's office changes:**

**Expenses:**

Reduce line #10201-3636 Expense Reductions to \$0	(+\$150,000)
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**Planning & Economic Development changes:**

**Expenses:**

Eliminate line #11411-0679 HEDC from the budget	(+\$60,000)
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**Positions:**

Increase the salary of Development & Small Business Manager to \$65,000	(+\$23,000)
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**TABLED:**

Community Youth Services & Arts Line #12002-0670V Community Ambassador Program

Planning & Economic Development expenses (minus the HEDC line which has been eliminated)