

30TH BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES CITY OF STAMFORD

President
MATTHEW QUINONES

Clerk of the Board
SUSAN NABEL

Majority Leader
RODNEY PRATT

Minority Leader
MARY L. FEDELI

MINUTES

President Quinones called the meeting to order at 8:16 p.m.

President Quinones read the call of the meeting: "I, Matthew Quinones, President of the 30th Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford, Connecticut, and pursuant to Section C2-10-4 of the Stamford Charter, hereby call a Special Meeting of said Board of Representatives at the following time and place:

Tuesday, June 2, 2020

8:00 p.m.

By Webinar at:

<https://zoom.us/j/99666394435>

Or Telephone at:

1 646 558 8656

Webinar ID: 996 6639 4435

to consider and act upon the following:

1. General Fund Operating (including Board of Education budget), Capital, E.G. Brennan Golf Course Fund, Debt Service Fund, Risk Management Fund, Parking Fund, Active Medical Fund, Anti-Blight Programs Fund, Grant Funded Programs Fund, Police Extra Duty Fund, Harbor Commission Fund, Marina Fund, Terry Connors Ice Rink Fund and Water Pollution Control Authority Fund Budgets for the fiscal year 2020/2021, as transmitted by the Board of Finance on June 2, 2020, pursuant to provisions of Section C8-30-7 of the Stamford Charter as extended by State of Connecticut Executive Order 7C; and RESOLUTIONS associated therewith.

AGENDA

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: Led by President Matthew Quinones

ROLL CALL: Conducted by Clerk of the Board Susan Nabel. There were 39 members present and 1 absent or excused (Reps. Adams, Aquila, Coleman, Cottrell, Curtis, de la Cruz, DePina, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Giordano, Graziosi, Jacobson, Lee, Liebson, Lion, Lutz, Mahoney, Matherne, McMullen, Michelson, Miller, Moore, Morson, Nabel, Palomba, Patterson, Pendell, Policar, Quinones, Roqueta, Saftic, Sherwood, Stella, Summerville, Wallace, Watkins and Zelinsky present; Reps. Pratt absent). Rep. Giordano joined the meeting immediately after Roll Call.

¹COMMITTEE / BUDGET PRESENTATION: Monica Di Costanzo, Chair, Fiscal Committee

Chair Di Costanzo reviewed the Fiscal Committee's [recommended cuts](#) to the City's Budget (including proposed cuts which the Committee did not recommend) below:

<u>OPERATING BUDGET</u>	<u>PROPOSED CUT</u>	<u>COMMITTEE ACTION</u>
	Program 5020 (Page 278-279) - \$57,180 (BOR Budget)	APPROVED 8-0-0
	Program 1023 (Taxation Services) (Page 71) - \$50,260 from Account Clerk I	WITHDRAWN
	Program 1032 (Financial Processing & Reporting) (Page 33) - \$111,153 from Project Accountant	NO SECOND RECEIVED
	Program 2121(Vehicle Maintenance) (Page 95) -\$67,632 from Mechanic	FAILED 1-7-0
	Program 2600 (Operations Administration) (Page 183) - \$48,814 from Account Clerk II	FAILED 3-4-1
	Program 3300 (Police Administration) (Page 201) - \$147,000 from Assistant Police Chief	NO SECOND RECEIVED
	Program 3810 (Director of Health) (Page233) - \$31,800 from Health Behavior Consultant)	NO SECOND RECEIVED
	Program 2143 (Collection) (Page 128) - \$93,262 from Operations Foreman	FAILED 1-6-1
	Program 4020 (Human Resources) (p. 257) - \$80,712 from HR Benefits Analyst	FAILED 1-6-1

OPERATING BUDGET

Chair Di Costanzo moved to approve the City's Operating Budget as cut by the committee, which motion was seconded.

¹ Video Time Stamp 00:10:12

President Quinones called for any motion to amend the report, beginning with the Operating Budget.

²Rep. Zelinsky made a motion to cut \$100,000 from Page 302 - Program 6056 – Cultural & Environmental - DSSD, which motion was seconded.

Rep. Zelinsky read the following statement into the record:

A dozen constituents Democrats and Republicans telephoned me saying the Mayor “washed his hands before making reductions because of the pandemic.” “He passed the buck from his office to the Board of Finance and Board of Representatives to force them to make all the cuts.”

The Board of Finance has left the balance of \$2.8 million to be cut to reach the \$35 million deficit.

The City’s 10 unions agreed to look for a wage freeze nothing definite and the four Board of Education unions said no salary freeze.

The \$6.4 million not cut by the Board of Finance anticipating City workers will agree to a state insurance plan.

The Mayor’s proposed budget would require a 4.1% tax increase and the Board of Education budget would require a 6.1% tax increase.

The Board of Finance did research how much they calculated revenue would come in, determining a \$65 million deficit.

The Mayor was quoted in the Advocate “. . . the cuts were enough and it would be counterproductive to make additional cuts.”

If we make additional cuts to the Mayor’s budget can borrow less or use less of its cash reserve.

The Board of Finance is counting on \$4.7 million in wage freezes plus \$6.4 million if union employees agree to a cheaper state plan for health care insurance and counting on wage freezes from the four school unions.

Our residents are losing their jobs, wages and businesses are less likely to pay their property taxes which usually comprise 95% of revenue for the City.

The Mayor and Board of Finance members are assuming and estimating these concessions and property taxes, they may be correct they also may not. Then what do we do?

This motion failed by a roll call vote of 11-22-6 (Reps. Adams, Coleman, Curtis, de la Cruz, Graziosi, Liebson, Policar, Saftic, Sherwood, Stella, and Zelinsky in favor; Reps. Aquila, DePina, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Giordano, Jacobson, Lee, Lion, Mahoney, Matherne, Miller, Morson, Nabel, Palomba, Patterson, Pendell, Quinones, Summerville, Wallace and Watkins opposed; and Reps. Cottrell, Lutz, McMullen, Michelson, Moore and Roqueta abstaining).

³Rep. de la Cruz made a motion to cut \$50,000 from Page 302 - Program 6056 – Cultural & Environmental - DSSD, which motion was seconded.

Rep. McMullen made a motion to amend this cut to \$11,000, which motion was seconded and approved by a roll call vote of 22-13-4 (Reps. Coleman, DePina, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Giordano, Lee, Lion, Mahoney, McMullen, Michelson, Miller, Morson, Nabel, Palomba,

² Video Time Stamp 00:15:30

³ Video Time Stamp 01:26:10

Minutes

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Patterson, Pendell, Quinones, Summerville, Wallace and Watkins in favor; Reps. Adams, Aquila, Cottrell, Curtis, de la Cruz, Graziosi, Liebson, Moore, Policar, Saftic, Sherwood, Stella and Zelinsky opposed; and Reps. Jacobson, Lutz, Matherne and Roqueta abstaining).

The motion to cut \$11,000 from Page 302 - Program 6056 – Cultural & Environmental – DSSD passed by a roll call vote of 27-9-3 (Reps. Adams, Aquila, Coleman, Cottrell, Curtis, DePina, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Giordano, Graziosi, Lee, Liebson, Mahoney, Matherne, McMullen, Michelson, Moore, Nabel, Palomba, Pendell, Quinones, Saftic, Sherwood, Wallace, and Watkins in favor; Reps. de la Cruz, Jacobson, Lion, Miller, Morson, Patterson, Policar, Stella and Zelinsky opposed; and Reps. Lutz, Roqueta and Summerville abstaining).

⁴Rep. Sherwood made a motion to cut \$180,000 from Page 111 – Program 2130 – Police Headquarters – Purchased Professional Services, which motion was seconded and approved by a roll call vote of 24-11-3 (Reps. Adams, Aquila, Coleman, Cottrell, Curtis, de la Cruz, Fedeli, Florio, Graziosi, Lee, Mahoney, Matherne, McMullen, Michelson, Moore, Nabel, Palomba, Pendell, Policar, Saftic, Sherwood, Stella, Watkins and Zelinsky in favor; Reps. DePina, Di Costanzo, Figueroa, Jacobson, Lion, Miller, Morson, Patterson, Quinones, Summerville and Wallace opposed; and Reps. Giordano, Lutz and Roqueta abstaining).

⁵Rep. Sherwood made a motion to cut \$50,810 from Page 268 – Program 510 – Mayor’s Office – Other Salary, which motion was seconded. After extensive discussion a motion to move the question was made, seconded and approved by a roll call vote of 36-2-0 (Reps. Adams, Aquila, Coleman, Cottrell, Curtis, de la Cruz, DePina, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Giordano, Graziosi, Jacobson, Lee, Lion, Lutz, Mahoney, McMullen, Michelson, Moore, Morson, Nabel, Palomba, Patterson, Pendell, Policar, Quinones, Roqueta, Saftic, Sherwood, Stella, Summerville, Wallace, Watkins and Zelinsky in favor; and Reps. Matherne and Miller opposed).

The original motion to cut \$50,810 from Page 268 – Program 510 – Mayor’s Office – Other Salary failed by a vote of 9-28-1 (Reps. Aquila, Coleman, Graziosi, Mahoney, McMullen, Moore, Sherwood, Stella, and Zelinsky in favor; Reps. Adams, Cottrell, Curtis, de la Cruz, DePina, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Giordano, Jacobson, Lee, Lion, Lutz, Matherne, Michelson, Miller, Morson, Nabel, Palomba, Patterson, Pendell, Policar, Quinones, Roqueta, Summerville, Wallace and Watkins opposed; and Rep. Saftic abstaining).

⁶Rep. de la Cruz made a motion to cut \$100,000 from Page 302 - Program 6056 – Cultural & Environmental – Mill River Collaborative, which motion was seconded. After extensive discussion a motion to move the question was made, seconded and approved by a roll call vote of 33-4-1 Reps. Adams, Aquila, Coleman, Curtis, de la Cruz, DePina, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Giordano, Graziosi, Jacobson, Lee, Lutz, Mahoney, McMullen, Michelson, Moore, Nabel, Palomba, Patterson, Pendell, Policar, Quinones, Roqueta, Saftic, Sherwood, Stella, Summerville, Wallace, Watkins and Zelinsky in favor; Reps. Lion, Matherne, Miller and Morson opposed; and Rep. Cottrell abstaining)

The original motion to cut \$100,000 from Page 302 - Program 6056 – Cultural & Environmental – Mill River Collaborative was approved by a roll call vote of 30-7-1 (Reps. Adams, Aquila, Coleman, Cottrell, Curtis, de la Cruz, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Giordano, Graziosi, Jacobson, Lee, Lutz, Mahoney, Matherne, McMullen, Michelson, Moore, Nabel, Palomba, Patterson, Pendell, Policar, Quinones, Saftic, Sherwood, Stella, Watkins and Zelinsky in favor; Reps.

⁴ Video Time Stamp 01:47:40

⁵ Video Time Stamp 02:10:04

⁶ Video Time Stamp 02:53:54

DePina, Di Costanzo, Lion, Miller, Morson, Summerville and Wallace opposed; and Rep. Roqueta abstaining).

⁷Rep. McMullen made a motion to cut \$48,814 from Page 183 - Program 2600 – Operations Administration – Account Clerk II, which motion was seconded. After extensive discussion, a motion to move the question was made, seconded and approved by a roll call vote of 32-5-0 (Reps. Adams, Aquila, Coleman, Cottrell, Curtis, de la Cruz, DePina, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Giordano, Graziosi, Jacobson, Lee, Lion, Lutz, Mahoney, Michelson, Moore, Morson, Nabel, Palomba, Patterson, Pendell, Policar, Quinones, Roqueta, Saftic, Wallace, Watkins and Zelinsky in favor; and Reps. Matherne, McMullen, Miller, Sherwood and Summerville opposed).

The original motion to cut \$48,814 from Page 183 - Program 2600 – Operations Administration – Account Clerk II failed by a roll call vote of 7-26-4 (Reps. Aquila, Mahoney, McMullen, Moore, Nabel, Pendell and Sherwood in favor; Reps. Adams, Coleman, Cottrell, Curtis, de la Cruz, DePina, Di Costanzo, Figueroa, Florio, Giordano, Jacobson, Lee, Lion, Matherne, Michelson, Miller, Morson, Palomba, Patterson, Policar, Quinones, Roqueta, Summerville, Wallace, Watkins and Zelinsky opposed; and Reps. Fedeli, Graziosi, Lutz and Saftic abstaining).

⁸Rep. McMullen made a motion to cut \$31,803 from Page 233 - Program 3810 – Director of Health – Health Behavior Health Promotion & Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, which motion was seconded. After extensive discussion, a motion to move the question was made, seconded and approved by a roll call vote of 30-7-0 (Reps. Adams, Coleman, Cottrell, Curtis, de la Cruz, DePina, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Giordano, Graziosi, Jacobson, Lee, Lion, Lutz, Mahoney, Michelson, Moore, Morson, Nabel, Palomba, Patterson, Pendell, Quinones, Stella, Summerville, Wallace, Watkins and Zelinsky in favor; and Reps. Matherne, McMullen, Miller, Policar, Roqueta, Saftic and Sherwood opposed).

The original motion to cut \$31,803 from Page 233 - Program 3810 – Director of Health – Health Behavior Health Promotion & Emergency Preparedness Coordinator failed by a roll call vote of 9-29-0 (Reps. Coleman, Graziosi, Mahoney, McMullen, Michelson, Moore, Nabel, Sherwood and Stella in favor; and Reps. Adams, Aquila, Cottrell, Curtis, de la Cruz, DePina, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Giordano, Jacobson, Lee, Lion, Lutz, Matherne, Miller, Morson, Palomba, Patterson, Pendell, Policar, Quinones, Roqueta, Saftic, Summerville, Wallace, Watkins and Zelinsky opposed).

The Board took a five minute recess in order for OPM to verify the total Operating Budget numbers.

⁹The original motion to approve the Operating Budget, as cut by the Fiscal Committee and amended by the Board of Representatives, in the amount of \$589,524,339 (pending any further cuts to General Fund Support to the Board of Education budget), was approved by a vote of 37-2-0 (Reps. Adams, Aquila, Coleman, Curtis, de la Cruz, DePina, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Giordano, Graziosi, Jacobson, Lee, Liebson, Lion, Lutz, Mahoney, Matherne, McMullen, Michelson, Miller, Moore, Morson, Nabel, Palomba, Patterson, Pendell, Policar, Quinones, Saftic, Sherwood, Stella, Summerville, Wallace, Watkins and Zelinsky in favor; Reps. Cottrell and Roqueta opposed).

⁷ Video Time Stamp 03:08:25

⁸ Video Time Stamp 03:22:16

⁹ Video Time Stamp 03:50:08

BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET

¹⁰Chair Di Costanzo reported that the Fiscal Committee took no action on the Board of Education Budget. Chair Di Costanzo moved to approve the Board of Education Budget in the amount of \$285,555,203, which motion was seconded and approved by a vote of 29-4-4 (Reps. Adams, Coleman, Curtis, de la Cruz, DePina, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Giordano, Graziosi, Jacobson, Lee, Lion, Mahoney, McMullen, Michelson, Miller, Moore, Morson, Nabel, Palomba, Patterson, Policar, Saftic, Sherwood, Stella, Watkins and Zelinsky in favor; Reps. Aquila, Cottrell, Liebson and Roqueta opposed; Reps. Lutz, Matherne, Pendell and Quinones abstaining).

CAPITAL BUDGET

Chair Di Costanzo reported that the Fiscal Committee took no action on the City's Capital Budget. Chair Di Costanzo moved to approve the Capital Budget, in the amount of \$42,341,605, authorizing the issuance of \$19,460,000 general obligation bonds, on consent. Said motion was seconded and approved on consent by unanimous voice vote (*Reps. Coleman, Cottrell, Lutz and Roqueta abstaining*).

SPECIAL FUNDS BUDGET

Chair Di Costanzo reported that the Fiscal Committee took no action on the Funds Budgets and made a motion to approve the following Funds Budgets:

\$1,662,384 – E. G. Brennan Golf Course Fund
\$56,136,962 – Debt Service Fund
\$15,852,926 - Risk Management Fund
\$7,246,000 – Parking Fund
\$40,735,166 – Active Medical Fund
\$287,290 – Anti-Blight Programs Fund
\$8,344,523 – Grant Funded Programs Fund,
\$13,923,000 – Police Extra Duty Fund
\$51,346 – Stamford Harbor Management Fund
\$474, 364 – Marina Operating Fund
\$1,321,646 – Terry Conners Ice Rink Fund
\$27,410,206 – WPCA Fund

The above fund budgets were approved by on consent by unanimous voice vote (*Reps. Adams, Cottrell and Roqueta abstaining*).

RESOLUTIONS

A motion to approve the Operating Budget Resolution, in the amount of \$589,524,339 (pending any further cuts to General Fund Support to the Board of Education budget), was seconded and approved by a roll call vote of 33-3-0 (Reps. Adams, Aquila, Coleman, Curtis, de la Cruz,

¹⁰ Video Time Stamp 03:55:15

DePina, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Florio, Giordano, Graziosi, Jacobson, Lee, Liebson, Lion, Mahoney, Matherne, McMullen, Michelson, Miller, Moore, Morson, Nabel, Palomba, Patterson, Pendell, Policar, Quinones, Saftic, Sherwood, Stella, Watkins and Zelinsky in favor; Reps. Cottrell, Lutz and Roqueta opposed).

A motion to approve the Board of Education Budget Resolution in the amount of \$285,555,203, was seconded and approved by a roll call vote of 29-4-3 (Reps. Adams, Coleman, Curtis, de la Cruz, DePina, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Florio, Giordano, Graziosi, Jacobson, Lee, Liebson, Lion, Mahoney, McMullen, Michelson, Miller, Moore, Morson, Nabel, Palomba, Patterson, Policar, Saftic, Sherwood, Stella, Watkins and Zelinsky in favor; Reps. Aquila, Cottrell, Lutz and Roqueta opposed; Reps. Matherne, Pendell and Quinones abstaining).

A motion to approve the Capital Budget Resolution, in the amount of \$42,341,605, authorizing the issuance of \$19,460,000 general obligation bonds, was seconded and approved on consent by unanimous voice vote (*Reps. Cottrell, Lutz and Roqueta abstaining*).

A motion to approve the Special Funds Budget Resolution, in the amounts of:

\$1,662,384 – E. G. Brennan Golf Course Fund
\$56,136,962 – Debt Service Fund
\$15,852,926 - Risk Management Fund
\$7,246,000 – Parking Fund
\$40,735,166 – Active Medical Fund
\$287,290 – Anti-Blight Programs Fund
\$8,344,523 – Grant Funded Programs Fund,
\$13,923,000 – Police Extra Duty Fund
\$51,346 – Stamford Harbor Management Fund
\$474,364 – Marina Operating Fund
\$1,321,646 – Terry Conners Ice Rink Fund
\$27,410,206 – WPCA Fund

was seconded and approved on the Consent Agenda. (*Reps. Adams, Cottrell and Roqueta abstaining*)

ADJOURNMENT:

President Quinones adjourned the meeting at 1:20 a.m.

This meeting is on [video](#).