

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

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

May 11, 2021 – Out of recess at 7:08 PM

Members Present: Dominique Baez; Marjorie Bonadies; Austin Cesare; Justin Farmer; Valerie Horsley; Athena Gary; Brad Macdowall; Mick McGarry; Berita Rowe-Lewis; Kathleen Schomaker; Adrian Webber; Betty Wetmore; Jody Clouse

Members Absent: Jeron Alston; Kristin Dolan

Police Dept:

Revenues:

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

Chief Sullivan said he thinks the revenues are in line.

There was some discussion on Police Extra Duty, Vehicle Extra Duty and Alarm Ordinance Fees.

A vote was then taken on the revenues as proposed and approved unanimously.

Positions:

Mr. Webber requested a motion to accept the Mayor's positions as proposed. Moved by Mr. Cesare, seconded by Mr. McGarry.

Chief Sullivan said they have 100 officers now, depending on the concession package it can be 102, and they're looking to add 5 patrol officers for increased services in programs, one of them being PAL. There was some discussion on some programs and mental health and working with the homeless.

Mr. McGarry said it's his understanding that they have to add another Lieutenant position and said he'd like to make a motion to add one (1) Lieutenant position to be in compliant with the MOU.

After some confusion on the number to add and whether or not this was a change of position and not an addition, Chief Sullivan clarified by saying they currently have 5 Lieutenant positions,

that the 6th position is a grievance, and so he believes with the MOU you have to add one to make that 7th one. Mr. McGarry said that's his understanding of the MOU.

Mr. Cesare seconded Mr. McGarry's motion for continued discussion.

Mr. McGarry then read aloud the part in the MOU about this position.

A vote was taken and the motion passed with 1 opposed (Macdowall) and 1 abstention (Farmer)

Mr. Farmer moved a motion to eliminate the 5 patrol positions added by the Mayor. The motion was seconded by Ms. Baez.

Mr. Farmer said he's sticking with the MOU and fiscally we don't have enough money to hire new positions and the Chief should come back next year with a plan and job descriptions.

There was some discussion on the historic number of officers. Mr. Cesare asked Mr. Farmer if he would take a friendly amendment to add 2 instead of the 5. Mr. Farmer said he would not accept the friendly.

After going over some comparable of other Towns Ms. Bonadies asked the Chief how this would affect his department. Chief Sullivan said it would affect the Community Division. He said there are a lot of community members excited about PAL and he's not sure if they could, this requires two officers fully dedicated to this program. He said it could affect services to the public and to youth.

There was some discussion on the current vacancies and some upcoming ones, as well as discussion on how 5 positions can make a community safer.

Mr. Macdowall said 1 position with 20 years of service is a \$2,000,000 long term liability for basic salary and medical only, and does not include pension, overtime, promotions, etc. He said 5 positions is \$10,000,000.

There was discussion on the Citizens Academy Program, Block Watch, Community Policing, Diversity and how to get Hamden residents to apply for a position. Mr. Farmer calling them Homegrown Heroes.

Ms. Horsley asked if these positions would cut back on overtime in increases. Chief Sullivan said it'll help reduce overtime but not the number that he put in.

Ms. Baez asked Mr. Farmer if he would accept a friendly to take 4 out. Mr. Farmer said he would accept that.

The motion is now to take 4 of the Mayor's 5 proposed positions out.

Mr. McGarry said 5 may be too many, but 1 is too few. He said 2 seems just about right and a good compromise. Ms. Schomaker said she likes the number of 2.

Ms. Bonadies moved a motion to call the question. The motion was seconded by Ms. Schomaker and approved by a roll call vote with 8 in favor (Bonadies) (Cesare) (Clouse) (Horsley) (McGarry) (Rowe-Lewis) (Schomaker) (Wetmore) – 5 opposed (Baez) (Farmer) (Gary) (Macdowall) (Webber) and 2 absent (Alston) (Dolan)

A roll call vote was taken on the amended motion to remove 4 of the 5 officers and it failed with 5 in favor (Baez) (Clouse) (Gary) (Macdowall) (Webber) – 8 opposed (Bonadies) (Cesare) (Farmer) (Horsley) (McGarry) (Rowe-Lewis) (Schomaker) (Webber) and 2 absent (Alston) (Dolan)

Mr. Cesare moved a motion to remove 2 of the Mayor's 5 proposed positions, seconded by Ms. Bonadies. Mr. Macdowall asked Mr. Cesare if he'd take a friendly to remove 3 of the 5. Mr. Cesare said yes, and Ms. Bonadies (as the seconder) said yes.

After some discussion and concern from the Chief Mr. Cesare withdrew the motion and Ms. Bonadies withdrew her second.

Mr. Macdowall moved a motion to remove 3 of the 5 positions. The motion was seconded by Ms. Clouse.

After some discussion on programs and wraparound services a motion to call the question was moved by Ms. Rowe-Lewis, seconded by Ms. Bonadies and approved by a roll call vote with 8 in favor (Bonadies) (Cesare) (Clouse) (Horsley) (McGarry) (Rowe-Lewis) (Schomaker) (Wetmore) – 5 opposed (Baez) (Farmer) (Gary) (Macdowall) (Webber) and 2 absent (Alston) (Dolan)

A roll call vote was taken on the motion to remove 3 of the 5 positions and it failed with 6 in favor (Baez) (Clouse) (Farmer) (Gary) (Macdowall) (Webber) – 7 opposed (Bonadies) (Cesare) (Horsley) (McGarry) (Rowe-Lewis) (Schomaker) (Wetmore) and 2 absent (Alston) (Dolan)

A quick recess was then taken.

In recess at 9:42pm

Out of recess at 9:48pm

Mr. Alston has joined the meeting.

Mr. Cesare moved a motion to reduce the Mayor's proposed 5 positions by 2, leaving 3 positions. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bonadies.

Ms. Schomaker moved a motion to call the question, seconded by Ms. Rowe-Lewis and approved by a roll call vote with 9 in favor (Alston) (Bonadies) (Cesare) (Clouse) (Horsley) (McGarry) (Rowe-Lewis) (Schomaker) (Wetmore) – 5 opposed (Baez) (Farmer) (Gary) (Macdowall) (Webber) and 1 absent (Dolan)

A vote was taken on the motion to reduce 2 of the Mayor's 5 proposed positions (leaving 3) and it passed by a roll call vote with 9 in favor (Bonadies) (Cesare) (Horsley) (Macdowall) (McGarry)

(Rowe-Lewis) (Schomaker) (Webber) (Wetmore) – 5 opposed (Alston) (Baez) (Clouse) (Farmer) (Gary) and 1 absent (Dolan)

Ms. Baez then moved a motion to amend and reduce that number to 2 positions. The motion was seconded by Mr. Macdowall.

Ms. Bonadies wanted to know why they were voting on something they already voted on.

After a discussion on this a roll call vote was taken on Ms. Baez's amended motion and it failed with a tie vote of 7 in favor (Alston) (Baez) (Clouse) (Farmer) (Gary) (Macdowall) (Webber) – 7 opposed (Bonadies) (Cesare) (Horsley) (McGarry) (Rowe-Lewis) (Schomaker) (Wetmore) and 1 absent (Dolan)

Mr. Farmer moved a motion to eliminate the non-union Deputy Police Chief. The motion was seconded by Ms. Baez.

Chief Sullivan explained his concerns with losing this position.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion failed with 6 in favor (Alston) (Baez) (Farmer) (Gary) (Macdowall) (Webber) – 8 opposed (Bonadies) (Cesare) (Clouse) (Horsley) (McGarry) (Rowe-Lewis) (Schomaker) and 1 absent (Dolan)

Mr. Farmer moved a motion to cut the union Deputy position. The motion was seconded by Mr. Macdowall.

Mr. Cesare moved a motion to call the question, seconded by Ms. Schomaker and both then withdrew.

After discussion Mr. Cesare moved a motion to call the question, seconded by Ms. Bonadies and approved by a roll call vote with 10 in favor (Alston) (Bonadies) (Cesare) (Clouse) (Horsley) (McGarry) (Rowe-Lewis) (Schomaker) (Webber) (Wetmore) – 4 opposed (Baez) (Farmer) (Gary) (Macdowall) and 1 absent (Dolan)

A roll call vote was then taken on the motion to remove the union Deputy position and it failed with 2 in favor (Farmer) (Macdowall) – 12 opposed (Alston) (Baez) (Bonadies) (Cesare) (Clouse) (Gary) (Horsley) (McGarry) (Rowe-Lewis) (Schomaker) (Webber) (Wetmore) and 1 absent (Dolan)

Ms. Horsley moved a motion to call the question on positions. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cesare and approved by a roll call vote with 8 in favor (Alston) (Bonadies) (Cesare) (Horsley) (McGarry) (Rowe-Lewis) (Schomaker) (Wetmore) – 6 opposed (Baez) (Clouse) (Farmer) (Gary) (Macdowall) (Webber) and 1 absent (Dolan)

A roll call vote was taken on positions as amended and approved with 9 in favor (Alston) (Bonadies) (Cesare) (Clouse) (Horsley) (McGarry) (Rowe-Lewis) (Schomaker) (Wetmore) – 5 opposed (Baez) (Farmer) (Gary) (Macdowall) (Webber) and 1 absent (Dolan)

Expenditures:

Mr. Webber requested a motion to accept the mayor's expenditures as proposed. Moved by Ms. Horsley, seconded by Mr. McGarry.

Chief Sullivan expressed his concern with line #12462-0740 Vehicle replacement.

Mr. Webber moved a motion to add \$10,000 to line 12462-0740 Vehicle replacement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cesare.

After some discussion on the Capital Budget Mr. Jackson said the Capital would be reduced by \$10,000 if this is approved tonight. Mr. Farmer asked the Chief if they vote on this would he be asking for more in the Capital and the Chief said no.

A vote was taken and it passed with 3 opposed (Macdowall) (Gary) (Baez)

Mr. Macdowall moved a motion to eliminate line #12401-0132 Bicycle Overtime. The motion was seconded by Mr. Farmer.

Mr. Cesare asked if he would take a friendly amendment to \$100,000. Mr. Macdowall said if his vote fails.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion failed with 6 in favor (Alston) (Baez) (Farmer) (Gary) (Macdowall) (Webber) – 8 opposed (Bonadies) (Cesare) (Clouse) (Horsley) (McGarry) (Rowe-Lewis) (Schomaker) (Wetmore) and 1 absent (Dolan)

After some discussion on the recent MOU and Holiday Pay Ms. Horsley moved a motion to reduce line #12401-0150 Holiday Pay to \$158,000. The motion was seconded by Ms. Baez and approved with 1 abstention (Farmer)

There was some discussion on the increase of line #12401-7074 Street Outreach Program.

Mr. Macdowall moved a motion to decrease line #12401-0132 Bicycle Overtime to \$100,000. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cesare and approved unanimously.

There was some discussion on line #12401-0575 Computer Equipment.

Mr. Macdowall moved a motion to table line #12401-0590 Professional/Technical Service. The motion was seconded by Mr. Farmer and approved by a roll call vote of 8 in favor (Alston) (Baez) (Bonadies) (Cesare) (Farmer) (Gary) (Macdowall) (Webber) – 6 opposed (Clouse) (Horsley) (McGarry) (Rowe-Lewis) (Schomaker) (Wetmore) and 1 absent (Dolan)

Mr. Cesare moved a motion to remove the Account Clerk position. The motion was seconded by Ms. Baez and after some discussion approved with 2 opposed (McGarry) (Schomaker)

Ms. Bonadies moved a motion to amend the Regular Salaries line to \$11,778,429 to reflect a (\$10,000) raise for Chief Sullivan. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cesare.

After some discussion Mr. Cesare asked Ms. Bonadies if she would take a friendly of \$5,000. Ms. Bonadies said yes.

After a discussion on raises in general Mr. Cesare moved a motion to call the question. The motion was seconded by Ms. Schomaker and approved with 9 in favor (Alston) (Bonadies) (Cesare) (Horsley) (McGarry) (Rowe-Lewis) (Schomaker) (Webber) (Wetmore) – 4 opposed (Baez) (Farmer) (Gary) (Macdowall) and 2 absent (Clouse) (Dolan)

A roll call vote was taken on the friendly amendment of a \$5,000 raise for the Chief and it passed with 7 in favor (Bonadies) (Cesare) (Horsley) (McGarry) (Rowe-Lewis) (Schomaker) (Wetmore) – 6 opposed (Alston) (Baez) (Farmer) (Gary) (Macdowall) (Webber) and 2 absent (Clouse) (Dolan)

Ms. Baez moved a motion to lower the stipend line by \$10,000. The motion was seconded by Mr. Farmer and after some discussion about revisiting this due to the late time Ms. Baez withdrew her motion and Mr. Farmer withdrew his second.

The meeting then recessed at 12:32 A.M. on May 12, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Renta, Clerk

Meeting recording:

https://zoom.us/rec/play/HrSfJs1X9fBLB1Ycc00V90rYAKIsodoTYkvm9KU8BoJPFesCJD0R6uWKW3VmhrLIP_VK05jh2_LSXBzn.uU2aO1RcSx6MRaY?continueMode=true&x_zm_rtaid=Bxx2IIIjSySQgjX4Qjm4VQ.1621611206495.3f7c3e7343b8b4762cf9f3da2bdaca78&x_zm_rhtaid=34

(Meeting starts at Time Code 01:39:40)

Password: fZ71l#Uv

FY 21-22 Budget changes on May 11, 2021

Police Dept. changes:

Positions:

Increase the Police Chief salary to \$140,000	(+\$5,000)
Add a Lieutenant position (To be in compliant with the MOU)	(+\$107,754.12)
Remove 2 Police Officer Positions	(-\$167,600.30)
Remove the Account Clerk Position	(-\$50,641.55)

Expenditures:

Reduce line #12401-0132 Bicycle Unit OT to \$100,000	(-\$50,000)
Reduce line #12401-0150 Holiday Pay to \$158,000	(-\$162,000)
Increase line #12462-0740 Vehicle Replacement to \$113,220	(+\$10,000)

TABLED:

12401-0590 Professional/Technical Service \$570,271 – TABLED