

In City Council, June 14, 2021

This Special City Council meeting is being held in accordance with Governor Charlie Baker's signed open meeting law order dated March 12, 2020 which relieves a public body from the requirement of section 20 of chapter 30A that it conduct its meetings in a public place that is open and physically accessible to the public, provided that the public body makes provision to ensure public access to the deliberations of the public body for interested members of the public through adequate, alternative means. The City Council members, staff, and certain invited guests with matters on the agenda will attend the meeting in-person in Council Chambers at Brockton City Hall. Out of respect for public health and in response to the Governor's declared state of emergency, this meeting will be closed to the public and interested parties can instead access the deliberations via a livestream <https://www.youtube.com/user/TheBrocktonChannels/live>.

A Special meeting of the City Council was held on Monday June 14, 2021, in the Council Chambers, 2nd. Floor, City Hall. President Farwell presiding. The meeting was called to order at 6:38 PM with Ten members present.

299 Call of the meeting

Accepted and placed on file

300 Officer's return of notice

Accepted and placed on file

301 Report of the Finance Committee for its hearings for June 7-10, 2021.

Accepted and placed on file

The matters to be acted upon are:

298 City Council approval and adoption of the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Order for Appropriations as presented or amended.

The Council President stated that he asked CFO Troy Clarkson to prepare notes on what affect a one hundred dollar cut in the median homeowner's taxes would have on the proposed city budget.

CFO Clarkson explained a handout given to the council. Any cuts would not be able to be taken from the school budget due to state law mandating foundation levels of funding for education. Additionally, retirement, health insurance and debt payments can't be cut below certain levels. Mr. Clarkson explained why the cuts would have a dramatic effect on the city side of the budget.

Councilor Cardoso thanked the CFO and said this information helped to give a better understanding of the budget process. Councilor Cardoso wants to make sure that the tax payers have a better understanding of why they pay the taxes that they pay.

President Farwell explained that the budget is submitted under Chapter 44 Section 32 and that the Mayor must submit a budget to the City Council within a hundred and seventy days from January.

122.
(Cont.)

Councilor Rodrigues stated that its their job to approve the budget and make cuts where they are needed. That we can't satisfy everyone but we can sit here and say we can do the best we can and satisfy some folks. He does have some cuts and will present them when the time comes to do so.

Councilor Nicastro stated this is a good budget. She said she's ready to vote and make some changes on somethings.

Councilor Thompson asked if they did cut Five Million would this result in a tax break or would it be free cash. Mr. Clarkson explained that the Levy limit.

Councilor Asack motioned to reduce the Treasurer Debt Service account by \$70,000, the appropriation in that account is reduced from \$13,240,615.00 to \$13,170,615.00, and was properly seconded.

A brief recess was called.

Back in session.

The motion carried by a roll call vote taken by "yeas" and "nays"; ten members present with ten voting in the affirmative.

The motion carries.

Councilor Asack motioned to reduce the Public Property Department-Manning Pool Maintenance account by \$10,000, the appropriation in that account is reduced from \$38,200.00 to \$28,200.00, and was properly seconded.

The motion carried by a roll call vote taken by "yeas" and "nays"; ten members present with seven voting in the affirmative. Councilors Cardoso, Eaniri, and Thompson voting in the negative.

The motion carries.

Councilor Rodrigues motioned to reduce the Information Tech Department- Personal Services – other than Overtime account by \$81,785, the appropriation in that account reduced from \$1,145,288.00 to \$1,063,503.00, and was properly seconded.

The motion carried by a roll call vote taken by "yeas" and "nays"; ten members present with ten voting in the affirmative.

The motion carries.

Councilor Rodrigues motioned to reduce the Southeastern Regional Department - other General Fund account by \$185,000, the appropriation in that account reduced from \$4,267,900.00 to \$4,082,900.00, and was w properly seconded.

The motion carried by a roll call vote taken by "yeas" and "nays"; ten members present with ten voting in the affirmative.

The motion carries.

Councilor Nicastro motioned to reduce the DPW Sewer Department – Personal Services- Other Than Overtime account by \$40,657, the appropriation in that account reduced from \$1,432,937.00 to \$1,392,280.00, and was properly seconded.

The motion carried by a roll call vote taken by "yeas" and "nays"; ten members present with ten voting in the affirmative.

The motion carries.

123.
(Cont.)

Councilor Nicastro motioned to reduce the DPW Water Department – Personal Services-Other Than Overtime account by \$40,656, the appropriation in that account reduced from \$2,674,779.00 to \$2,634,123.00, and was properly seconded.

The motion carried by a roll call vote taken by “yeas” and “nays”; ten members present with ten voting in the affirmative.

The motion carries.

President Farwell asked Councilor Eaniri to step in as he has a small matter.

Councilor Farwell motioned to reduce the Planning Department - Ordinary Maintenance - Services account by \$150,000, the appropriation in that account reduced from \$379,800.00 to \$229,800.00, and was properly seconded.

A roll call vote taken by “yeas” and “nays”; ten members present with four voting in the affirmative. Councilors Asack, Cardoso, Lally, Monahan, Nicastro and Thompson voting in the negative.

The motion fails.

A brief recess was called.

Back in session.

The question is on adoption of the FY2021 Budget, as amended (Including Enterprise Funds).

Adopted, as amended, by a roll call vote taken by “yeas” and “nays”; ten members present with ten voting in the affirmative.

A motion was made for reconsideration with the wish that it not prevail and was properly seconded.

Reconsideration failed by a hand vote.

All other related matters

Councilor’s Recognition

All council business as listed on the agenda have been emailed to the City Council members in their complete form, with exception of oversized material, such as maps, photos, etc. Recommendations are based on reports from committees.

Councilor Rodrigues wanted to wish his lovely wife a Happy Anniversary. They have been married for thirty-five years.

Adjourned: 8:15PM