

## **Board of Apportionment & Taxation City of Ansonia**

The Board of Apportionment & Taxation of the City of Ansonia held their regular meeting on Monday, March 15, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chambers of Ansonia City Hall. The purpose of the meeting was to consider requests for transfers of monies of all departments and/or new appropriations where funds are available to various departments. And any other business to come before said Board.

### **Members Present**

Banks  
Boran  
Commune  
Kennedy  
Kohut  
Norman  
Smerznak  
Strumello  
Veillette  
Williams  
Sturges

### **Members Absent**

Confinante  
Kennedy

Chairman Sturges called the meeting to order. The Board rose for the Pledge of Allegiance. The record shows 10 members present.

Mr. Commune made a motion to accept the call of the meeting. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

### **Public Session**

The meeting was opened to the public anyone wishing to address the Board may do so at this time.

Mr. Jerome Fainer, Chairman of ARMS requested that the Board consider removing from the table communication #5 from February's meeting and take it under consideration.

Mr. Hart, Superintendent of Fire Alarms requested that the Board consider removing from the table communication # 6 from February's meeting and take it under consideration.

Mr. Patrick Henri, Ansonia resident wished to voice his opposition to the proposed tax increase. The economy is bad all around and until it gets better and we can bring income into this town we need to stay with a 0% increase. Budgets should begin with a zero basis we need to work smarter. Departments need to come to this Board with processes they put in place to run more efficiently. Departments should have goals and target to reach. I realize a lot of labor is contract driven however furloughs, comp time should be considered rather than overtime. Consider contract personnel or part timers rather than employing full time positions, which require benefit packages. We need to do away with

lifetime employees if someone is not proficient in their job they should be released. The City of Ansonia needs to run more like a business. Are there any openings on this Board? None at this time.

Dave Cassetti, 3 High Acres Road

Rather than hitting the taxpayers with a 8.4 tax increase why can we not use the Capital Investment Fund to offset a tax increase? The Board explained that the fund was set up to put monies aside for large capital equipment purchases. \$110,000 is set aside each year and the current balance in the account is \$150,000.

JoAnn Czczot, 37 Morningside Drive

I also wish to voice my opposition to the 8.4 increase in the budget. We are not seeing this on the business side of things. Ansonia needs to make it more affordable for their residences people are moving out of town to get more for their money.

Ken Pawloski, 15 Mountain Road

I am a single Dad with two children in the high school I wish to echo the concerns of my fellow residents I too am against the tax increase.

No one wished to speak the public session was closed at 7:15 p.m.

### **Minutes February 9, 2010**

Mr. Commune made a motion to accept and place on file the minutes from the Board of Apportionment & Taxation regular meeting of February 9, 2010 if found to correct.

Mr. Smerznak seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

### **Communication #1 ECS and ARRA Funding**

This year and next year the City will receive funding from the State, which is part of the stimulus packet. This funding is being used to reduce the ECS Grant. This is the only time that Towns and Cities will be allowed to adjust their Board of Education Budgets.

Mr. Boran made a motion to decrease the ECS Revenue and the Board of Education total budget to \$12,887,175. Mr. Veillette seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

After discussion, concerns and questions Mr. Norman made a motion to rescind the prior motion and schedule a workshop with the Comptroller and Board of Education Finance to insure everyone is in agreement with the ECS and ARRA. Mr. Commune seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (8 yes, 2 no Ms. Banks, Mr. Sturges)

Mr. Norman made a motion to table communication # 1 regarding the ECS and ARRA Funding and schedule a workshop. Mr. Commune seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

The scheduled workshop is March 29, 2010.

**Communication #2 Other Department Expenses**

Mr. Norman made a motion to approve the request to transfer funds as follows:

Line Item #	Trans. In	Trans. Out
0200-17-880-0003 Other Department Expenses		\$ 4,272.56
0301-12-120-0001 Overtime	\$2,020.56	
0850-11-800-0143 Cat Fund	10.00	
0201-11-860-0001 Dog Fund	747.00	
0301-12-433-0001 Vehicle Accident Account	1,495.00	

Mr. Commune seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**Communication #3 Municipal Energy Grant \$78,713**

Ms. Krugel explained to the Board that this grant requests no matching funds and will be used to replace a new heating system in City Hall and conduct an energy study on 20 downtown public buildings.

Mr. Norman made the motion to establish the revenue and expense line items in the amount of \$78,713 for Municipal Energy Grant as follows:

Expense 1-001-0850-11-800-1131

Revenue 2-001-0305-17-010-1131

Mr. Smerznak seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**Communication #4 “Pack 2010” 5,000**

Ms. Krugel advised the Board that her understand was that the “Pack 2010” funding would be used to continue an existing program at the Ansonia Nature Center. The Board had some concerns it may be used to establish a Day-Care Center, which did not seem to be the case.

Mr. Williams made a motion to establish the revenue and expense line item for “Pack 2010” in the amount of \$5,000 as follows:

Revenue 2-001-0305-17-010-0156

Expense 1-001-0850-11-800-0156

Ms. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**Communication #5 City Treasurer’s Interest on Investments February 2010**

Mr. Williams made a motion to accept and place on file the City Treasurer’s Report of Interest on Investments for February 2010. Mr. Commune seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**Communication #6 City Treasurer’s Report of Income February 2010**

Mr. Williams made a motion to accept and place on file the City Treasurer’s Report of Income for February 2010. Mr. Smerznak seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**Communication #7 Recreation Commission**

Mr. Kichar addressed the Board regarding last month’s action to freeze the Recreation Department’s accounts. Mr. Kichar is working with the Parent’s Association trying to get everything in place to submit to the Finance Department for review. In the mean time there are two outstanding bills with need to be paid one to All Star Transportation \$630 and the second to Stadium Systems for \$3,744.85.

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the payment of these bills and keep the accounts on hold until the Finance Department is satisfied with their finding. Ms. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**Other Business**

Mr. Smerznak made a motion to remove from the table Communication #5 from February the ARMS request. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

The request for transfer of \$24,252.00 will cover payroll through April 14, 2010 an additional \$55,000 will be need to meet payroll through June 30, 2010. A study was done and a cost analysis will be ready to present to the Board at their scheduled workshop. With the lack of volunteers the City needs to either consider moving to a paid crew or out sourcing the service. The Board will discuss at length during budget workshops.

Mr. Commune made a motion to approve the request to transfer \$24,252.00 as follows:

Line Item #	Transfer In	Transfer Out
001-0801-12-111-0005 Rescue Chief		\$ 2,718.00
001-0801-12-111-0009 Train/Safely Officer		1,434.00
001-0801-12-440-0003 Rescue Maintenance		10,000.00
001-0801-12-461-0006 Rescue Equipment		6,000.00
001-0801-12-461-0008 Mass Casualty Equip		600.00
001-0801-12-461-0009 Radio Equipment		1,000.00
001-0801-12-521-0002 Travel		500.00
001-0801-12-617-0004 Rescue Supplies		2,000.00
001-0801-12-111-0010 Ambulance Crew	\$24,252.00	

Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

Ms. Banks made a motion to approve a \$55,000 additional appropriation from BOAT Contingency into 001-801-12-111-0010 Ambulance Crew. Mr. Veillette seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

Current balance in BOAT Contingency \$111,000.

Mr. Smerznak made a motion to remove from the table communication #6 from February Fire Alarms. Mr. Boran seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

Mr. Hart explained that AT&T and the UI are doing a lot of work which requires wires to be moved. It should also be noted that this line item was cut 30% from last year.

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the request to transfer \$1,500 from Fire Alarm Repairs 401-12-440-0001 into Fire Alarm Maintenance 401-12-111-0009. Mr. Commune seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

With no other business to come before the Board Mr. Commune made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Duclos  
Secretary Board of Apportionment & Taxation