

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

The Board of Apportionment & Taxation of the City of Ansonia held their regular meeting on Monday, May 20, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chambers of Ansonia City Hall. The purpose of the meeting was to make further alterations in the estimates, appropriations and tax rates and to make appropriations and lay taxes for all City purposes for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. To consider requests for transfer 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 as it pertains to the finalizing of the Fiscal Year July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 budget.

### **Members Present**

Banks

Boran

Confinante

Kohut

Norman

Smerznak

Strumello

Veillette

Williams

Sturges

### **Members Absent**

Kennedy

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

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

### **Final Budget Fiscal Year 2013-2014**

Mr. Sturges addressed the Board and Public informing them that the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 would be set this evening, before the voting begins does anyone from BOAT care to make any changes? Mr. Sturges opened the floor to any other public official for comment.

Mayor DellaVolpe thanked both the Board of Aldermen and Board of Apportionment & Taxation for their many volunteered hours for workshops for the 17 departments within the City. I support the BOAT budget before you this evening and the continued support to public safety, road improvement and our educational system. The City of Ansonia has seen 25% decrease in property values which is a direct reflection on the grand list. Families within the City are losing their jobs and some are losing their homes. We are on the way back and with a new Economic Developer on the horizon we will see are tax base increase. The Board of Education budget has an increase of 3.7% up from last year. Again I thank both Boards for all their efforts.

Edward Adamowksi, Chairman Board of Finance Board of Aldermen

The commissions worked hard for the City of Ansonia, the Board of Aldermen began meeting in January for 2-3 evening a week for approximately 30 hours. Both Boards have spent countless hours meeting for the past six months. I have three children in the school system, the Board of Aldermen had a job to do we

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were put here by the citizens of Ansonia, the State of Connecticut is cutting funds to Towns and Cities leaving the Towns to figure out where to go from here. I respect the recommendation/decision made by the Board of Apportionment & Taxation however the City can not afford an increase to taxes. Many departments took cuts while the Board of Education claims they will need large increases for years to come.

Alderman John Marini

We all know the education system is underfunded, we would like to support it in higher amounts, Dr. Merlone does a great job with every dollar, it is well spent and well thought out. The mill rate is going from 27-39 mills with Ansonia realizing 10% unemployment and the medium income in the City being \$27,000. There is only so much we can keep supporting ½ the budget goes toward education and needing \$1,000,000 - \$1,800,000 to keep the “status quo” is difficult. How do we change this? Communication between Boards, maybe we should consider bringing residents in to discuss the situation. It can not be a case of whoever is the loudest gets the attention. We need to consider more participation.

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

Mr. Sturges made a few comments regarding the increase to the mill rate. The rate going from 27.65 to 39.34 is a reflection of revaluation and a net reduction to the grant list of \$279,237,901.00. It needs to also be noted that the tax collection rate for fiscal year 2013-2014 was reduced from 97.5% to 97%. This also affects the mill rate.

**101 School Building Commission \$350**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the final budget for School Building Commission for fiscal year 2013-2014 in the amount of \$350. Mr. Kohut seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**200 BOAT \$436,731**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the final budget for BOAT for fiscal year 2013-2014 in the amount of \$436,731. Ms. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**201 City Government \$2,719,055**

Mr. Confinante made a motion to approve the final budget for City Government for fiscal year 2013-2014 in the amount of \$2,719,055. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**202 Elections \$64,585**

Mr. Smerznak made a motion to approve the final budget for Elections for fiscal year 2013-2014 in the amount of \$64,585. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**210 Flood Control \$23,000**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the final budget for Flood Control for fiscal year 2013-2014 in the amount of \$23,000. Mr. Strumello seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**211 City Engineer \$38,135**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the final budget for City Engineer for fiscal year 2013-2014 in the amount of \$38,135. Mr. Veillette seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**212 Building Inspector \$118,302**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the final budget for the Building Inspector for fiscal year 2013-2014 in the amount of \$118,302. Mr. Confinante seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10

yes)

**214 Nature Center \$184,059**

Mr. Smerznak made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for the Nature Center in the amount of \$184,059. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**215 Insurance and Debt Service \$10,370,280**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for Insurance and Debt Service in the amount of \$10,370,280. Ms. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**216 Mayor's Office \$207,981**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for the Mayor's Office in the amount of \$207,981. Mr. Smerznak seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**220 Emergency Operations Center \$31,400**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for the Emergency Operations Center in the amount of \$31,400. Mr. Kohut seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**301 Police Department \$5,851,032**

Mr. Confinante made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for the Police Department in the amount of \$5,851,032. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**302 Senior Center \$ 132,969**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for the Senior Center in the amount of \$ 132,969. Mr. Veillette seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**400 Fire Marshall \$73,771**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for the Fire Marshall in the amount of \$73,771. Mr. Confinante seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**401 Fire Department \$248,750**

Mr. Smerznak made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for the Fire Department in the amount of \$248,750. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**402 Finance Department \$506,917**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for the Finance Department in the amount of \$506,917. Mr. Veillette seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**405 Economic Development \$122,955**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for the Economic Development in the amount of \$122,955. Mr. Strumello seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**420 Tax Department \$208,222**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for the Tax Department in the amount of \$208,222. Ms. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**450 Assessors Office \$145,266**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for the Assessor Office in the amount of \$145,266. Mr. Smerznak seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**502 Streets & Bridges \$1,536,406**

Mr. Confinante made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for Streets & Bridges in the amount of \$1,536,406. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**601 Library \$500,994**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for the Library in the amount of \$500,994. Mr. Smerznak seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**602 Building & Refuse \$2,529,166**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for Building & Refuse in the amount of \$2,529,166. Mr. Confinante seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**701 Recreation \$97,723**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for Recreation in the amount of \$97,723. Mr. Kohut seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**702 Board of Education \$28,000,000**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for the Board of Education in the amount of \$28,000,000. Mr. Confinante seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**801 ARMS \$750,925**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for ARMS in the amount of \$750,925. Ms. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**802 Town & City Clerk \$193,204**

Mr. Smerznak made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for Town & City Clerk in the amount of \$193,204. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**850 Municipal Grants \$750,775**

Mr. Confinante made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for Municipal Grants in the amount of \$750,775. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**851 Educational Grants \$4,985,699**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for Educational Grants in the amount of \$4,985,699. Mr. Smerznak seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**875 Capital Improvements \$222,351**

Mr. Confinante made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for Capital Improvements in the amount of \$222,351. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**901 Municipal Planning \$35,425**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the final budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for Municipal Planning in the amount of \$35,425. Mr. Strumello seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**Grand Total Final budget Expense Fiscal Year 2013-2014 \$61,086,428**

Mr. Norman made a motion that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation of the City of Ansonia approves the final budget of expenses for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014 in the amount of \$61,086,428. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**Grand Total Final budget Revenue Fiscal Year 2013-2014 \$61,086,428**

Mr. Norman made a motion that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation of the City of Ansonia approves the final budget of revenue for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014 in the amount of \$61,086,428. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**Fund Balance from Surplus Fiscal Year 2013-2014 \$100,000**

Mr. Norman made a motion that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation of the City of Ansonia approves the use of \$100,000 from the 2012-2013 fund balance as a supplement to revenue for the 2013-2014 City Budget. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

**Mill Rate fiscal year 2013-2014 39.34 Mils**

Mr. Norman made a motion that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation of the City of Ansonia hereby set a tax rate of 39.34 mills on the dollar. To be and the same is hereby assessed on the ratable estate of the Town & City of Ansonia, last completed being the Grand List of 2012. One half (½) or 19.67 mills due July 1, 2013 and one half (½) or 19.67 mills due January 1, 2014. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (10 yes)

Mr. Norman thanked all the boards and public involved in the budget process which started in December 2012.

**Regular Meeting Session**

No one wished to address the Board the public session was closed at 7:45 p.m.

There was a review of the All Day Kindergarten and how the Alliance Grant Funding plays into the program. The current year grant is for \$539,715 the City has been told the estimate for the coming year would nearly double. The funding is also allowed to be rolled over into the following fiscal year if all the funds have not been expended. The major programs which began this fiscal year need to continue as per the guidelines of the grant. The extended time for high school freshmen is a program which will cost an approximate \$45,000-\$50,000. The Master Teachers Program at the high school is also a \$175,000 which will continue for the new fiscal year and come from the Alliance funding. Nearly all the additional \$500,000 of new funding into Alliance will go towards the All Day Kindergarten.

The \$50,000 one time grant given to Economic Development was also discussed. The new website is

looking to be launched by June 1<sup>st</sup> but there are still many areas that will need to be updated. The “Store Front Project” is to be an immediate stimulus for store owners, is there an application that they should be filling out? The Committee is hoping to have the new Director in place shortly to spearhead these projects rather than the committee. The funding for the “Store Front Project” will be put into an auditable account in the near future.

Mr. Norman excused himself from the meeting at 8:10 p.m.. Record now shows 9 members present.

### **Minutes**

April 8, 2013  
April 15, 2013  
April 22, 2013  
April 29, 2013  
May 6, 2013  
May 16, 2013

Mr. Williams made a motion to accept and place on file the minutes as listed above if found to be correct. Mr. Veillette seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (9 yes)

### **Correspondence**

Mr. Williams made a motion to accept all correspondence and take under new business if required. Mr. Kohut seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (9 yes)

### **Communication # 1 Charter Hose Fencing \$345**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the request for transfers in the amount of \$345 from 1-001-0200-17-880-0003 Other Department Expenses into 1-001-0602-13-436-0005 Fire House Repairs. Mr. Smerznak seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (9 yes)

### **Communication #2 Library Grant \$774**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the revenue line item 2-001-0305-17-010-0168 for \$774.00 and the expense line item 1-001-0850-11-800-0168 for \$774. Mr. Kohut seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (9 yes)

### **Communication #3 Library**

Mr. Williams made a motion to rescind his motion from the April 15, 2013 meeting asking to transfer \$2053 from 1-001-0850-11-800-0168 Library Grant into 1-001-0601-17-412-0002 HVAC Maintenance. Mr. Smerznak seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (9 yes)

### **Communication #4 Workmen’s Comp Refund Check 150,000**

Mr. Williams made a motion to increase revenue line item 2-001-0310-11-010-0001 Insurance Refunds & Dividends \$150,000 and expense line item 1-001-0215-11-215-0001 Workmen’s Compensation \$150,000. Mr. Kohut seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (9 yes)

### **Communication #5 Fire Department \$800**

Mr. Boran made a motion to approve the request to transfer \$800 from 401-12-440-0001 Fire Alarm Service into 401-12-111-0009 Fire Alarm Maintenance. Mr. Smerznak seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (9 yes)

**Communication #6 Jarvis Field House Roof Repairs \$6,191**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the request to transfer \$6,191.00 from 1-001-0200-17-880-0003 Other Department Expenses into 1-001-0602-13-436-0014 JFK Repairs Nolan Field. Mr. Confinante seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (9 yes)

**Communication #7 Tax Collector \$76**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the request to transfer \$76 from Postage 1-001-0420-11-580-0001 into Education 1-001-0420-11-241-0001. Mr. Confinante seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (9 yes)

**Communication #8 Doyle Senior Center \$2,300**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the request to transfer \$2,300 from Transportation 1-001-0302-17-860-0001 into Office Supplies 1-001-0302-17-611-0001 for the purpose of purchasing a copier. Mr. Smerznak seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (9 yes)

**Communication #9 Police \$45,000**

Mr. Confinante made a motion to approve the request to transfer \$45,000 from:

1-001-0301-12-110-0004 Dispatchers Salary	\$10,000
1-001-0301-12-110-0003 Detective/Sarg Salary	10,000
1-001-0301-12-110-0012 Reg Parol Salary	25,000

Into:

1-001-0301-12-120-0001 Police Overtime	45,000
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Mr. Smerznak seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (9 yes)

**Communication #10 Finance \$3,400**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the request to transfer \$3,400 from Medical 0215-11-211-0001 into Employee Opt Out 0215-11-211-0002. Ms. Banks seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (9 yes)

**Communication #11 Town & City Clerk \$91**

Mr. Smerznak made a motion to approve the request to transfer \$91 (rounding for ease) from:

0802-11-591-00014 City Directories	\$91
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Into:

0802-11-110-0002 Asst Town Clerk	\$27
0802-11-110-0003 City Records Admin	\$32
0802-11-110-0004 City Records Admin	\$32

Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (9 yes)

**Communication #12 City Government \$1,000**

Mr. Veillette made a motion to approve the request for an additional appropriation into Memorial Day Parade 001-0201-11-860-0002 in the amount of \$1,000 from BOAT Contingency. Mr. Confinante seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (9 yes)

**Communication #13 Ansonia Nature Center \$1,100**

Mr. Confinante made a motion to approve the request to transfer from the Nature Center in the amount of \$1,100 from 1-001-0214-17-111-0001 Ranger into 1-001-0214-17-111-0002 PT Custodian. Mr. Smerznak seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (9 yes)

**Communication #14 UI Grant Economic Development \$5,000**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the revenue line item #2-001-0305-17-010-0195 UI Website Development Grant for \$5,000 and the expense line item # 1-001-0405-18-510-0004 Construct Website for \$5,000. Mr. Kohut seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (9 yes)

**Communication #15 Tax Department \$ 4,000**

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the request to transfer \$4,000 from 1-001-0420-11-110-0002 Asst Tax Collector into 1-001-0420-11-110-0003 Junior Bookkeeper. Mr. Confinante seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (9 yes)

With no other business to come before the Board Mr. Veillette made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kohut seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (9 yes)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Duclos  
Secretary Board of Apportionment & Taxation