

# Board of Apportionment & Taxation City of Ansonia

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The Board of Apportionment & Taxation of the City of Ansonia held their regular meeting on Monday, January 4, 2016 in the Aldermanic Chambers of Ansonia City Hall. The purpose of the meeting was to consider requests for new appropriations where funds are available to various departments. And any other business to come before said Board.

## Members Present

Ms. Blackwell  
Mr. Cassetti  
Mr. Lopez  
Mr. Smerznak  
Mr. Veillette  
Mr. King

The meeting was called to order being chaired by Mr. King. The Board rose for the pledge to the flag. The record shows 6 members present. There is a quorum.

Ms. Blackwell made a motion to accept the call of the meeting. Mr. Smerznak seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (6 yes)

## Public Session

Ms. Tidmarsh, Chairwomen of School Building Commission addressed the Board regarding a late communication before them this evening. The Commission is asking BOAT to deviate from their agenda to consider acting on the request before them of 6 module classrooms for the Mead School. The additional room would allow the return of some of the special education students how are currently out of district, saving the City significantly.

No one else wished to address the Board the public session was closed at 7:06 P.M.

## Minutes December 1, 2015

Mr. Smerznak made a motion to accept and place on file the minutes from the December 1, 2015 meeting if found to be correct. Ms. Blackwell seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (6 yes)

Ms. Blackwell made a motion to deviate from the agenda to address both the School Building Commission request and the late Communication for the JAG Grant for the Police Department. Mr. Cassetti seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (6 yes)

### **Communication #1 Public Works**

This communication is for information only no action is needed by BOAT. The transfers were approved by Finance and the Mayor

### **Communication #2 Animal Fund \$1,575**

Ms. Blackwell made a motion to approve the request to increase the revenue line item 2-001-0307-11-010-0009 Animal Fund by \$1,575 and the expense line item 1-001-0301-12-614-0007 Animal Fund by \$1,575 for donations received. Mr. Cassetti seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (6 yes)

### **Communication #3 Recreation \$420**

Mr. Smerznak made a motion to approve the request to increase the revenue line item 2-001-0307-17-840-0016 Recreation-Ongoing Programs \$420 and the expense line item 1-001-0701-17-880-0026 Recreation-Programs by \$420 for donations received in memory of Leah Rondon. Ms. Blackwell seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (6 yes)

### **Communication #4 Economic Development \$7,000**

No action is necessary by the Board the transfer was approved by the Finance Department and Mayor; this is for information proposes only.

### **Communication #5 Fire Department \$20,000**

The Assistant Chief was available to address the Board regarding the request for an additional \$20,000. It was explained that each department was asked to submit a zero percent increase in budget and if funding was needed the Board would consider their request at that time. The Repair to Apparatus Account is in a shortfall due to the needs of new tires and hose covers required by the current insurance carrier.

Mr. Smerznak made a motion to approve the request to approve an additional appropriation in the amount of \$20,000 from BOAT Contingency into Repair to Apparatus 401-12-44-0007. Mr. Lopez seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (6 yes)

### **Communication #6 Mayor's Office \$7,496**

Mr. Connolly and Mr. Bshara explained to the Board the request to explain the recording system from the Aldermanic Chambers into the Earlinghouser Room is to accommodate the overflow in attendance at the Aldermen Meetings. The chamber is small and the meeting would need to be moved to the high school is accommodations are not made. The recommendation was for two 60" TV to be placed on opposite walls. The Board noted that the Creston Equipment is very good but was not sure if this was the best way to go.

Ms. Blackwell made a motion to approve the request for an additional appropriation from BOAT Contingency into Overflow Conference Room Displays 1-001-875-11-461-0065. Mr. Cassetti seconded the motion. The motion was denied. (3 yes, 3 no Smerznak, Veillette, King)

The Board will pass this along to the Board of Aldermen to address.

**Transfer#1-C Police Department \$5,000**

This request is for informational purposes only the transfers were approved by the Finance Department and Mayor.

**Late Communication #1 JAG Grant Ansonia Police Department**

Ms. Blackwell made a motion to increase the revenue and expense line item for the JAG 2015 Violent Crime Grant:

1-001-0850-11-800-0211 JAG 2015 Violent Crime \$30,000

2-001-0305-17-010-0211 JAG 2015 Violent Crime \$30,000

Mr. Veillette seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (6 yes)

**Late Communication School Building Commission \$1,644,716**

Ms. Tidmarsh School Building Chairwomen, BOE Business Manager Mr. Gaskins and Mr. Smith Engineer on the project were all present to discuss the proposal. The idea is to expand room at Mead School by installing the six portable classrooms and bring some of the special education students back into the district. The savings of bring a student back is between \$50,000-\$150,000 per child. The school is lacking in space and this is a need that needs to be addressed. The total project cost is \$1,644,716 which includes everything except staffing. The City is looking at a reimbursement rate from the State of 73% or \$1,180,056. There is also a contingency factor of \$122,116 which once the funds are earmark as to how they were spent those too may be reimbursed by the State. The Board voiced their concerns about lighting in the back of the building where the portables would be going, Ms. Tidmarsh advised they would discuss this at their next meeting. Mr. Bshara explained that this is in the planning stages and the State would not even consider the reimbursement without the City first showing good faith and allocating the funding. These portables would be an outright purchase not a lease.

Ms. Blackwell made a motion to approve the following:

2-001-0305-010-1157 Mead Modular ST of CT Facilities Reimbursable \$1,157,176

2-001-0305-010-1158 Mead Portables ST of CT Bonding Commission \$ 365,424

Fund Balance As Income \$ 122,116

1-001-0150-11-800-1157 John C Mead Portable Construction \$1,644,716

Mr. Cassetti seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (6 yes)

With no other business to come before the Board Mr. Smerznak made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Veillette seconded the motion. The motion was approved. (6 yes)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Duclos  
Secretary Board of Apportionment & Taxation