

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

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TOWN AND CITY CLERK  
ANSONIA, CONNECTICUT

The Board of Apportionment & Taxation of the City of Ansonia held a meeting Monday, February 22, 2016 to discuss the tentative budget for Fiscal Year 2016-2017. The Departments scheduled to meet were Town & City Clerk, Fire Marshall and the Fire Department. The Board will then use any additional time to discuss the remainder of the budget.

**Members Present**

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

**Members Absent**

Mr. Lopez

The Board rose for the Pledge of Allegiance. The record shows 6 members present.

**Town & City Clerk 802 \$361,314**

Town Clerk Ms. Waugh pointed out the Education Expense line item allocated with \$1,500 this is an increase of \$1,200 from last year. Ms. Waugh would like herself and the Assistant Town & City Clerk to attend some meetings and workshops. She feels the need to get up to speed on where the Department needs to be prior to the Election in the fall. The additional \$1,200 will aid in covering the fees and dues related to these meetings.

Charter and Code Printing is increased by \$3,000 this cost is to cover the printing of all new ordinances which are updated.

The Town Clerk Expenses are the fees collected within the Department for licenses and permits; this line item is the share which needs to be submitted to the State. This is offset by a revenue line item.

All paper is supplied by the Town Clerk's Office, it is currently kept under lock and key, the department is working on getting all City Departments to purchase from the same office supply source in hopes of seeing a saving there.

**Fire Department 401 \$285,250**

Fire Chief Scott Trembly addressed the Board regarding the Fire Department budget. He opened by giving a little background into his history with the Ansonia Fire Department as well as his professional background as a Firefighter with the City of Fairfield. The City of Ansonia needs to be grateful for the volunteers with Ansonia that give to the five fire houses their time and energy, we need to try to keep moral up within the Firehouses. These volunteers deserve to have good equipment to keep them safe as they work for Ansonia. The budget submitted and approved by the Mayor reflects a \$31,500 increase

over last year. The Board needs to know that over half of this budget is to meet State Compliance. Ansonia averages 600 calls a year; there is a real value to the volunteer system. Highlighted areas within the budget Repair to Apparatus increased this year by \$13,500 to 35,000. There is nothing inexpensive about keep the vehicles maintained, funded at the \$20,000 level just had the department coming in looking for additional funding when the need arose, hopefully this funding will be a truer picture of actual expenses. The pager line item for \$6,000 is new this year, the goal is to purchase several a year rather than try to buy 20 in one year. The new computer system is up and running in all Firehouse.

The Eagle Hose Firehouse needs a new heating system, those repairs run through the Public Works Department.

Chief Trembly advised the Board that the Fire Department is working on a Federal Grant seeking \$535,000 to replace the Scott Air Packs and Air Bottles. The air bottles will need to be replaced by 2019; the Air Packs are currently 2 revisions behind causing repairs to be expensive.

The Board discussed the Fire Alarm Maintenance Salaries budgeted for \$12,000, not many business are tied into the system but the fire call is dispatched to the Police Department. The Board felt before they just cut the line item a discussion needs to take place with the department.

#### **Fire Marshall 400 \$78,878**

The Fire Marshall was not available to attend but he did provide Mr. King with his input into his budget. He is looking for an increase the Education line item up \$500 from \$1,500 to \$2,000. Reason being is simply cost for expenses are increasing and the additional \$500 would aid in meeting those expenses. Fire Prevention budgeted at \$1,511 there is a misconception that the funding is only used for Fire Prevention Week. Education extends to Pre-K – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Stop, Drop & Roll, Poster Contests and Senior programs as well. The Board agreed to fund that line item to \$2,500. That increases the 400 Fire Marshall budget to \$80,367.

#### **Other Discussion**

The Board was curious how the meeting went with the Board of Education regarding the HSA discussion. They did meet but to date no decision had been made. The consensus from BOAT is to keep the Board of Education funded at the level the Mayor suggested. If the HSA is approved by their union the total increase to the budget would be \$1,300,000.

Mr. Smerznak made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Cassetti 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