

**City of White Plains, New York
Budget & Management Advisory Committee**

Hon. Beth N. Smayda, Chair
Edie Alfenas – Adam T. Bergonzi – Richard Hecht – Steven H. Hochman
Hon. John Kirkpatrick – Donna McLaughlin – Michael Schwartz – Timothy Sheehan
City Staff Liaison: Michael A. Genito

Thursday, January 22, 2015, 7:30 PM, Mayor's Conference Room

MEETING NOTES

Present: Hon. Beth Smayda, Hon. John Kirkpatrick, Adam Bergonzi (via conference phone), Richard Hecht, Steven Hochman, Donna McLaughlin, Michael Schwartz, Timothy Sheehan and Michael Genito.

Absent: Edie Alfenas.

Guests: John Callahan, Chief of Staff.

Call to Order

Chairwoman Beth Smayda welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Approval of Meeting Notes

The meeting notes of November 14, 2014 were approved.

Reports of Subcommittees

OPEB Actuarial Services RFP

Michael Genito reported that the RFP for OPEB Actuarial Services was sent to 14 actuarial firms in the New York/Connecticut area. The City received responses from three firms by the deadline of January 20, 2015, and those responses are currently under review. Chairwoman Smayda thanked Commissioner Genito for working on the RFP and RFP process, and noted that the Committee's work is now completed as regards the development of the RFP.

Parking Operations

Richard Hecht distributed a written report (copy attached) on the sub-committee's work on parking operations. Mr. Hecht and Mr. Sheehan reported that they had met with Chief of Staff John Callahan and Parking Commissioner John Larson to review the current parking operations. Mr. Hecht reiterated his conclusion expressed at the November 2014 meeting that we most likely will not raise parking rates anytime soon; that over time our expenditures will exceed our revenues, and that there does not appear to be any long-term strategy concerning our operations, staffing, facilities or equipment. Messrs. Hecht and Sheehan noted that there are a number of concepts still to be explored, such as on-street multi-space parking meters, "peak load" rates (where a premium is charged for preferred parking spaces), and negotiating a lower discount rate

charged by credit card companies for parking fee transactions. Mr. Hecht and Mr. Sheehan will continue their work in this area and report back to the Committee at the next meeting.

Rolling Stock

John Kirkpatrick reported that there were many questions that the Rolling Stock Subcommittee needed to be answered. The terminology used and information found on rolling stock in the City's Capital Improvement Plan does not appear to provide the necessary detail for someone reading the report to make an informed determination. For instance, the term "carryall" may refer to several SUV-type vehicles, and it is not clear how an older vehicle ultimately becomes a pool vehicle. John Callahan offered to meet with Mr. Kirkpatrick to answer any of his questions. Chairwoman Smayda suggested and Mr. Kirkpatrick agreed to send his questions to Mr. Callahan, and arrange for a meeting to discuss them.

Shared Services

Michael Schwartz reported that he, Chairwoman Smayda and Michael Genito attended the Westchester County Tax Freeze Government Efficiency Plan session on January 21, 2015. Handouts obtained at that meeting were distributed to the Committee. Mr. Schwartz noted that the key point of the meeting was the County's offer to act as a lead agency for a group of local governments in submitting a government efficiency plan that would be eligible for the tax freeze rebate that would be provided to property taxpayers within local governments that stayed within the tax cap. School districts can only submit plans with other school districts. There is little guidance from New York State on how such a plan is ultimately implemented. Michael Genito is working on a plan for the City of White Plains, and it remains to be seen as to whether or not there is any advantage to the City in participating with the County.

Multi-Year Forecast

Chair Beth Smayda noted that Edie Alfenas is refining the multi-year forecast model and will report on further progress at the next meeting.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date will be Wednesday, March 4, 2015, 7:30 PM, Mayor's Conference Room

Adjournment

Having no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Genito