

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 24, 2021**

*NOTE: Due to COVID-19, this meeting was held virtually (via ZOOM),
and was live streamed on the City's website*

Mayor Casavant called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Roll Call: William Emhiser, John McCurry, Jr., Stephen St. Cyr, Norman Belanger, Doris Ortiz (arrived at 6:10 p.m.), Marc Lessard

Amy Clearwater and Michael Ready were excused.

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

Orders of the Day:

2021.44

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL..MAY 24, 2021

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into a lease agreement with Hyundai Finance for the lease of the following two electric vehicles:

2021 Hyundai Ionics, vin# KMHC85LJ2MU080385

2021 Hyundai Kona, vin# KM8K33AG4MU132668

Note: The vehicles are funded through Efficiency Maine enhanced rebates and the EV Accelerator Program, which covers the cost of the lease for three years. At lease termination, the City is obligated to pay a nominal turn-in fee of \$400/vehicle plus mileage in excess of 10,000 miles per year (prorated) at \$0.20/mile, plus any excess wear and tear as per a typical lease.

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Belanger to grant the order.

Vote: Unanimous.

2021.45

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL..MAY 24, 2021

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby form a Council Ad Hoc Committee for the purpose of finalizing the FY22 City Government Budget. The Ad Hoc Committee shall be composed of the members of the City Council.

Motion by Councilor Belanger, seconded by Councilor McCurry to grant the order.

Vote: Unanimous.

The Council transitioned into the Council Ad Hoc Committee at 6:07 p.m.

Finalization of FY22 City Government Budget:

New budget changes as proposed by City Manager:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| ➤ Revenue Sharing | (\$375,000) |
| ➤ Communications (Cable TV) | (\$237,435) |
| ➤ Finance Revenue (Cable TV) | \$290,000 |
| ➤ Fringe Benefits (AllegiantCare) | \$28,935 |
| ➤ Hydrant Rental Increase | \$25,000 |
| ➤ Reduce CSO Borrowing by \$5 million | (\$138,333) |
| ➤ New Property Value - \$2.5 million | (\$50,000) |
| ➤ New State Funding to Schools | (\$494,265) |

Motion by Councilor Emhiser, seconded by Councilor Belanger to adjust the budgeted amount for State Revenue Sharing by increasing by \$375,000.

Vote: 5/1; Councilor Lessard opposed.

Councilors Emhiser, McCurry, St. Cyr, Belanger and Ortiz in favor.

Motion carries.

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Belanger to adjust the budget to reflect the borrowing of \$5 million (instead of the full \$10 million) for the CSO Bond, which reflects an increase of \$138,333.

Vote: Unanimous.

Motion by Councilor Belanger, seconded by Councilor McCurry to reduce the School Budget by \$494,265 to reflect new State Funding to the Schools.

Vote: 5/1; Councilor Lessard opposed.

Councilors Emhiser, McCurry, St. Cyr, Belanger and Ortiz in favor.

Motion carries.

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Belanger to increase the Fringe Benefits budget line by \$28,935 to reflect the increase in Allegiant Care costs.

Vote: Unanimous.

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Belanger to increase the Hydrant Rental budget line by \$25,000.

Vote: 5/1; Councilor Lessard opposed.

Councilors Emhiser, McCurry, St. Cyr, Belanger and Ortiz in favor.

Motion carries.

The Committee then considered the remaining General Fund Budgets:

- ❖ Computer Services – no change recommended
- ❖ Planning/Economic Dev. – no change recommended
- ❖ Code Enforcement/Inspections – no change recommended
- ❖ General Administration – no change recommended
- ❖ Community Center – no change recommended
- ❖ Recreation – no change recommended
- ❖ Social Services – no change recommended
- ❖ Municipal Services (fully funded would be \$951,206)

Motion by Councilor Belanger to amend this budget line by deleting those agencies that were not funded in the prior fiscal year; to reduce the Biddeford Conservation Commission request to \$3,500; to reduce the Downtown Development Commission request to \$500; and leave all other requests as is. This ultimately reflects an increase of \$36,738.

Motion fails due to lack of second.

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor St. Cyr to use the Municipal Service amounts from the FY20 Budget and add the requested increase for Transit, making the budget line \$878,128.

Motion was withdrawn.

- ❖ Communication – no change recommended
- ❖ Fire Dept

Motion by Councilor Emhiser, seconded by Councilor Ortiz to accept the City Manager recommendation.

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Lessard to move the increase in this line item to Contingency.

Vote: 3/3; Councilors McCurry, St. Cyr and Lessard in favor.

Councilors Emhiser, Belanger and Ortiz opposed.

Mayor Casavant voted in opposition to break the tie.

Motion fails.

Motion by Councilor Belanger, seconded by Councilor Ortiz to increase the amount in this line item to fund four new positions instead of two new positions.

Vote: 2/4; Councilors Belanger and Ortiz in favor.

Councilors Emhiser, McCurry, St. Cyr and Lessard opposed.

Motion fails.

Vote on Emhiser/Ortiz original motion: 3/3; Councilors Emhiser, Belanger and Ortiz in favor.
Councilors McCurry, St. Cyr and Lessard opposed.
Mayor Casavant voted in favor to break the tie.
Motion carries.

- ❖ Hydrant Rental – no change recommended
- ❖ Police Dept. – no change recommended
- ❖ Solid Waste Management – no change recommended
- ❖ Parks Maintenance – no change recommended
- ❖ Fringe Benefits – no change recommended
- ❖ County Tax – no change recommended
- ❖ Debt Service – Principal – no change recommended
- ❖ Debt Service – Interest – no change recommended
- ❖ Transfers Out – no change recommended
- ❖ Capital Improvement CIP – no change recommended

Other Budget Amendments:

Motion by Councilor Lessard, seconded by Councilor Belanger to increase the **Municipal Service** budget line by \$61,000 for a total of **\$950,000**; with the stipulation that a sub-committee of Councilors be formed to appropriate the funds.

Vote: 4/2; Councilors McCurry and St. Cyr opposed.
Councilors Emhiser, Belanger, Ortiz and Lessard in favor.
Motion carries.

Motion by Councilor Lessard, seconded by Councilor Belanger to increase the Public Works Parks budget line by \$100,000 for (1) to hire seasonal help for the maintenance of City parks; and (2) with whatever funds are left, to improve the trail system at Clifford Park.

Motion by Councilor Lessard, seconded by Councilor Belanger to amend the prior motion that the funding come from the current fiscal year budget operational surplus.
Vote: Unanimous.

Vote on original motion, as amended: Unanimous.

With budget work being completed for the time being, the budget sits at a \$.15 or .74% reduction.

Motion by Councilor McCurry, seconded by Councilor Lessard to adjourn.

Vote: Unanimous. Time: 8:30 p.m.

Attest by: _____

Carmen J. Morris, City Clerk