

Finance and Budget Committee Minutes October 24, 2006 8:00 A.M. Room 312

Councilors in attendance: Cantor, Slifka, Carpenter

Smith School Request

The Committee restated their commitment to release funds when the State has approved the Board of Education's plan for the school. Alex Nardone stated that the school will need these improvements regardless of the States decision. The Committee agreed to follow up with this issue at the next Education Liaison meeting.

School bus Contract

Alex Nardone reviewed the process that has been taken to renew this contract. The bus company submitted a new proposal that kept the per bus cost the same, proposed a cost sharing on increased gasoline prices, asked for a 4% cost-of-living adjustment, and would be renewed for five years. The Committee asked that the administration look at comparative price structures in other communities and bring the matter back to them.

Blue Back Square Financial Update

Chris Johnson reported that the financial plan was on target. Monthly expenses were less than expected, interest income was higher than planned and therefore the balance in the fund was higher than expected through September. A planned debt service payment (interest only) will be made in October. Payment for the south garage is expected to take place in February and operation of the garage will also begin.

MDC FY07 Operating Budget

The proposed MDC operating budget for next fiscal year is up 7.3% or \$479,275. The MDC will adopt final numbers sometime in December as they operate on a calendar year basis.

Other Business

The next meeting was set for November 2, 2006 at 8 A.M.