



**COMMON COUNCIL
MIDDLETOWN CONNECTICUT**

**SPECIAL MEETING
FY 2023-2024 BUDGET ADOPTION
THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2023
6:00 PM**

MINUTES

A Special Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Middletown – the budget adoption for the general fund and the five (5) special budgets for FY 2023-2024 -- was held on Thursday, May 11, 2023, beginning at 6:00 PM. This meeting was a hybrid meeting with in-person participation in the Common Council Chamber and remote access via WebEx. The meeting was also simultaneously livestreamed on local cable access television, on the City's webpage, and on the City's Facebook page.

Present:

Councilwoman Jeanette Blackwell	Councilman Michael A. Marino
Councilman Grady Faulkner, Jr.	Councilman Edward McKeon
Councilman Darnell Ford	Councilman Eugene Nocera
Councilman Anthony Gennaro, Sr.	Councilman Philip Pessina
Councilman Vincent Loffredo	Councilwoman Linda Salafia

Hon. Benjamin Florsheim, Mayor
Linda Reed, Clerk of the Common Council
Sgt. Dimassa, Middletown Police - Sergeant-at-Arms

Absent:

Councilmembers Meghan Carta and Anthony Mangiafico
Daniel Ryan, Esq. – Corporation Counsel

Public: in-person: not available WebEx: 3 Facebook: unknown

1. Call to Order

The Chair calls the meeting to order at 6:05 PM. He welcomes everyone to the Special Meeting of the Common Council, the budget adoption for the general fund and the five (5) special budgets for FY 2023-2024.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

The Chair asks the Common Council and members of the public to join in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Council Clerk Reads the Call of the Meeting and Mayor declares call a legal call and meeting a legal meeting

The Clerk of the Common Council reads the Call of the Meeting and the Chair declares the call a legal call and the meeting a legal meeting.

2. Public Hearing Opens

The Chair opens the public hearing at 6:07 PM. Any member of the public looking to speak may do so. Each speaker will have a maximum of five (5) minutes to speak. For those in the Chamber, members of the public may come to the podium. Those participating remotely may use the WebEx hand raise function to alert that Chair that they wish to speak. The Chair will alternate between speakers in the Chamber and remote speakers during the course of this public hearing. He reiterates that each speaker will have a maximum of five (5) minutes to speak. Speakers are asked to state their name and address for the record. The public hearing is limited to 30 minutes. If, at that time, there are additional speakers, the Council may vote to extend the public hearing portion of the meeting.

The Chair notes that there is no one in the Chamber. He confirms with the Clerk of the Common Council that there are no members of the public on WebEx looking to speak on the proposed budgets.

The Clerk of the Common Council states that she received one letter with the request that it be read into the meeting record.

The Chair asks the Clerk of the Common Council to read the letter into the record.

The Clerk of the Common Council reads the following letter:

May 11, 2023

Good evening Common Councilmembers:

My apologies for not attending this evening, but I have a prior family commitment.

I ask that this letter be read into the public record.

I have strong concerns about tonight's budget. I have read the comments in the news that the change in the mill rate is due to the revaluation.

When I reviewed the budget, I saw that there is an increase in spending. After reviewing the budget for this evening, I see that there is a \$6M difference from last year's budget to this year's budget. As I continue to review, I realize that \$12,680,000 was taken out of the City's savings account to offset the tax increase this year.

My concern is that we will need to make up almost 3 mills next year along with contractual obligations and any additional spending.

This is unsustainable and I ask that you do as much as you can to rectify this budget, and future budgets, for everyone in Middletown.

Respectfully,
Mary Bartolotta

The Chair confirms that here is no one in the Chamber looking to speak. The Chair confirms with the Clerk of the Common Council that there is no one on WebEx looking to speak.

3. Public Hearing Closes

There being no additional public comments, the public hearing is closed at 6:10 PM.

4. Resolutions

The Chair thanks everyone including all of the department heads, who faced a daunting challenge this year in preparing these budgets. He thanks Finance Director Carl Erlacher and his staff. There were many owners of what has been a challenging, but successful budget process. He is grateful to be part of that team. He thanks them for their support he looks forward to tonight's discussion.

A. Adopting the General Fund Budget

APPROVED, AS AMENDED

RESOLUTION NO. 53-23; K: review/ resolution/ CC general fund FY23-24 – RES 53-23 – 11 May 2023

Be it resolved by the Common Council of the City of Middletown: That the City of Middletown General Fund Budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, as prepared by the Mayor and advertised in the Hartford Courant on April 14, 2023, is hereby approved and adopted, as amended:

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN - EXPENDITURES
COUNCIL ADJUSTMENTS TO BUDGET FOR YEAR ENDING 2024

03500 COMPUTERS/TELECOMMUNICATIONS		
59500 CNR CONTRIBUTION		
1000-03500-59500-0000-00000-0000-000	IT: CAPITAL NON-RECURRING	
22 MULTI FUNCTION DEVICE IN COMMON COUNCIL OFFICE		8,999
	NET INCREASE - CNR CONTRIBUTION	8,999
	NET INCREASE - COMPUTERS/TELECOMMUNICATIONS	8,999
05000 OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL		
55185 CONTRACTUAL SERVICES		
1000-05000-55185-0050-00000-0000-000	OGC: CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	
6 FAIR RENT COMMISSION		50,000
	NET INCREASE - CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	50,000
	NET INCREASE - OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL	50,000
12000 COMMON COUNCIL		

55185 CONTRACTUAL SERVICES			
1000-12000-55185-0000-00000-0000-000	COMMON: CONTRACTUAL SERVICES		
1 OUTSIDE LEGAL SERVICES			-9,000
	NET DECREASE - CONTRACTUAL SERVICES		-9,000
	NET DECREASE - COMMON COUNCIL		-9,000
18500 ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPME			
51215 SALARIES & WAGES, PT PERM			
1000-18500-51215-0000-00000-0000-000	ECON&COMM DEV: SALARIES & WAGES		
3 GRANTS ADMINISTRATOR			-40,000
	NET DECREASE - SALARIES & WAGES, PT PERM		-40,000
55185 CONTRACTUAL SERVICES			
1000-18500-55185-0000-00000-0000-000	ECON&COMM DEV: CONTRACTUAL SERV		
36 RIVERFRONT PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES			125,000
	NET INCREASE - CONTRACTUAL SERVICES		125,000
	NET INCREASE - ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPM		85,000
26500 HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES			
59200 GRANT			
1000-26500-59200-0730-00000-0000-000	OLD BURY: GRANT		
3 FARM HILL CEMETARY FENCE			2,000
	NET INCREASE - GRANT		2,000
	NET INCREASE - HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES		2,000
27000 SPECIAL ACCOUNTS			
52110 GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE			
1000-27000-52110-0700-00000-0000-000	VET: GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE		
16 SOUTH GREEN CROSSWALK HONORING VETERANS			2,000
	NET INCREASE - GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE		2,000
57030 MISC EXPENSE			
1000-27000-57030-0011-00000-0000-000	SPEC: SPECIAL PROGRAMS		
5 LITERARY FAIR			15,000
1000-27000-57030-0708-00000-0000-000	COMMTY: MISC EXPENSE		
22 OTHER COMMUNITY PROMOTIONAL RELATED			1
	NET INCREASE - MISC EXPENSE		15,001
	NET INCREASE - SPECIAL ACCOUNTS		17,001
28000 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS			
51530 HEALTH INSURANCE			
1000-28000-51530-0000-00000-0000-000	EMPL BEN: HEALTH INSURANCE		
3 HEALTH INSURANCE COSTS			-426,429
	NET DECREASE - HEALTH INSURANCE		-426,429
	NET DECREASE - EMPLOYEE BENEFITS		-426,429
32000 REC & COMMUNITY SERVICES			
51230 SALARIES, PT SEASONAL			
1000-32000-51230-0321-00000-0000-000	RECR: SALARIES & WAGES, PT SEAS		
32 INCLUSION PROGRAMMING			5,000
33 ADDITIONAL RECREATION PROGRAMS			10,000
	NET INCREASE - SALARIES, PT SEASONAL		15,000
53100 GENERAL SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT			
1000-32000-53100-0130-00000-0000-000	SENIOR: GENERAL SPECIALIZED EQU		
6 EARLY BIRD DINNERS			1,000
14 NIGHT EVENTS			1,000
	NET INCREASE - GENERAL SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT		2,000

53115 MISC SUPPLIES			
1000-32000-53115-0321-00000-0000-000	RECR: MISC SUPPLIES		
	FUN TIME PROGRAM SUPPLIES & ENTRANCE FEES	750	
	GREAT TIME PROGRAM SUPPLIES & ENTRANCE FEES	750	
	GOOD TIME PROGRAM SUPPLIES & ENTRANCE FEES	750	
	KID TIME PROGRAM SUPPLIES & ENTRANCE FEES	750	
	TEEN TIME PROGRAM SUPPLIES & ENTRANCE FEES	750	
11	COMMUNITY BASED PROGRAM SUPPLIES AND ENTRANCE FEES	2,500	
	NET INCREASE - MISC SUPPLIES	6,250	
55185 CONTRACTUAL SERVICES			
1000-32000-55185-0130-00000-0000-000	SENIOR: CONTRACTUAL SERVCS/INST		
26	CABLE - PUBLIC WIFI & TELEVISION	5,637	
	NET INCREASE - CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	5,637	
	NET INCREASE - REC & COMMUNITY SERVICES	28,887	
33000 EDUCATION			
57010 EDUCATION CONTRIBUTION			
1000-33000-57010-0000-00000-0000-000	EDUCATION CONTRIBUTION		
1	100,000	
	NET INCREASE - EDUCATION CONTRIBUTION	100,000	
	NET INCREASE - EDUCATION	100,000	
38000 CITY INTEREST			
57210 EDUC/CITY INTEREST			
1000-38000-57210-0000-00903-0000-000	2023 BOND ISSUE: CITY INTEREST		
1	-50,000	
	NET DECREASE - EDUC/CITY INTEREST	50,000	
	NET DECREASE - CITY INTEREST	-50,000	
39000 EDUC INTEREST			
57210 EDUC/CITY INTEREST			
1000-39000-57210-0000-00903-0000-000	2023 BOND ISSUE: EDUC INTEREST		
1	50,000	
	NET INCREASE - EDUC/CITY INTEREST	50,000	
	NET INCREASE - EDUC INTEREST	50,000	
	TOTAL NET DECREASE IN FUND 1000 GENERAL FUND	-143,542	

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN - PERSONAL SERVICES
COUNCIL ADJUSTMENTS TO BUDGET FOR YEAR ENDING 2024

Account	Account Description	Position	Position Description	Change
1000-03500-51110-0000-00000-0000-000	IT: SALARIES & WAGES, FT PERM	03500-06215-01	GIS ANALYST	74,942
1000-18500-51110-0000-00000-0000-000	ECON&COMM DEV: SALARIES & WAGES,	18500-04000-01	GRANT WRITER AND ADMINISTRATOR	78,957
	TOTAL NET INCREASE IN FUND 1000 GENERAL FUND			153,899

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN - REVENUES
COUNCIL ADJUSTMENTS TO BUDGET FOR YEAR ENDING 2024

1000-03000-41110-0033-00000-0000-000	COLL: TAXES-REAL ESTATE/MOTOR VEH	10,357
	TOTAL NET INCREASE IN FUND 1000 GENERAL FUND	10,357

Be it further resolved: That the mill rate be set as 28.3 to cover this budget, and said rate shall be due and payable in two (2) equal installments on July 1, 2023 and January 1, 2024, in accordance with the Charter of the City of Middletown, Chapter VI; and

Be it further resolved: That the Tax Collector hereby be, and is, authorized to collect said taxes.

Before reading this resolution, Councilman Eugene Nocera states that he would like to make a few comments. He thanks so many people. He thanks the Mayor and staff. This has been a difficult process, but a team effort. He thanks Finance Director Carl Erlacher and staff. Without them, it have been difficult every step of the way. He thanks the Board of Education and its Central Office staff including the Superintendent of Schools. There were many conversations, not only with the caucus, but also with the Mayor and staff. They appreciate their collaboration and understanding of the difficult nature of this year's budget. As we are all aware, it has been a difficult budget year, but the team has put together a progressive, careful, and conservative FY 23-24 budget. The Democratic caucus is recommending no change in the total appropriation as outlined by the Mayor's proposed budget. He has spoken with the Republican caucus and the Board of Education every step of the way on the resolutions being voted on tonight he appreciates their collaboration. They recommend important changes and adjustments that they were able to do because of better insurance projections, which are significant. The caucus felt it was important to include these changes. They are embedded in tonight's resolutions: agenda items 4A to 4F. They will be voting on these changes, which they believe will strengthen this budget. This includes revenue for a Fair Rent attorney costs, adding a much needed Grant Writer and Administrator, adding GIS technology as outlined by the director, and adding revenue to the Recreation Department for additional program development, time, and maintenance. It is difficult to plan for a new facility and they appreciate that the department heads have been there every step of the way, helping keep costs down and quality high. They are doing more with less. Never forget that. It starts there. We are adding revenue to the Board of Education budget to support, the recommendation, to support social/emotional support for middle school and high school students. It includes support, which will realize \$175K in costs savings in their budgets through health insurance costs. They have revenue to add to the budget, they are small, but important items. We want to support a patriotic crosswalk at the South Green. We want to repair the fence at the Old Farm Hill Cemetery, the Old Burying Grounds. We are adding a literary arts fair to the Arts Department. Importantly, they want to include in the Public Works budget a sustainability coordinator that needs to be filled. Finally, we will add a copier to the Common Council office, which is long overdue rather than repairing the old machine.

Councilman Eugene Nocera begins to read the proposed resolution. He pauses and asks the Councilmembers if, by consensus, they want to waive the reading of the resolution.

The Chair suggest that Councilman Nocera read the Economic and Community Development salaries, but not necessarily all numbers. All of the documents will be available to the public.

Councilman Nocera continues to read the proposed resolution and amendments. He accepts Councilwoman Linda Salafia's offer to continue the reading.

Councilwoman Linda Salafia continues and completes the reading of the proposed resolution, including the amendments.

Councilman Eugene Nocera moves to approve. Councilman Grady Faulkner, Jr. seconds the motion.

The Chair calls on Councilman Philip Pessina

Councilman Pessina states that, on behalf of the veterans, being a veteran, he thanks his colleagues for the General Administration account allocation of \$2K for the South Green crosswalk, honoring veterans. The veterans were thrilled to hear that the Council supports adding that money to the budget. He asks his colleagues to look at the pictures on the back wall: *All gave some. Some gave all.* They are not forgotten. He thanks every Councilmember for the great job they did, he looks forward to the work by the Council of Veterans with the goal of completing tis project by July 4th. Thank you.

The Chair calls on Councilwoman Linda Salafia.

Councilwoman Salafia states that, despite reading the resolution, she will be voting no. She has a problem – and has had this problem in previous years – noting that the Board of Education request is too high. At this point, we cannot sustain this. It raises the minimum budge requirement each year, as this budget becomes the base of \$98M. That is nearly 50% of the City's overall budget. She believes that there are ways that they can cut that request without cutting staff or services. Sher has had a discussion with her counterparts on the Board of Education. There seem to be ways of cutting. In addition, they have received a lot of State and Federal grant money, especially related to Covid, yet we have no idea where that money is. She cannot support the budget as it is written, particularly the Board of Education budget that budget has increased from \$92M up to \$98M in 2 years. That is a huge ask for our taxpayers. It is a huge obligation to maintain. For these reasons, she will be voting no.

There being further no discussion, the Chair calls for a roll call.

Councilman Mangiafico	Absent
Councilman Marino	Aye
Councilman Pessina	Aye
Councilman McKeon	Aye
Councilman Loffredo	Aye

Councilman Nocera	Aye
Councilwoman Blackwell	Aye
Councilman Ford	Aye
Councilman Faulkner	Aye
Councilman Gennaro	Aye
Councilwoman Salafia	Nay

For the record, the Clerk asks what to record for the vote of Councilwoman Meghan Carta.

The Chair notes that Councilwoman Carta is absent this evening, making the vote 9 Aye, 1 Nay, and 2 Absent.

The motion is approved by a vote of nine (9) aye votes and one (1) nay vote. (AYE: Councilmembers Blackwell, Faulkner, Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Marino, McKeon, Nocera, and Pessina' NAY: Councilwoman Salafia; ABSENT: Councilmembers Carta and Mangiafico). The matter is approved.

B. Adopting the Middletown Fire District Budget

APPROVED, AS AMENDED

RESOLUTION NO. 54-23; K: review/ resolution/ CC fire budget FY 2023-2024 – RES 54-23 – 11 May 2023

Be it Resolved by the Common Council of the City of Middletown: That the Middletown Fire District Budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, as prepared by the Mayor and advertised in the Hartford Courant on April 14, 2023, is hereby approved, as amended:

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN - EXPENDITURES
COUNCIL ADJUSTMENTS TO BUDGET FOR YEAR ENDING 2024

50000 FIRE	
51530 HEALTH INSURANCE	
2010-50000-51530-0500-00000-0000-000	FIRE: HEALTH INSURANCE
1 NUMBER SUPPLIED BY RISK	-90,311
	NET DECREASE - HEALTH INSURANCE
	-90,311
	NET DECREASE - FIRE
	-90,311
TOTAL NET DECREASE IN FUND 2010 FIRE	
	-90,311

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN - REVENUES
COUNCIL ADJUSTMENTS TO BUDGET FOR YEAR ENDING 2024

2010-50000-41110-0500-00000-0000-000	FIRE: TAXES-REAL ESTATE/MOTOR VEH	-490,310
2010-50000-49030-0500-00000-0000-000	FIRE: FUND BALANCE CONTRIBUTION	399,999
TOTAL NET DECREASE IN FUND 2010 FIRE		-90,311

Be It Further Resolved: That the mill rate be set as 6.8 to cover this budget and said rate shall be due and payable in two (2) equal installments on July 1, 2023 and January 1, 2024, in accordance with the Charter of the City of Middletown, Chapter VI; and

Be It Further Resolved: That the Tax Collector be and is hereby authorized to collect said taxes.

Councilman Darnell Ford reads the proposed budget resolution, as amended, and moves to approve. Councilman Eugene Nocera seconds the motion.

There being no discussion, the Chair calls for a roll call vote.

Councilman Marino	Aye
Councilman Pessina	Aye
Councilman McKeon	Aye
Councilman Loffredo	Aye
Councilman Nocera	Aye
Councilwoman Blackwell	Aye
Councilman Ford	Aye
Councilman Faulkner	Aye
Councilman Gennaro	Aye
Councilwoman Salafia	Aye

The Chair notes, for the record, that Councilman Mangiafico and Councilwoman Carta are absent from his vote.

The motion is approved unanimously by a vote of 10-0. (AYE: Councilmembers Blackwell, Faulkner, Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Marino, McKeon, Nocera, Pessina, and Salafia; ABSENT: Councilmembers Carta and Mangiafico). The matter is approved.

C. Adopting Sanitation Collection District Budget
APPROVED, AS AMENDED

RESOLUTION NO. 55-23; K: review/ resolution/CC sanitation FY23-24 – RES 55-23 – 11 May 2023

Be it resolved by the Common Council of the City of Middletown: That the budget of the Sanitation Collection district for the fiscal year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, as presented by the Mayor and advertised in the Hartford Courant on April 14, 2023, is hereby approved and adopted, as amended:

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN - EXPENDITURES
COUNCIL ADJUSTMENTS TO BUDGET FOR YEAR ENDING 2024

40000 SANITATION	
51530 HEALTH INSURANCE	
2020-40000-51530-0000-00000-0000-000	SANIT: HEALTH INSURANCE
1 HEALTH INSURANCE - SANITATION	-8,355
NET DECREASE - HEALTH INSURANCE	-8,355
NET DECREASE - SANITATION	-8,355
TOTAL NET DECREASE IN FUND 2020 SANITATION	-8,355

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN - REVENUES
COUNCIL ADJUSTMENTS TO BUDGET FOR YEAR ENDING 2024

2020-40000-49030-0000-00000-0000-000	SANIT: FUND BALANCE	-8,355
TOTAL NET DECREASE IN FUND 2020 SANITATION		-8,355

Councilman Edward McKeon reads the proposed budget resolution, as amended, and moves to approve. Councilman Philip Pessina seconds the motion.

There being no discussion, the Chair calls for a voice vote. The motion is approved unanimously by a vote of 10-0. (AYE: Councilmembers Blackwell, Faulkner, Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Marino, McKeon, Nocera, Pessina, and Salafia; ABSENT: Councilmembers Carta and Mangiafico). The matter is approved.

D. Adopting Water Pollution Control Authority Budget for the Sewer Department
APPROVED, AS AMENDED

RESOLUTION NO. 56-23 K: review/ resolution/ CC- sewer FY23-24 – RES 56-23 – 11 May 2023

Be it Resolved by the Common Council of the City of Middletown: That the budget prepared and adopted by the Water Pollution Control Authority for the Sewer Department of the City of Middletown for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024, as advertised in the Hartford Courant on April 14, 2023, is hereby approved and adopted., as amended:

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN - EXPENDITURES
COUNCIL ADJUSTMENTS TO BUDGET FOR YEAR ENDING 2024

65000 SEWER	
51530 HEALTH INSURANCE	
2050-65000-51530-0000-00000-0000-000	SEWER: HEALTH INSURANCE
1	-23,676
NET DECREASE - HEALTH INSURANCE	-23,676
NET DECREASE - SEWER	-23,676
TOTAL NET DECREASE IN FUND 2050 SEWER	-23,676

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN - REVENUES
COUNCIL ADJUSTMENTS TO BUDGET FOR YEAR ENDING 2024

2050-65000-44715-0000-00000-0000-000	SEWER: SERVICE CHARGES	-676
2050-65000-49030-0000-00000-0000-000	SEWER: FUND BALANCE CONTRIBUTION	-23,000
TOTAL NET DECREASE IN FUND 2050 SEWER		-23,676

Be It Further Resolved: That the rate of sewer use charges as adopted by the Water Pollution Control shall be due and payable effective July 1, 2023; and

Be It Further Resolved: that the Tax Collector, he, and she is hereby authorized to collect said sewer charges.

Councilman Philip Pessina reads the proposed resolution and moves to approve. Councilman Grady Faulkner, Jr. seconds the motion.

There being no discussion, the Chair calls for a voice vote. The motion is approved unanimously by a vote of 10-0. (AYE: Councilmembers Blackwell, Faulkner, Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Marino, McKeon, Nocera, Pessina, and Salafia; ABSENT: Councilmembers Carta and Mangiafico). The matter is approved

**E. Adopting Water Pollution Control Authority Budget for the Water Department
APPROVED, AS AMENDED
RESOLUTION NO. 57-23; K; review/ resolution/ CC water FY23-24 – RES 57-23 – 11 May 2023**

Be it Resolved by the Common Council of the City of Middletown: That the budget prepared and adopted by the Water Pollution Control Authority for the Water Department of the City of Middletown for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024, as advertised in the Hartford Courant on April 14, 2023, is hereby approved and adopted, as amended:

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN - EXPENDITURES
COUNCIL ADJUSTMENTS TO BUDGET FOR YEAR ENDING 2024

60000	WATER	
51530	HEALTH INSURANCE	
5000-60000-51530-0000-00000-0000-000	WATER: HEALTH INSURANCE	
1	-32,826
	NET DECREASE - HEALTH INSURANCE	-32,826
	NET DECREASE - WATER	-32,826
	TOTAL NET DECREASE IN FUND 5000 WATER	-32,826

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN - REVENUES
COUNCIL ADJUSTMENTS TO BUDGET FOR YEAR ENDING 2024

5000-60000-44715-0000-00000-0000-000	WATER: SERVICE CHARGES	-826
5000-60000-49030-0000-00000-0000-000	WATER: FUND BALANCE CONTRIBUTION	-32,000
TOTAL NET DECREASE IN FUND 5000 WATER		-32,826

Be It Further Resolved: That the rate of water use charges as adopted by the Water Pollution Control Authority and approved by the Common Council on May 1, 2023 shall be due and payable effective July 1, 2023; and

Be It Further Resolved: that the Tax Collector, he and she is hereby authorized to collect said water charges.

Councilwoman Linda Salafia reads the proposed budget resolution, as amended, and moves to approve. Councilman Philip Pessina seconds the motion.

The Chair calls on Councilman Vincent Loffredo

Councilman Loffredo states that, as they were going through this, and considering the comments by the Majority Leader, he sees that, with the Risk Management folks and the general health and welfare of the employees, the City has seen a substantial decrease in health benefits costs. The savings is over \$400K in the general fund budget and \$90K+ with Fire, sanitation, another \$8K, Water another \$32K. The effort made by the department, seeking the cost going forward, their efforts should be recognized.

The Chair appreciates that comment. He calls on Councilman Grady Faulkner, Jr.

Councilman Faulkner states that he missed seeing Nancy for a long time. She is in their prayers to get well. It is an excellent job with the participation of employees. They participate in many of the programs. It is a win/win.

The Chair states that it is well-recognized effort by Risk Management and lot of exciting things happening, which will hopefully lead to even more savings.

There being no further discussion, the Chair calls for a voice vote. The motion is approved unanimously by a vote of 10-0. (AYE: Councilmembers Blackwell, Faulkner, Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Marino, McKeon, Nocera, Pessina, and Salafia; ABSENT: Councilmembers Carta and Mangiafico). The matter is approved

F. Adopting the Special Business District Budget

APPROVED

Resolution No. 58-23; K: review/ resolution/ CC business district FY23-24- RES 58-23 – 11 May 2023

Whereas, the Business Improvement District Board of Commissioners has met and in accordance with the ordinance, Sec. 272-14, Subparagraph G, has set the budget and proposed a mill rate on the assessed value of taxable real estate property within the district for fiscal year 2023-2024.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Common Council of the City of Middletown: That the mill rate be set as 1.546 mills to cover this budget, and said rate shall be due and payable in two (2) equal installments on July 1, 2023, and January 1, 2024, in accordance with the Ordinance Section 272-14 Subparagraph G, 2 (a) of the City of Middletown; and

Be it further resolved: That the Tax Collector, be and she is hereby authorized to collect said taxes.



To: Mayor Benjamin Florsheim and Members of the Common Council
CC: Linda Reed, Common Council Clerk
From: Board of Commissioners, Middletown Downtown Business District (DBD)
Date: April 26, 2023
RE: DBD Budget for FY 2023-2024

Dear Mayor Florsheim,

Attached, please find the Budget for FY 2023-2024 that was approved by the Board of Commissioners of the Middletown Downtown Business District, at its Annual Meeting held Wednesday March 22, 2023

According to Ordinance, Sec. 28-14 of the Middletown Code of Ordinances that was approved by the Common Council in 2001, [the district shall] *recommend to the Common Council the imposition of a levy upon taxable interests in real property within such district, the revenues from which may be used in carrying out any of the powers of such district.*

The assessed value of taxable real estate within the DBD borders currently totals approximately 104,630,165 per current tax assessment records of the City of Middletown.

The levy of 1.546 mills would yield total revenues of approximately \$161,785.

Therefore, the DBD Board of Commissioners is recommending to the Common Council the imposition of a levy of 1.546 mills upon taxable real property in the Downtown Business District.

PLEASE NOTE: THIS MILL RATE HAS BEEN ADJUSTED TO BEST EQUAL OUR LAST BUDGET YEAR, WHICH RESULTS IN A LEVEL BUDGET WITH NO INCREASE.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact Sandra Russo-Driska, DBD Coordinator at 860-347-1424 or Sandra@DowntownMiddletown.com.

Sincerely,

Jen

Jen Alexander, Chairperson
 DBD Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED BUDGET DSD FY 23-24

Administrative	
Rent/Electric	\$9,114
Insurance	\$2,800
Postage	\$500
Telephone and Internet	\$1,300
Subscriptions/ Memberships	\$500
Supplies:	
Office Equipment & Supplies	\$1,000
Prof. Assistance/Contracted Personnel:	
Computer	\$500
Quick Books	\$1,030
SOS Filings	\$100
Bookkeeper	\$2,500
Parking	\$300
Personnel	
Office Coordinator Salary	\$43,000
Office Support	\$3,500
Beautification Manager	\$7,000
Payroll Expense - Taxes	\$7,500
Maintenance & Beautification	
Planter Contract	\$43,000
Beautification Projects	\$3,000
Marketing & Promotion	
Downtown Brochure	\$5,000
General Marketing/Special Projects	\$1,541
Website - Updating/Hosting/Maintenance	\$1,500
DSD Gift Card (activation fees, etc)	\$5,000
Chamber Events	\$7,500
Marketing	\$12,500
Hospitality	\$2,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$161,785

Councilman Vincent Loffredo reads the proposed budget resolution and moves to approve. Councilman Grady Faulkner, Jr. seconds the motion.

There being no discussion, the Chair calls for a voice vote. The motion is approved unanimously by a vote of 10-0. (AYE: Councilmembers Blackwell, Faulkner, Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Marino, McKeon, Nocera, Pessina, and Salafia; ABSENT: Councilmembers Carta and Mangiafico). The matter is approved.

The Chair notes that this is the last of the budget resolutions and the last of their 4-year terms: their 4th budget in their 4-year term. He states that it is a pleasure to work with the Council

5. Meeting Adjourned

There being no further business, the Chair calls for a motion to adjourn.

Councilman Grady Faulkner, Jr. moves to adjourn. Councilwoman Anthony Gennaro seconds them motion.

There being no discussion, the Chair calls for a voice vote. The motion is approved unanimously by a vote of 10-0. (AYE: Councilmembers Blackwell, Faulkner, Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Marino, McKeon, Nocera, Pessina, and Salafia; ABSENT: Councilmembers Carta and Mangiafico). The matter is approved.

The meeting is adjourned at 6:53 PM.

ATTEST:
LINDA S.K. REED,
COMMON COUNCIL CLERK

K: review/ minutes – 2023 May 11 – special meeting – FY23-24 budget approval – 11 May 2023