

**Rochester City Council Public Hearing
March 4, 2017
Council Chambers
7:00 PM**

COUNCILORS PRESENT

Councilor Abbott
Councilor Barnett
Councilor Bogan
Councilor Gates
Councilor Gray
Councilor Hamann
Councilor Lachapelle
Councilor Lauterborn
Councilor Keans
Councilor Torr
Councilor Varney
Councilor Willis
Mayor McCarley

OTHERS PRESENT

City Manager Daniel Fitzpatrick
Deputy City Manager Blaine Cox
City Attorney, Terrence O'Rourke
Gregg DeNobile, Resident
Cliff Newton, Resident
Sue O'Connor, Resident
Doris Gates, Resident
Tom Kaczynski, State Representative and
Resident

Agenda

1. Call to Order

Mayor McCarley called the City Council Public Hearing to order at 7:00 PM. Marcia Roddy, Deputy City Clerk, took a silent roll call. All Councilors were present.

2. AB 139 Resolution Authorizing Supplemental Appropriation to the School Building Fund in the Amount of \$796,326.00

Resolution Authorizing Supplemental Appropriation to the School Building Fund in the Amount of \$796,326.00

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER, AS FOLLOWS:

In accordance with RSA 34:2, that the sum of Seven Hundred Ninety Six Thousand Three Hundred Twenty-Six Dollars (\$796,326.00) be, and hereby is, appropriated as a supplemental appropriation to the School Building Fund. The entire amount of the supplemental appropriation shall be derived from the General Fund unassigned fund balance.

To the extent not otherwise provided for in this Resolution, the Finance

Director is hereby authorized to designate and/or establish such accounts and/or account numbers as necessary to implement the transactions contemplated by this Resolution.

Gregg DeNobile, resident, spoke on the resolution that was the subject of the Public Hearing. He cited RSA 44.10 that said that the resolution is supposed to state specifically what the money is to be used for. He questioned how the money would be used if it is for the School Department to pay down the bonding debt, something he believes is not within its authority.

Cliff Newton, resident, questioned the funding for the School Building Fund. He said that there is skepticism about how the money is being used. He said that there seem to be "wants vs. needs." He asked what exactly is the process for the expenditure of the funds.

Sue O'Connor, resident, referred to the School Department Debt Schedule Summary, copies of which she had handed out to the City Council. She said she had served on the Joint Building Committee and worked on the planning of the East Rochester School. She is now questioning the "shifting" of money within the School Department budget.

Doris Gates, resident, said she believes that "past performance will dictate future performance." She said that in her research of the School Board budgets that quite a few projects that are budgeted are not followed through on. Her main concern is that it all comes down to a matter of trust when it comes to school spending.

Tom Kaczynski, State Representative of District 22 and resident, urged the City Council to vote against the resolution. He asked what the fund balance is actually used for and why this money in question is determined to be some sort of surplus. He believes the City Council should demand answers regarding questions on expenditures and why there could be a surplus.

Mayor McCarley closed the Public Hearing at 7:27 PM.

3. Adjournment

Mayor McCarley adjourned the Public Hearing at 7:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia H. Roddy, CNHDCC
Deputy City Clerk