

**City Council Public Hearing
April 19, 2022
Council Chambers
6:00 PM**

COUNCILORS PRESENT

Councilor Beaudoin
Councilor Berlin
Councilor Desrochers
Councilor Fontneau
Councilor Gilman
Councilor Gray
Councilor Hailey
Councilor Hamann
Councilor Larochelle
Councilor Malone
Councilor Rice
Deputy Mayor Lachapelle
Mayor Callaghan

OTHERS PRESENT

Blaine Cox, City Manager
Katie Ambrose, Deputy City Manager
Terence O'Rourke, City Attorney
Cliff Newton, resident
Tom Kaczynski, resident
Carol Petrusowicz, resident
Sherry Beaudoin, resident
human, resident
Linda Wentworth, resident
Susan Rice, resident

Minutes

1. Call to Order

Mayor Callaghan called the City Council Public Hearing to order at 6:00 PM.

2. Resolution Pursuant to RSA 34:1 Establishing a Fire Apparatus Replacement Capital Reserve Fund and Supplemental Appropriation of \$500,000.00 in Connection Therewith

Resolution Pursuant to RSA 34:1 Establishing a Fire Apparatus Replacement Capital Reserve Fund and Supplemental Appropriation of \$500,000.00 in Connection Therewith

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

By adoption of this Resolution, the City Council establishes a Capital Reserve Fund pursuant to RSA 34:1 for the purpose of replacing large fire apparatus. The name of such fund shall be the Fire Apparatus Replacement Capital Reserve Fund.

Further, the City Council hereby appropriates Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) to said Fund with the entirety of the said appropriation being derived from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance.

Pursuant to RSA 34:6, the Trustees of Trust Funds shall have custody of all capital reserves transferred to the Fire Apparatus Replacement Capital Reserve Fund until such time as the City Council names an agent(s) to carry out the purpose of said Fund. The Trustees of the Trust Fund will hold the monies appropriated to the Fire Apparatus Replacement Capital Reserve Fund in a separate investment account. Appropriations made to the Fire Apparatus Replacement Capital Reserve Fund will be submitted to the Trustees of the Trust Fund after July 1 but prior to June 30 of the fiscal year of the appropriation.

The City Council may dissolve the Fire Apparatus Replacement Capital Reserve Fund at its sole discretion. Upon dissolution of any portion of said fund any surplus shall be returned to the General Fund as unanticipated revenue.

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.

Cliff Newton, resident, questioned why this funding was not included in the budget and inquired about the use of Unassigned Fund Balance for the proposal. Mr. Newton addressed Council regarding supplemental appropriations and expenditures following the budget approval process.

Carol Petrusowicz, resident, requested more information for taxpayers in regards to the public hearing items and the financial aspect of the items being proposed.

Tom Kaczynski, resident, spoke against the earlier meeting start time of 6:00 PM. Mr. Kaczynski suggested handling the fire apparatus proposal through the budget as opposed to establishing a capital reserve fund.

3. Resolution Pursuant to RSA 34:1 Establishing a City Buildings Renovations Capital Reserve Fund and Supplemental Appropriation of \$500,000.00 in Connection Therewith

Resolution Pursuant to RSA 34:1 Establishing a City Buildings Renovations Capital Reserve Fund and Supplemental Appropriation of \$500,000.00 in Connection Therewith

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

By adoption of this Resolution, the City Council establishes a Capital Reserve Fund pursuant to RSA 34:1 for the purpose of renovating, enlarging, rehabilitating, relocating and/or constructing City buildings and facilities. The name of such fund shall be the City Buildings Renovations Capital Reserve Fund.

Further, the City Council hereby appropriates Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) to said Fund with the entirety of the said appropriation being derived from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance.

Pursuant to RSA 34:6, the Trustees of Trust Funds shall have custody of all capital reserves transferred to the City Buildings Renovations Capital Reserve Fund until such time as the City Council names an agent(s) to carry out the purpose of said Fund. The Trustees of the Trust Fund will hold the monies appropriated to the City Buildings Renovations Capital Reserve Fund in a separate investment account. Appropriations made to the City Buildings Renovations Capital Reserve Fund will be submitted to the Trustees of the Trust Fund after July 1 but prior to June 30 of the fiscal year of the appropriation.

The City Council may dissolve the City Buildings Renovations Capital Reserve Fund at its sole discretion. Upon dissolution of any portion of said fund any surplus shall be returned to the General Fund as unanticipated revenue.

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.

Cliff Newton, resident, inquired about the timing of this proposal and addressed the number of supplemental appropriations requested during the current fiscal year. Mr. Newton inquired about the timeline of the proposed fund and asked for additional details on the process.

Tom Kaczynski, resident, urged Councilors to vote against the proposed capital reserve fund and suggested the funding be handled through the budget process. Mr. Kaczynski spoke about the use of the unassigned fund balance to benefit taxpayers.

4. Resolution Pursuant to RSA 34:1 Establishing a Public Works Apparatus Replacement Capital Reserve Fund and Supplemental Appropriation of \$500,000.00 in Connection Therewith

Resolution Pursuant to RSA 34:1 Establishing a Public Works Apparatus Replacement Capital Reserve Fund and Supplemental Appropriation of \$500,000.00 in Connection Therewith

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

By adoption of this Resolution, the City Council establishes a Capital Reserve Fund pursuant to RSA 34:1 for the purpose of replacing large Public Works vehicles and equipment. The name of such fund shall be the Public Works Apparatus Replacement Capital Reserve Fund.

Further, the City Council hereby appropriates Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) to said Fund with the entirety of the said appropriation being derived from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance.

Pursuant to RSA 34:6, the Trustees of Trust Funds shall have custody of all capital reserves transferred to the Public Works Apparatus Replacement Capital Reserve Fund until such time as the City Council names an agent(s) to carry out the purpose of said Fund. The Trustees of the Trust Fund will hold the monies appropriated to the Public Works Apparatus Replacement Capital Reserve Fund in a separate investment account. Appropriations made to the Public Works Apparatus Replacement Capital Reserve Fund will be submitted to the Trustees of the Trust Fund after July 1 but prior to June 30 of the fiscal year of the appropriation.

The City Council may dissolve the Public Works Apparatus Replacement Capital Reserve Fund at its sole discretion. Upon dissolution of any portion of said fund any surplus shall be returned to the General Fund as unanticipated revenue.

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.

Cliff Newton, resident, spoke in opposition of the creation of a public works apparatus capital reserve fund. Mr. Newton spoke about the original intent of the unassigned fund balance and the current percentage contained within.

Linda Wentworth, resident, requested more information for the public in regards to the above listed proposals prior to votes being taken. Ms. Wentworth also addressed the one-sided dialogue during public input.

human, resident, clarified for other residents that the City Council Rules of Order do not allow for a back and forth dialogue between residents and Council. He also clarified that there are no votes taken during Public Hearings or Workshops. human spoke to Council in regards to transparency in government finances.

Tom Kaczynski, resident, addressed Council regarding how public input is structured at City meetings. Mr. Kaczynski spoke about the new Department of Public Works facility. He reiterated the suggestion to include the above listed proposal in the CIP budget.

5. Resolution Authorizing \$50,000.00 Appropriation from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance for the Creation of a History of Rochester

Resolution Authorizing \$50,000.00 Appropriation from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance for the Creation of a History of Rochester

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

That the amount of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) is hereby appropriated from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance to pay for the costs associated with for the creation of a History of the Town of Rochester.

To the extent not otherwise provided for in this Resolution, the Finance Director is hereby authorized to establish and/or designate such multi-year, non-lapsing accounts and or account numbers as are necessary to implement the transactions contemplated in this Resolution. All projects will be assigned a unique account number for tracking and reported purposes.

Sherry Beaudoin, resident and former Trustee of the Trust Fund, spoke about a previous approval by Council to assist with the publishing of a History of Rochester in 2010 and spoke in opposition of funding an additional book. Ms. Beaudoin also addressed Council in regards to changing the Rules of Order to allow a back-and-forth dialogue during public input. Ms. Beaudoin reported that she would be submitting a right-to-know request for a 5-year accounting of the Unassigned Fund Balance. Additionally, she suggested that the funding requests for the capital reserve funds should be included in the budget process.

Tom Kaczynski, resident, felt that there had not been adequate information provided on how the requested money would be used.

Cliff Newton, resident, spoke in opposition to funding the proposed History of Rochester. Mr. Newton spoke about the use of the Unassigned Fund Balance and how it will be utilized in the future when the landfill closes.

Susan Rice, resident, suggested other uses for the proposed \$50,000 expenditure that could benefit Rochester.

Carol Petrusowicz, resident, spoke against the funding of the History of Rochester and emphasized the need to stay within an approved budget.

6. Resolution Authorizing Supplemental Appropriation to the Sewer Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) Fund in the amount of \$990,000.00 for the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Secondary Clarifier Project

Resolution Authorizing Supplemental Appropriation to the Sewer Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) Fund in the amount of \$990,000.00 for the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Secondary Clarifier Project

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

That the Mayor and City Council of the City of Rochester hereby authorized a supplemental appropriation to the Sewer Capital Improvements Plan Fund in the amount of Nine Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$990,000.00) for the WWTF Secondary Clarifier project with the funding for said appropriation to be derived as follows: Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$600,000.00) from a New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Loan and Three Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$390,000.00) from State of New Hampshire ARPA Grant funds.

Further, by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Rochester hereby accepts Three Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$390,000.00) in ARPA Grant funds from the State of New Hampshire.

To the extent not otherwise provided for in this Resolution, the Finance Director is hereby authorized to establish and/or designate such multi-year, non-lapsing accounts and or account numbers as are necessary to implement the transactions contemplated in this Resolution.

Tom Kaczynski, resident, inquired about the funding source for the above listed resolution and reiterated the need to stay within the approved budget.

Cliff Newton, resident, spoke against the use of federal grant funding for projects and addressed the percentage of funds in the unassigned fund balance.

7. Resolution Authorizing Supplemental Appropriation to the Department of Public Works Sewer Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) Fund in the amount of \$1,265,000.00 for the Ledgeview Drive Pump Station Upgrade Project

Resolution Authorizing Supplemental Appropriation to the Department of Public Works Sewer Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) Fund in the amount of \$1,265,000.00 for the Ledgeview Drive Pump Station Upgrade Project

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

That the Mayor and City Council of the City of Rochester hereby authorized a supplemental appropriation to the Sewer Capital Improvements Fund in the amount of One Million Two Hundred Sixty Five Thousand Dollars (\$1,265,000.00) with the funding for said appropriation to be derived as follows: Eight Hundred Eighty Five Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$885,000.00) from a New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Loan and Three Hundred Seventy Nine Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$379,500.00) from State of New Hampshire ARPA Grant funds.

Further, by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Rochester hereby accepts Three Hundred Seventy Nine Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$379,500.00) in ARPA Grant funds from the State of New Hampshire.

To the extent not otherwise provided for in this Resolution, the Finance Director is hereby authorized to establish and/or designate such multi-year, non-lapsing accounts and or account numbers as are necessary to implement the transactions contemplated in this Resolution.

Tom Kaczynski, resident, suggested the proposal be included in the upcoming budget cycle and asked for clarification on the funding source.

Cliff Newton, resident, spoke about DPW supplemental appropriations requested following the close of the approved budget.

Sherry Beaudoin, resident, addressed Council regarding the Department of Public Works requests for supplemental appropriations after the budget had been passed.

Susan Rice, resident, expressed support for certain DPW projects which benefited Rochester taxpayers and gave them access to necessary resources.

8. Resolution Adopting an FY 2023 Rochester CDBG "Action Plan for the City of Rochester, NH" and Approving and Appropriating the FY 2023 Community Development Budget for the City of Rochester

RESOLUTION ADOPTING AN FY 2023 ROCHESTER CDBG "ACTION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF ROCHESTER, N.H." AND APPROVING AND APPROPRIATING THE FY 2023 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF ROCHESTER

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

I. That the Mayor and City Council of the City of Rochester, by adoption of this Resolution, hereby adopt the one-year FY 2023 (July 1, 2022—June 30, 2023) "Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program for the City of Rochester, N.H.," as prepared and presented to the Mayor and City Council by the City of Rochester Office of Economic and Community Development, in connection with the City's CDBG program, including the goals, objectives, and concepts set forth therein;

II. Further, that a twelve (12) month Community Development Block Grant budget for the Office of Economic and Community Development for the City of Rochester in the total amount of Two Hundred Twenty Eight Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Three Dollars (\$228,563.00) be, and hereby is, approved and appropriated for fiscal year 2023 (July 1, 2022—June 30, 2023). Included in said approval and appropriation are expenditures set forth in the one-year action plan of the Office of Economic & Community Development for the City of Rochester for the Community Development Block Grant program, in the following categories and amounts:

<i>Administration and Planning</i>	<i>\$ 45,712.60</i>
<i>Public Service Agencies</i>	<i>\$ 34,284.45</i>
<i>Housing/Public Facilities/Infrastructure</i>	<i>\$ 148,565.95</i>
Total	\$ 228,563.00

III. Further, that Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) in prior year unexpended CDBG funds be reallocated to FY 2023 Housing/Public Facilities/Infrastructure activities outlined in the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan

IV. Further, that One Hundred Seventy Six Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Two Dollars and Sixty Six Cents (\$176,262.66) in the Job Opportunity Benefit revolving loan fund loan fund, plus the principal and interest received monthly from existing loans' repayments, be appropriated for continued use in the FY 2023 Action Plan year in granting loans to qualified small businesses that commit to the creation and/or retention of jobs made available to low to moderate-income Rochester residents.

This budget and the one-year action plan for FY 2023 may be reconsidered if federal funding is changed or if it is inconsistent with the total FY 2023 budget adopted for the Office of Economic and Community Development.

The sums necessary to fund the above appropriation in the amount of Two Hundred Twenty Eight Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Three Dollars (\$228,563.00) shall be drawn in their entirety from the above-mentioned FY 2023 Community Development Block Grant from the federal government to the City of Rochester. The Finance Director is hereby authorized to create such line item accounts as shall be necessary to implement this Resolution.

Furthermore, in the event that federal funding for the above Community Development Block Grant budget is less than the total appropriation amount provided for in this Resolution, then, and in such event, the City Manager, or the City Manager's designee in the Office of Economic and Community Development, is authorized to adjust the amounts for the budgetary categories stated above, as well as for any planned grants and/or other expenditures made from within such budgetary categories.

Carol Petrusowicz, resident, asked for more information on the CDBG budget and spoke against the use of federal grant money.

9. Adjournment

Mayor Callaghan **ADJOURNED** the City Council Public Hearing at 7:14 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cassie Givara
Deputy City Clerk