## BOARD OF ALDERMEN BUDGET DELIBERATIONS SESSION – FY 2012-2013 APRIL 5, 2012

The Board of Aldermen held a budget deliberation session on Thursday, April 5, 2012 in the aldermanic chambers of City Hall. Chairman Vetro called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. for the proposed City and Education budgets for FY 2011-2012. He stated they would first hear speakers for the Board of Education side of the budget and then move to the City side of the budget. He stated time would be limited to three (3) minutes and that residents, taxpayers and electors may address the Board.

## 1. Roll Call

P. Smith G. Stanford N. Veccharelli R. Vitali

Board Members Present	Also Present
B. Anderson	Mayor B. Blake
R. Dickman	S. Fournier, Mayor's Admin. Asst.
G. Gasper	P. Erodici, Finance Director
D. German	
A. Giannattasio	
J. Golden	<u>Absent</u>
R. Nunno	B. Bier
S. Shaw	
F. Smith	

Chairman Vetro asked if there was anyone who wished to speak regarding the Board of Education budget:

J. Prisco – 11 Riverdale Road – stated he had a question regarding public works and the monies appropriated for snow plowing.

Chairman Vetro interjected stating they were hearing the Board of Education portion of the budget first.

Mr. Prisco stated his comments were basically the same for the Board of Education. He stated this Board cannot tell them what to do with their money.

Chairman Vetro stated they would now hear speakers regarding the City side of the budget.

J. Prisco – 11 Riverdale Road – stated he was speaking regarding the City side of the budget. He stated in the public works budget so much is appropriated each year for snow plowing. He stated this winter barely any monies were used so he wondered what would happen with the unused money. He asked if it would go towards next year or if it would go to the taxpayer, but either way something needed to be done with that money.

L. Bull DiLullo – 122 Pumpkin Delight Road – stated she was disappointed the City had failed to give the citizen the information regarding the 2012/2013 budget. She stated for some reason the Board of Finance's recommended budget was not posted as in past years. She stated that information is important because it has the revenue numbers, mill rates, etc. She reiterated she was disturbed that it was not on line. She stated as far as she was concerned she as well as the citizens of Milford did not have the information necessary to ask intelligent questions. She also expressed concern as to how administration planned to close the gap. She stated miscellaneous revenue appears to have tanked and that she did not know what it would be in the Board of Finance recommended budget (just handed out to her). She stated the budget process is very important and stated on behalf of those who would like to speak as well as her that it was disappointing not to have the information before tonight.

Chairman Vetro noted for those present the Board of Finance's recommended budget book is in the back of the room and that it was available this past Monday.

M. DiGrego – 1089 West River Street – stated he relocated to Milford from New York and that he appreciated the opportunity to come before the Board to address the budget. He stated there are the small items such as the Tree Commission, Conversation Commission and then there are those big picture items such as the pension system, healthcare and benefits. He stated he could not afford more taxes and commented expenditures outpace the median personal income. He continued reading from a prepared statement regarding healthcare and pension costs. He also spoke of the importance of properly funding education and asked the Board not to strip away resources for public safety.

L. Wanosky – 28 Ashburn Lane – stated she has served on the library board for several terms and currently serves as Vice President. She continued reading a quote as to the value of a public library. She asked the Board to support the library's budget as it is and honor the request for an additional \$8,000 for e-books. She spoke of a recent survey conducted by the library which reflected that people appreciate the services the library provides.

T. McGovern – 101 Harkness Lane – stated he also serves on the library board and reiterated the comments of the previous speaker. He stated he was here tonight to advocate for e-services. He spoke of that section of the library which provides for our elders as well as young learners because of the audio component. He stated he is sensitive to these financial times, but that the e-services are a valuable too.

Chairman Vetro announced the next budget deliberation session would take place on Monday, April 9, 2012 and stated he would entertain a motion to recess until that time.

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Nunno made and seconded a motion to recess at 7:23 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen K. Huber Recording Secretary