

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
BUDGET DELIBERATIONS – FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022
MAY 5, 2021 – FINAL VOTE**

The Board of Aldermen resumed virtual budget deliberation session regarding the Board of Finance's recommended budget for fiscal year 2021-2022, on Wednesday, May 5, 2021 via ZOOM. Chairman Vetro called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. asking those present to join in saluting our flag and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll Call

Board Members Present

E. Beatty
C. Gaynor
A. Giannattasio
M. Hardiman G.
Harla
S. Marlow
M. Parente
F. Smith
W. Smith
A. Sutton
J. Tranquilli
P. Vetro
R. Vitali
W. Willis

Also Present

Mayor Benjamin G. Blake
P. Erodicti, Finance Director
K. Fortunati, City Clerk
J. Rosen, Chief of Staff

Excused

J. Golden

Chairman Vetro welcomed everyone to the 2021-2022 budget deliberations. He reviewed the virtual meeting format.

Ald. Sutton and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion for the Board to come out of recess. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Vetro stated tonight was the final step in the budget process. He thanked the Mayor, Aldermen, Department Heads, Board of Finance and Dr. Cutaia, and her staff for presenting a reasonable budget. Chairman Vetro spoke of the importance of finding balance and adopt a budget in the best interest of the citizens of the City.

Ald. Sutton and Ald. Harla made and seconded a motion to approve the revenue and expenditures for the 2021-2022 budget as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following technical corrections:

(1) Page 4, State Education Grants, Account 433517, Education Cost Sharing, reduce from \$9,701,018 to \$9,484,907, for a new department subtotal of \$9,484,907; and

(2) Page 5, State PILOT Grants, Account 433642, State Realty, increase from \$281,776 to \$453,300, Account 433643 State Realty- Pequot, increase from \$225,000 to \$236,690, Account 433647 Private Exemptions from \$285,985 to \$453,300, for a new department sub-total of \$1,247,847.

Motion carried 8 in favor (Beatty, Hardiman, Harla, Parente, F. Smith, Sutton, Vetro, and Willis), 6 against (Gaynor, Giannattasio, Marlow, W. Smith, Tranquilli and Vitali).

Chairman Vetro stated the Board would recess while the Finance Director finalized the numbers to arrive at the mill rate.

The Board recessed at 7:12 p.m.

Chairman Vetro reconvened the Board in public session at 7:14 p.m.

Ald. Sutton and Ald. Harla made and seconded a motion to approve an Ordinance establishing a budget for the City of Milford for fiscal year 2021-2022, setting the mill rate and establishing a due date in accordance with the provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes and the Charter of the City of Milford.

WHEREAS: The Board of Finance of the City of Milford has made estimates of the income and the amount of money necessary to appropriate for the expenses of the City of Milford for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022, and has classified such expenses under appropriate headings, departments, and appropriations as more fully appears in the proposed Fiscal Budget submitted to the Board of Aldermen in accordance with Article VI, Section 2 of the Charter of the City of Milford; and,

WHEREAS: The Board of Aldermen, having met and conducted a public hearing, has considered said proposed fiscal budget and has made changes therein pursuant to Article VI, Section 3 of the Charter of the City of Milford; and,

WHEREAS: The Board of Aldermen, in its deliberation and voting on said budget, has estimated revenues for the 2021-2022 fiscal year in the amount of \$221,899.961 and authorized appropriations for the 2021-2022 fiscal year in the amount of \$221,899,961.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF MILFORD AS FOLLOWS:

That the proposed Fiscal Budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022, as amended by the action of the Board of Aldermen pursuant to law, is hereby adopted and ordered to be filed with the City Clerk.

That taxes for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022, at the rate of 27.65 mills upon the ratable estate within the limits of the City of Milford, are hereby laid and levied to meet the expenses of said budget. Said mill rate is set on the predication that it is estimated that \$ of said levy will be granted for Elderly Exemptions (State of Connecticut), \$675,723 will be granted for a local tax relief program for the elderly, \$387,398 will be granted for a local tax relief program for Veterans and 97.85% of the resulting levy will be collected during the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022. Said taxes shall be paid on the Grand List of October 1, 2020 and shall be due and payable on July 1, 2021, provided that if the taxes of any person shall exceed Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00), the first installment thereof, but not less than one-half of the amount of such taxes shall be due and payable on the first day of July 2021 and the remainder due and payable on the first day of January 2022, but any taxpayer may pay the total amount of the tax for which he or she is liable at the time when the first installment shall become payable. Such tax rate shall apply to all districts of the City of Milford.

<u>TAXES TO BE RAISED</u>	<u>\$181,768,451</u>
<u>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</u>	<u>\$221,899,961</u>
<u>TOTAL REVENUE</u>	<u>\$221,899,961</u>

This Ordinance shall take effect in accordance with the Charter of the City of Milford.

Ald. Giannattasio thanked everyone for their time and effort in preparing the budget. He stated he does not agree with the appropriated fund balance and does not support the budget. Ald. Giannattasio stated he believes many positions are being funded that are not filled and should be removed and the budget should be fiscally responsible.

Mayor Blake thanked everyone for their time in preparing the budget. He stated this pandemic year has been very difficult. He stated the City has adapted and offered essential services for the citizens. Mayor Blake stated the fund balance is \$37,000,000 three times local policy. He also stated that funds will be received from the American Rescue Plan and can be reclassified back into the fund balance.

Ald. Vetro thanked the Majority Leader, Minority Leader and members of the Board of Aldermen for their patience and understanding throughout the year.

Motion carried 8 in favor (Beatty, Hardiman, Harla, Parente, F. Smith, Sutton, Vetro, and Willis), 6 against (Gaynor, Giannattasio, Marlow, W. Smith, Tranquilli and Vitali).

Ald. Sutton and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to adjourn the budget deliberations for 2021-2022 at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Toni Jo Weeks", written over a horizontal line.

Toni Jo Weeks
Recording Secretary