

## BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE

OCTOBER 24, 2016

A meeting of the Budget Review Committee was held Monday, October 24, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

Alderman Richard A. Dowd, Chair, presided.

Members of Committee present: Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire, Vice Chair  
Alderman-at-Large Brian S. McCarthy  
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien  
Alderman Sean M. McGuinness  
Alderman David Schoneman  
Alderman Ken Siegel

Also in Attendance: Alderwoman Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja  
Mr. Tim Cummings, Director, Economic Development

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PUBLIC COMMENT - None

COMMUNICATIONS – None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

### **R-16-074**

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess  
Alderwoman Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja  
Alderman Richard A. Dowd  
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.

**RELATIVE TO THE TRANSFER OF \$25,000 FROM DEPARTMENT #179 "LIBRARY," ACCOUNT CLASSIFICATION 51 "SALARIES AND WAGES" AND ACCOUNT CLASSIFICATION 52 "FRINGE BENEFITS" INTO DEPARTMENT #183 "ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT"**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN WILSHIRE TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE**

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Siegel

I have a question regarding the accounting for this. I am in favor of this legislation but this is retroactive to July of this year and the transfer is occurring now so my concern was how we are accounting for this. I assume that the library was paying for it up to this point and that this money would be put in economic development and the salary money would be coming out of economic development so perhaps given that Mr. Cummings is in the audience he can come forward and answer just that routine accounting question.

Mr. Tim Cummings, Director, Economic Development

This legislation basically moves the funding for the administrator at the Hunt Building from one bucket which is currently housed in the general library operations to the economic development bucket within our budget. Per our governance, it was suggested that we file this legislation now. We could have done this at budget time and just made this effective for the next fiscal year but we wanted to do is make the Board of Aldermen aware of the fact that we are trying to create an efficiency by trying to bring some of the stand-alone assets all under

one division, particularly this asset which is in the downtown. With that being said, essentially what Alderman Siegel is asking about is an accounting measure where it was recommended by the finance division here in the city that we transfer the entire amount for the Hunt Administration into economic development now because if we didn't do that then there could be a potential deficit come planning for next years' budget. We budgeted right now in FY '17 a certain dollar amount; I believe it was \$25,000 and so next year when we plan for the budget; to make sure that we didn't have a differential in FY '18. This is just a straight accounting measure that we transfer the entire amount of money out of the library operations into the economic development line item.

Chairman Dowd

So in the FY '18 budget these funds will be part of the economic development budget?

Director Cummings

Correct and you would see a full \$25,000 deduction out of the library.

Alderman McCarthy

I understand that part; if you only transfer half of it then your department would see an artificial increase of a half of year when we go to the 2018 budget. I think the confusion is over some of the language in the resolution seems to indicate that what we are transferring is FY 2016 funds and I don't think that's the case. I think it's the entirety of the 2017 budget line item that we are moving, is that correct?

Director Cummings

That is correct.

Alderwoman Melizzi-Golja

I just came this evening because as the liaison to the Hunt Memorial Building Board of Trustees I was there when Director Cummings presented and the Hunt Memorial Building Board of Trustees felt that this was a good move in terms of administration for them, especially in light of the fact that they are trying to grow their revenue and become fiscally independent and be able to operate that building. There was agreement among the Board members with this proposal.

Alderman Siegel

I agree with Alderwoman Melizzi-Golja, I have no issue at all with the idea, I think it's great. I thank Alderman McCarthy for clearing that up because it is a little bit awkwardly worded and it didn't indicate that we are really talking about the money starting in 2017. We are actually not cutting the library budget implicitly which is what was my concern which was that they have already paid for this and now they are going to have the whole chunk taken away but that's not what is going on so that's fine. I have no problems.

**MOTION CARRIED**

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES - None

TABLED IN COMMITTEE

**R-16-029**

Endorser: Mayor Jim Donchess

**ESTABLISHING AN EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND FOR RIVERWALK WALKWAYS, BRIDGES AND RELATED IMPROVEMENTS AND APPROPRIATING AT LEAST \$500,000 INTO THE EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND**

- Tabled 5/23/16

GENERAL DISCUSSION - None

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

REMARKS BY THE ALDERMEN - None

POSSIBLE NON-PUBLIC SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN WILSHIRE TO ADJOURN  
MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting was declared closed at 7:07 p.m.

Alderman Sean M. McGuinness  
Committee Clerk