

JOINT Commission City Council and School Board

Minutes for Meeting February 13, 2018

Meeting called to order at 4:45 PM

In attendance Mayor Dana Hilliard, City Manager Robert Belmore, Interim Superintendent of schools Lori Lane, School Business Administrator Katie Kraus, School Board Chairman Donald Austin, Alternate Member Councilor Ward 5 Dennis Messier, and Chairman Councilor Ward 3 Martin Dumont Sr.

Excused Absence member At Large School Board Matt Hanlon.

1. Approved Minutes from the December 11<sup>th</sup> 2017 meeting. Motion by Councilor Messier seconded by school board chair Don Austin. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Updates: Superintendent Lane and Business Administrator Kraus indicated that the review of budget for the 2017/2018 has resulted in progress of finding funds to help offset the Revenue shortage. Currently there is still approximately \$100,000 in the shortage. A line by line review of this budget is resulting in adjustments correcting concerns from past practices.
3. School board chair Austin indicated next years fiscal budget is in progress and the submission to the City Manager on time as per the City's charter will be accomplished and at the tax cap level. This will result in staff reductions, technology cuts, facilities and maintenance as well as some smaller cuts. Currently to meet the tax cap requirement a total in these cuts comes to approximately \$1,200,000. Mayor Hilliard expressed that he would hope the City Council could see its way to consider some relief for these anticipated cuts. He suggested that when the full school board and city council on Thursday February 15<sup>th</sup> the conversation of how this could be accomplished.
4. School board chair indicated that SB93 legislation in reference to School Vouchers would create financial hardship. He shared a draft letter to the State that he had been directed by the full board to create. The committee was unanimous in complementing Chair Austin for this communiqué. Mayor Hilliard suggested the letter be shared with full council in its next meeting to officially endorse this letter.
5. City Manager Belmore that he and the superintendent have and will discuss some potential cooperative efforts in sharing some services.
6. School board chair Austin requested that at our next meeting under new business we have a discussion of potentially amending the city's current charter on the time line of the school board has to submit the budget to the city manager.
7. Next Meeting March 13, 2018 at 5:30 PM in the Executive Conference room at city hall
8. Motion to adjourn by Councilor Messier and seconded by Chair Austin

Respectfully submitted Chairman

City Councilor Ward 3 ,Martin P. Dumont Sr.