

A **SPECIAL JOINT MEETING** of the City Council and Board of Public Safety was held in the City Hall Auditorium on Tuesday, April 17, 2018.

Those in attendance included Mayor Elinor Carbone, City Councilors Gregg Cogswell, Anne Ruwet, Fred Simon, Marie Soliani, and Frank Rubino, and Commissioners Darlene Battle, Douglas Benedetto, Robert Conforti, Richard Zaharek, Angelo LaMonica, and Glenn McLeod. Also present were Fire Chief Gary Brunoli, Police Chief Michael Maniago, City Comptroller Alice Proulx, and Deputy Comptroller Gina Casper. Councilman Paul Cavagnero was absent.

Mayor Carbone called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY BUDGETS

On a motion by Councilwoman Ruwet, seconded by Commissioner Benedetto, the City Council and Board of Public Safety voted unanimously for the City Council to receive the Public Safety budgets.

Councilman Simon questioned Chief Maniago about cutting down on overtime by restructuring the Department. The Chief acknowledged that overtime would be predicated based on what happens throughout the year.

Councilman Rubino questioned the Board of Public Safety about their decision to eliminate the Deputy Police Chief position and Commissioner Benedetto credited the decision to the amount of command staff on first shift Monday through Friday. Commissioner McLeod expressed his belief that one person cannot run the department, given the ratio of management to union personnel.

Councilwoman Soliani expressed her support of the Board of Public Safety's decision to eliminate the Deputy Police Chief position and Commissioner LaMonica stated that it was an easy decision to make.

Councilwoman Ruwet questioned what directive was given to the Police and Fire Chiefs in regard to budget preparation. Mayor Carbone explained the process, and stated that the directive from the budget subcommittee was to bring forward a budget with 0% increase and to factor in any potential wage increases that might result from the current contract negotiations.

Councilman Rubino questioned the amount of overtime spent to compensate Public Safety personnel as reflected in the audit through June 30, 2017. Commissioner Battle expressed her concern that eliminating positions might impact overtime expenditures.

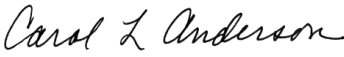
Councilman Cogswell stated that he would like to know how overtime calculations are formulated and questioned whether there are plans for developing the Volunteer Fire Departments. Commissioner Benedetto expressed his support for the Volunteer Fire Departments.

Councilman Rubino questioned whether the City Council will receive the revised line items for the Public Safety budgets, given the changes agreed upon at the Board of Public Safety meeting earlier that day. Mayor Carbone confirmed that the changes would come back to the Council for discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Battle, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jonathan R. Draper, Asst. Clerk

ATTEST: 
CAROL L. ANDERSON, MMC
CITY CLERK