



Howard County Council

George Howard Building
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COUNCILMEMBERS

Jon Weinstein, Chairperson
District 1
Calvin Ball, Vice Chairperson
District 2
Jennifer Terrasa
District 3
Mary Kay Sigaty
District 4
Greg Fox
District 5

FY 2018 Budget Work Session

May 4, 2017
C. Vernon Gray Room
8:00 a.m.

Minutes - Approved

The Chairperson opened the work session at 8:06 a.m.

Members Present: Jon Weinstein, Chairperson; Calvin Ball, Vice Chairperson; Mary Kay Sigaty; Jen Terrasa; Greg Fox

Staff Present: Jessica Feldmark, Council Administrator; Craig Glendenning, County Auditor; Gary Kuc, County Solicitor

Continuation of Education Work Session

Administration Review of Planned Amendment

Holly Sun discussed the Administration's rationale for the Executive's proposed budget. She answered questions from the Council and explained that the planned amendment is still a work in progress to reallocate funds among the categories.

Board of Education Review of Operating Budget

Michael Martirano introduced himself and his priorities for the school system and answered questions from the Council. Cynthia Vaillancourt joined him in answering questions from the Council and explained that the Board will be working with Dr. Martirano on where funding needs to be restored. Additional discussion of the operating budget will be added to the agenda for the budget work session on May 12. Questions regarding the FY 2017 categorical transfer were deferred to the legislative work session.

Capital Budget

Beverly Davis, Bruce Gist, Scott Washington, Renee Kamen, Gina Petrick, Olivia Claus, Justin Benedict, Sandy French, and Bess Altwerger joined Ms. Vaillancourt and Dr. Martirano to discuss capital projects and answer questions from the Council.

Council Members requested the following additional information:

1. Additional detail on impact of deferred maintenance and renovation projects
2. Backup to support the cuts made to transfer funds from maintenance
3. Impact of deferral of renovation at Talbott Springs ES
4. Complete list of projects deferred because of other projects "leapfrogging"
5. Detailed schedule of what funding is for (\$6 million in other projects) Systemic Renovations in the Superintendent's Proposed Capital Budget

6. For each project where planning money has been reduced or deferred for FY 18, how much would really be needed for each in FY 18 to get planning started?
7. Given underfunding of systemic renovations, prioritize all projects and list ramifications of deferral to understand impact
8. Is balance remaining in systemic renovations all spoken for, or could some prior appropriation be used for matching state funds?
9. A comprehensive list of all portables
10. Details on the project for Forest Ridge ES
11. More information on comprehensive redistricting
12. Safety procedures for portables – to keep ES students safe and what happens in storms
13. Priority list for Hammond HS, Centennial HS, and Oakland Mills HS and details on interim plans that result from project deferrals
14. Comparison of how Hammond compares to other high schools in term of program space

The meeting was recessed at 10:51 a.m. The Chairperson reconvened the work session at 1:06 p.m.

Dr. Sun offered an explanation of the County Executive's role in the agreement negotiated between the Board of Education and Dr. Foose. Councilmembers requested additional clarification.

Legislative & Judicial and Public Safety

State's Attorney

Dario Brocolino provided an overview of the budget request and answered questions from the Council. Cathy Cugle joined him in answering questions from the Council.

Orphans' Court

Anne Dodd provided an overview of the budget request and answered questions from the Council.

Corrections

Jack Kavanagh provided an overview of the budget request and answered questions from the Council. Trish Schupple joined him in answering questions from the Council.

Fire & Rescue

John Butler provided an overview of the budget request and answered questions from the Council. John Jerome and Bill Anuszewski joined him in answering questions from the Council.

Circuit Court

Lenore Gelfman provided an overview of the budget request and answered questions from the Council. Jenn Keiser joined her in answering questions from the Council.

Sheriff's Office

Bill McMahan provided an overview of the budget request and answered questions from the Council. Don Knott joined him in answering questions from the Council.

County Executive Allan Kittleman joined the work session to clarify his role in negotiations between the Board of Education and Dr. Foose and answer questions from the Council.

Police

Gary Gardner provided an overview of the budget request and answered questions from the Council. Luther Johnson and Terry Breeden Knott joined him in answering questions from the Council.

Council Members requested the following additional information:

1. A comparison of expenses for executive training over the past 4 years
2. Update on the speed and red light camera programs
3. Update on the body camera pilot program

County Council

Council Members requested the following additional information:

1. Consultant's report for chargebacks

The meeting was adjourned at 2:51 p.m.