

BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
City Council of the City of Bath, Maine
Wednesday, May 24, 2000 7:00 PM
Council Chambers, Bath City Hall

Present: Councilors Williams, James, Blake, Wyman, Hayden, Tibbetts, Rogers, Reed and
Chairman Hall

Also Present: City Manager Bubier and City Clerk White

Chairman Hall called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

I. PUBLIC HEARING - City of Bath 2000-2001 Combined Budget

City Manager, John Bubier began the Public Hearing with an introduction of Tom MacDonald, Chairman of the Board of Education.

Mr. MacDonald thanked the Council for their continued support and comments and urged the Council to pass the presented school budget. He then introduced William Michaud, Superintendent of Schools to present the school's budget.

Chairman Hall called a brief recess at this point so the camera crew could set up for taping the proceedings. The meeting resumed with a review of previous comments and then went into Mr. Michaud's presentation of the school budget.

Mr. Michaud stated that the school budget would be up 4.62%. He listed the following reasons for this increase:

- Middle School Interest
- Salaries/Benefits Increase
- Health Insurance Increase

The major reason for the increases in total budget is for salary increases and benefits for all school department employees.

Mr. Bubier then presented an overview of the Combined Budget. The following is an excerpt of the overview: (a complete copy of the overview is included in the agenda materials for the 5/24/00 meeting)

COMBINED CITY, SCHOOL and SEWER COMPARISON

	FY 2000	FY 2001	
School Operations	\$13,180,992	\$13,790,319	4.62%
School Capital	155,000	63,700	-58.90%
City Operations	7,712,252	8,019,646	3.99%
City Capital (excluding bond)	919,500	1,142,000	24.20%
County Tax	644,385	677,633	5.16%
Sewer Utility	1,604,882	1,613,766	0.55%
Totals Combined	\$23,274,034	\$24,348,040	4.61%

Mr. Bubier stated that one reason for the increase in the City Budget was the need for additional personnel in the Codes, Solid Waste and Fire Departments. He said the tax rate would increase by 1.90% from \$21.00 to \$21.40.

Chairman Hall asked for public comment at this time.

Ann London of 250 Centre Street spoke in support of the school budget and asked the Council to pass it as presented.

Chairman Hall explained that this public hearing is the end of the information gathering stage of the process and that the Council will begin the next step by going back into budget workshops where Councilors will get a chance to make any additions or deletions to the budget that they deem necessary. This part of the process will begin on June 30, 2000 at 5:00 PM. In accordance with the City Charter, the school appropriations have to be passed by June 14 and the combined budget has to be passed by June 27.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Mary J. White, City Clerk

Please note: These minutes are not recorded verbatim. A tape recording of the meeting is available for review in the City Clerk's office during regular business hours.