

BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
City Council of the City of Bath, Maine
Wednesday, May 22, 2000 5:30 PM
Dike-Newell School

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

Chairman Hall called the meeting to order at 5:30PM.

I. PUBLIC HEARING - City of Bath 2001-2002 Combined Budget

Thomas MacDonald, Chairman of the Board of Education began the Hearing by giving an overview of the School Budget. Mr. MacDonald stated that the school budget would be up 5.9%, which is equivalent to \$825,000. He listed the following reasons for this increase:

- Middle School Interest
- Salaries/Benefits Increase
- New programs such as All Day Kindergarten and broadening of the Foreign Language Offerings

The following people spoke in favor of the School Budget: Ann London, parent; Nancy Smith, PTA President, parent and school secretary; Joanna Bragdon, School Board Member; William Torrey, III, School Board Member.

John Bubier, City Manager, then presented an overview of the City Budget. He stated that the budget was increased by 1.8% this year. Mr. Bubier cited the following reasons for the increase:

- County Tax
- Increase in Health Insurance
- Improvements for reuse of the Old YMCA
- Mandatory Landfill Testing

He said the tax rate would increase to \$22.30/\$1,000, which would result in a \$130.00 increase per average household in taxes.

The following people spoke regarding the budget:

Marie Hammond asked for clarification of public input on the budget and of the status of financing of the landfill testing and closing.

William Torrey, III stated that he felt a \$130.00 increase per average household over the past 5 years was within reason and he supported the budget.

Chairman Hall closed the Public Hearing at 6:30PM.

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.