

BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
City Council of the City of Bath, Maine
Wednesday, May 18, 2016 6:00 PM
Bath City Hall Auditorium

Councilors Present: Brackett, Page, Paulhus, Nordmann, Wyman, Bauer, Mitchell, Omo and Madame Chair Eosco

PUBLIC HEARING - City of Bath 2016-2017 Combined Budget

Madame Chair Eosco called the Hearing to order at 6:00 PM. She welcomed everyone.

City Manager William Giroux gave an overview of the Combined City Budget. He stated the entire City Budget would come in with a 1.11% tax increase and the County with a .12% tax decrease and RSU #1 with an increase of 1.66 to their budget. These budgets would combine to be a proposed property tax increase of 2.66%. He stated that there had been a change to the Homestead benefit to residents which would help to minimize the increase in taxes.

COMBINED CITY BUDGET
2016-2017

City Operating Fund	\$10,374,380
Landfill Fund	\$1,916,697
Sewer Fund	\$1,976,592
City Capital (excluding Bonded)	\$997,976
Overlay	\$166,920
Bath City Bus	\$146,601
Train Station /Trolley	\$57,800
Total Combined	\$15,636,966

Madame Chair Eosco opened the hearing to public comment.

Anthony Graham of 22 North Street asked if he could have an explanation as to why Bath's taxes were so high compared to other municipalities in the area/State.

City Manager Giroux explained that the City has to follow the guidelines for tax calculations set forth by the State Legislature and that Bath is considered a "Service Center" for the area providing mutual aid Fire/Police/Educational and Health services which leads to the residents of Bath having to pay the higher taxes.

William King of 301 Front Street stated that he thought that it was time for a revaluation of the properties of Bath.

Mr. Giroux stated that this would be happening in the next few years but the City was waiting for the economy to become a little more stable from the recession so the evaluation would be good for a longer time as it was very expensive to do these assessments.

Seeing no other comments or questions, Madame Chair Eosco closed the Public Hearing at 6:15 PM and went directly into the Special Council Meeting.

Attest:

Mary J. White, City Clerk

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