

**Minutes of Meeting  
City of Ladue  
Finance, Revenue, and Taxation Committee  
Thursday December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 8:00 A.M. (ZOOM)**

A meeting of the Finance, Revenue, and Taxation Committee for the City of Ladue was held on Thursday December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8:00 a.m. via Zoom. The following members were present:

Chairman Joseph Gazzoli	
Mr. Maurice Quiroga	
Mr. David Ryan	
Mr. Jim Schiele	
Mr. James Thompson	
Mr. Joseph Rechter	Ex-Officio
Mayor Nancy Spewak	Ex-Officio

Also present were Council Members John Fox and Stacey Kamps; Mr. Sam Zes, Finance Director; and Laura Rider, City Clerk.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gazzoli at 8:02 a.m.

**Approval of the Agenda:**

Mr. Schiele moved approval and adoption of the agenda; seconded by Mr. Thompson which motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of the Minutes:**

Mr. Schiele moved approval of the minutes from the October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 meeting, seconded by Mr. Thompson which motion passed unanimously.

**Public Forum:** Dr. Jonathan Dehner, however no comment was offered.

Mr. Zes discussed the changes to the 2021 draft budget. The most notable change was the 2021 budget deficit decreased from \$2,198,395 to \$2,044,539. Total Revenue increased by \$39,000, Ambulance Fees decreased by \$30,000, Personnel Costs decreased by \$128,881, Pension Contribution decreased by \$146,430, and \$155,000 was added the Capital Budget for the City Facilities Security Improvements Project.

Mr. Zes also updated the committee on the year-end estimates in the 2020 budget. The deficit decreased from \$1,469,648 to \$818,173 primarily due to the CARES act funding from St. Louis County which offsets additional costs incurred due to the pandemic. Sales Tax and Building Permit Fees both slightly increased, while Ambulance Fees estimates decreased by \$30,000. Personnel costs increased by \$73,000 due to unanticipated retirements.

Chairman Gazzoli asked if Mr. Zes knew of any continuing CARES act funding for 2021. Mr. Zes replied he was not aware of any plans for future funding at this time.

The committee discussed the planning of a tax increase. Mayor Spewak and the committee agreed resident education and involvement is extremely important and needs to begin now.

Mr. Rechter inquired about a PILOT (Payment in lieu of taxes) program within the City. Mr. Fox stated he was familiar with this and agrees it is worth considering and bringing to the attention of certain

non-taxable entities within the City.

Mr. Thompson made a motion to recommend adoption of the 2021 Final Draft Budget to the City Council; seconded by Mr. Schiele, which motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Schiele moved adjournment; seconded by Mr. Ryan, which motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Joseph Gazzoli  
Chairman