



City of Concord

Fiscal Policy Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Monday, July 16, 2018

4:30 PM

City Hall
41 Green Street, 2nd Floor Conference
Room

1. Call to Order

Chairman Nyhan called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM.

2. Roll Call

Present: City Councilors Keith Nyhan (Chairman), Dan St. Hilaire, Candace White Bouchard, Mark Coen, and Mayor Jim Bouley; City Staff Tom Aspell, City Manager; Carlos Baia, Deputy City Manager - Development; Chip Chesley, General Services Director; Jeff Hoadley, Deputy General Services Director; Adam Clark, General Services Administration Manager; Bob McManus, Office of Management & Budget; Rebekah Dougherty, Office of Management & Budget.

Excused: City Councilors Fred Keach and Amanda Grady Sexton.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2018 meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved on a voice vote.

4. Referral from Solid Waste Advisory Committee re: Fall Leaf Collection

General Services Director Chip Chesley explained the recommendation made by members of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) to change the City's fall leaf collection from its current method of vacuuming leaves that residents rake to the curb to a bagged leaf collection. Director Chesley indicated that the current method has a high incompleteness rate because it is reliant on weather. Despite having three crews totaling 21 employees, in order to get through the entire City they must start collecting leaves often times before all the leaves have fallen, and often can't get through the entire City before snow falls, resulting in leaves sitting at the curb all winter. Director Chesley noted that the General Services Department receives the most complaints about fall leaf collection.

SWAC's proposal calls for Casella to provide two trucks and two crews to collect an unlimited number of bagged leaves for four weeks (last three weeks in November and first week in December). This would free up the 21 General Services employees who usually do leaf collection to perform other work. This proposal would cost the Solid Waste Fund approximately \$70,000 in the first year, dropping down to about \$50,000 in year two. It would result in a savings of roughly \$170,000 to the General Fund due to the resources that would be freed up in the General Services Department. The City would also realize savings in future years by eliminating four leaf vacuums from the CIP budget.

FPAC members came to the consensus that this proposal makes sense from a fiscal point of view. However, Mayor Bouley objected to the proposal because he feels that residents will not be in favor. Councilors Bouchard, Coen and St. Hilaire disagreed with the Mayor and stated that when leaves sit at the curb all winter, not only do they make a mess, but they encumber parking spaces. Director Chesley stated that the residents who receive leaf pick-up in the middle of the program may not be happy about the change, but the people who aren't able to get their leaves out before the City passes through their neighborhood, and the people who don't get their leaves picked up before snow falls, probably would be in favor. There was discussion about the possibility of offering a hybrid program - where residents could choose to rake their leaves to the curb or bag them. Councilor Bouchard felt that would only complicate the program.

The committee agreed to refer the matter to the City Council in August for a public hearing in September.

5. Other

There was no other business discussed.

6. Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. A unanimous vote brought the meeting to an end at 5:15 PM.