



CITY OF DOVER

JOINT FISCAL COMMITTEE - MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: Council Chambers, City Hall
Meeting Date: **Monday, October 27, 2008**
Meeting Time: **6:00 pm**

Members present: Deputy Mayor Dean Trefethen, City Councilor Doug Dede, School Board Chair Marjorie Fisher, School Board members Doris Grady, Dorothea Hooper, and Britt Schuman. Also present: Superintendent John O'Connor, City Manager Mike Joyal and School Board Vice-Chair Audra Lurvey.

Meeting called to order at 6:03pm by chair (Trefethen) in the City Council Conference Room.

1. Review school CIP and municipal expectations: Schools will concentrate on the Horne Street school first and borrow only what is being retired in the coming year, and doing the same in the following year. There is concern that state building aid will be reduced, along with catastrophic aid. The school budget will not carry any capital money for things like building renovation or equipment replacement. However, there are "capital" budget items like books and curriculum purchase that are equivalent.

On the city side of things it was noted that the CIP process is just starting but it is expected that some things that were in the multi-year plan will be delayed, reduced, or eliminated. The expectation is for the CIP budget to be leaner than previous years.

2. FY 2010 budget preparations: The Superintendent stated that his budget method this year is to have the principals and department heads prepare a budget with no growth and then compile a list of priorities to add to the budget and their costs. There was concern expressed about potential increases in retirement and health care costs, particularly costs associated with the "125%" rule recently enacted by the state legislature. Also noted was the potential increases in special needs programs and the new requirement that children under 3 years old might also need to be covered and paid for.

On the city side of the budget, again it is expected to be a lean year. While no one knows what the CPI-U index will be, there's a possibility that the Council will want to be less than the maximum allowed, due to the national and regional financial conditions. The CPI will be known in mid January and must be conveyed to the school board by January 31.

No other concerns.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.