

## **DERBY BOARD OF APPORTIONMENT & TAXATION SPECIAL MEETING**

**THURSDAY MAY 29, 2008 - DERBY CITY HALL, ALDERMANIC CHAMBERS – 7:00 P.M.**

### **MINUTES**

Chair Carolyn Duhaime called the Special Meeting to order at 7:18 p.m. All rose and pledged allegiance to the flag.

#### **Roll Call**

Present: Carolyn Duhaime, Julia Romano, Karen Getlein, Judy Szewczyk, Mark Nichols, Leo DiSorbo, George Kurtyka, Anthony DeFala, Paul Varsanik, Joseph Laskowski (arrived at 7:45 p.m.)

Also Present: The Honorable Mayor Anthony Staffieri  
Alan Schlesinger, Finance Director  
Philip Robertson, Chief Administrative Officer  
Joseph T. Coppola, Corporation Counsel  
Chief Eugene L. Mascolo, Derby Police Department  
Deputy Chief Gerald Narowski, Derby Police Department  
Lt. Salvatore Frosceno, Derby Police Department  
Commissioner Kelly Curtis, Derby Fire Department  
Chief Charles Sampson, Derby Fire Department

#### **PUBLIC PORTION**

Brad Tobin, 114 Hawthorne Avenue, Derby, CT – Mr. Tobin informed the board members that he was asked by Sheila M. Parizo, Chairwoman, of the Board of Education to read her statement into the record:

Due to the speed in which this process has come to light to the public, I am unable to change my plans for this evening and submit this letter to be read into the record. Further, I reiterate my concerns that a preliminary vote on this budget was held on Friday evening, May 23<sup>rd</sup> just before a long holiday weekend and the public was not made aware of this meeting until 24 hours prior. I also question the "selective" use of phone votes utilized throughout the vote that evening.

IT TAKES A CITY...

Since the inception of this great country, the architects of the American society deemed it necessary to ensure a fair and equal education of our children.

Gone are the days of: One-room school houses; one teacher and one curriculum for all grade levels; children walking to school; wood burning stoves to heat the building and candles to read by; sports being played on sandlots.

Today, in 2008, a student's education is driven by society, government mandates and success. In order to achieve these goals, money must be spent. The voters of this great City of Derby have been shouting for changes in the education system to improve test scores and give our



students the abilities to compete in the academic and professional realms. We can't do that without the support of City funds!

Curriculum improvements have been the focus of the past three years and Derby has made great strides in this area under the leadership and guidance of Dr. Meg Boice. A State mandate requiring that all students be computer literate by Grade 8 has been a major improvement in the district. Our children are participating in virtual classrooms on an AP level and some students are taking pre-college credit courses, through the efforts of two teachers who have taken on the challenge of becoming adjunct professors for UConn. Curriculum development is a fluid process and is always in motion, seeking to challenge our students and prepare them for college and beyond.

Budgets are driven by salaries and student needs. Government, both state and federal, imposes mandates on school districts with little or no financial backing. "No Child Left Behind" is a shining example of forced requirements on school districts to address/improve performance levels of students, with no remuneration of the increased costs to implement such regulations and procedures. Special Education is a major portion of any BOE request, as it is mandated to provide special services to those students requiring them in order to succeed.

Transportation for students within the district is also required, and quite costly, especially in light of recent gas price hikes. Utility costs for all of our buildings, much like each of our own homes, are rising at perilous rates.

Salaries for teachers, administrators, and support staff rise at a rate lower than the cost of living. These educated professionals are our neighbors, making a living like most of us, and deserve a raise for the hard and sometimes thankless work they give to the education of our children.

Most recently, our school district had many discussions regarding the competitiveness of our athletes in certain leagues. The Derby Board of Education is more concerned with the *competitiveness* of our students in the academic and professional realms, because that is where their impact will have the most influence in our society!

Salary increases for part-time City Hall Administration, fishing derbies that net six participants and fireworks displays are all included in this current proposed budget and does not appear to be a "tightening of the belt." Perhaps the part-time employees should be placed on hourly wages, being held accountable for their time spent "on the job", and the families of those children fishing should take it upon themselves to do family things together, without the City funding their recreation. \$10,000 for fireworks will only be a memory on July 5<sup>th</sup> but imagine how many books that money could supply and give a child a lifetime of knowledge!

It does take a City to educate a child. And it costs money – Tax payer money – because, as a society, we are obligated to do the right thing when it comes to children. Children are our legacy for the future of Derby. Let's set an example for them to come back and take the lead and keep Derby moving in the direction of progressive education!

I ask this Board of Apportionment & Taxation to look hard at the numbers and invest in the future of Derby citizens. Shelia M. Parizo, Chairwoman, Derby Board of Education

Dina Weissman, 26 Caldwell Drive, Derby, CT – There were comments last evening that the public didn't participate as much as maybe the Tax Board had hoped for their input. One of the things that I became aware of after the meeting is that there was no preliminary budget



available within City Hall. There were a number of people after the meeting who mentioned that they had made phone calls and sought it out so for next year's budget you might want to consider having them available. I do want to thank the Town clerk for staying after hours last night to accommodate several taxpayers and provide copies of it. I also don't believe that there are copies available for the public even tonight but I have to take a look at it. I would like to say that the copy that I have doesn't have all the pages to it. So that might be one reason why you didn't have as many comments as you had hoped. Now that I have a line item copy of it the one item that I want to speak to would be the Corporation Counsel legal services department. I know you've done a great job of keeping the mil rate low and belt tightening but I don't know if you ever did the calculations on it. There's been overall a 24% increase in the Corporation Counsel's budget, which also includes nearly a 30% increase in just the legal services alone. Now I'm a lawyer and I'll be the first one to say lawyers are high paid but I don't understand a 30% hike in legal services fees. An additional line item of \$5,000 for Marshal Fees. Typically Marshal Fees are already included in a line item that is there for legal expenses. So if you're looking for money to give education you might want to look at what kind of priorities you're setting if you're spending all of this money on something that we're not going to get much of a return on for legal services the money could be spent on educating the kids.

Dan Waleski, 21 Elm Street, Derby, CT – Looking at your budget here \$34 million – if you divide that into a population of about 12,000 you'll find that the budget amounts to about \$3,500 per capita. Also the heavy emphasis falls on the residential taxpayers so I would like to urge the Tax Board and the Administration to do whatever it can to increase commercial and industrial development in this City to relieve the residential property owners of some of this taxation. Thank you Madam Chairman.

Sharon Renaldo (Teacher in Derby Public School System, not a resident) – I'm just going to ask the Board – I'm not aware of what the budget was - the dynamics of how this was all distributed and how it unfolded – it didn't lend itself to a lot of public input. And I was at last night's board meeting and I was very shocked that no one really talked about the education budget (inaudible) dialogue around that. So I'm glad for the opportunity to come tonight and I'm not sure if I'm out of order or what the consequences will be but I do need to ask the board to search yourself. You know a \$289,000 increase in education seems remiss at best and I understand totally that the times of economics are very difficult for all cities, not just Derby; however I would ask you to really search your souls. This school system is in transition and has been in major transition for several years now and right now it seems like the time is right for the transition of a brand new board, the transition of a Superintendent, the transition of Principals – so we're in the state of transition. And I wonder if you have done your best in searching your souls to do the best for education that the City can afford to do. Or and quite frankly I'm going to be honest if you're taking advantage of a situation that's in transition so I leave it to you (inaudible.)

Carolyn Duhaime – Ms. Duhaime read the following letter from Board of Aldermen President Ken Hughes into the record:

Dear Chairwoman Duhaime and members of the Board of Apportionment & Taxation:

I would like to clarify some comments made by several residents during the public hearing on the 2008-2009 Budget. It was mentioned about the waning fund balance, and I would like to clarify where that money was spent. Over the last two years, this Board of Aldermen and the Tax Board decided to spend 1.3 million dollars of the fund balance as an investment in downtown Derby to remove the blighted buildings along Main Street. This money will eventually



come back to the City, possibly tenfold. The Board of Aldermen and the Tax Board also used some of the fund balance to settle two inherited lawsuits, one which has been hanging around since the 1970's. Although some opponents would like you to believe that we are wasting away the fund balance, the truth is we are making fiscally sound decisions in order to stabilize the financial future of this City.

As always, I am consistently available to this board and to the public to answer any questions and rumors which may arise.

Thank you and congratulations on the end of what I view as a very successful budget season.

Sincerely, Ken Hughes, President, Board of Aldermen – City of Derby

Carl Yacobacci, 10 Lombardi Drive, Derby, CT – Just as a clarification on that and I'm glad that the buildings are gone in downtown but it really wasn't a total investment in downtown that was voluntary. If anybody remembers we had a special meeting and the State of Connecticut came to the town and stated that the town had to take the buildings down or I believe the term was somebody was going to jail. So although the buildings are gone and it makes it look better that was one of the reasons that the buildings were taken down not because we were looking towards the future at that particular time because we were still waiting for the developer to put up the money. Thank you.

Ms. Duhaime asked three times if anyone would like to address the board. Hearing no one else wishing to address the board...

### **PUBLIC PORTION CLOSED**

### **BID WAIVER – DERBY/SHELTON FIREWORKS DISPLAY**

Ms. Duhaime informed the board members that the City received two bids. The low bid was from Bay Fireworks with a cost of \$12,000. She said the City must notify Bay Fireworks before the next regular meeting of the Board of Apportionment & Taxation, which is the reason this is being addressed this evening.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Nichols with a second by Mr. DeFala: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept the bid from Bay Fireworks in the amount of \$12,000 for the Derby/Shelton Fourth of July Fireworks Display. **Motion carried.**

### **ADOPTION OF 2008-2009 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF DERBY**

Ms. Duhaime stated for the record that with regard to Police Department items Mr. Kurtyka and Mr. DeFala will recuse themselves from voting, Mr. DiSorbo will abstain from voting. Regarding Fire Department and Health Matters Mr. Varsanik will recuse himself from voting. It should be noted they have done this in prior votes.

#### **• DEPARTMENT 1100 – MAYOR'S OFFICE**

Mr. Schlesinger informed Ms. Duhaime the board has requested that the Chief Administrative Assistant's wages of \$72,844 be removed from the Mayor's Office and placed in the Special Working Balance line item.



**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Nichols with a second by Ms. Romano: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation remove line item 110-0113 Chief Administrative Assistant Wages in the amount of \$72,844 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. Varsanik: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 1100 – Mayor's Office – All Line Items totaling \$188,922.00 as amended on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 1200 – PROBATE COURT**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. Nichols: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 1200 – Probate Court – Line Item 390-0390 in the amount of \$8,000.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 1201 – FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. DeFala: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 1201 – Finance Committee – Line Item 110-0110 in the amount of \$2,400.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Mrs. Szewczyk - recused. Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 1300 – TOWN CLERK**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. DiSorbo with a second by Mr. DeFala: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 1300 – Town Clerk – All Line Items totaling \$178,465.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 1400 – ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. DeFala: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 1400 – Zoning Board of Appeals – Line Item 150-0150 in the amount of \$500.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 1500 – REGISTRAR OF VOTERS**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Romano with a second by Ms. Getlein: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 1500 – Registrar of Voters – All Line Items totaling \$30,955.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 1600 – LEGAL SERVICES**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Kurtyka with a second by Mr. Varsanik: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 1600 – Legal Services – All Line Items totaling \$581,900.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 1700 – DATA PROCESSING**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. Kurtyka: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 1700 – Data Processing – All Line Items totaling \$28,000.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**



- **DEPARTMENT 2100 – TREASURER'S OFFICE**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. Kurtyka: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 2100 – Treasurer's Office – All Line Items totaling \$88,300.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 2200 - INSURANCE**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. Kurtyka: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 2200 – Insurance – All Line Items totaling \$508,000.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 2300 - RETIREMENT**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Varsanik with a second by Ms. Getlein: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 2300 – Retirement – All Line Items totaling \$819,772.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 2400 – EMPLOYEES BENEFITS**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. Kurtyka: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 2400 – Employees Benefits – All Line Items totaling \$2,258,240.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 2500 – FINANCE DEPARTMENT**

Mr. Schlesinger noted that line item 110-0113 needs to be reduced to \$62,400.00 from \$65,000.00. Ms. Getlein stated that it should be \$62,000 since the \$400.00 was never approved by the Board of Aldermen.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Kurtyka with a second by Ms. Getlein: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation change Line Item 110-0113 Finance Director Wages from \$65,000 to \$62,000.

**DISCUSSION ON MOTION**

Mr. DeFala asked if this is going to be moved to the Special Working Balance. There was a discussion as to whether or not the motion needs to indicate that change. Mr. Schlesinger said we don't have to do that now; we can wait until we get to that line item. Hearing no further discussion...

**MOTION CARRIED.**

❖ Mr. Laskowski arrived at this point in the meeting.

- **DEPARTMENT 2600 – PAYROLL TAXES**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. DeFala with a second by Ms. Getlein: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 2600 – Payroll Taxes – All Line Items totaling \$420,334.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**



- **DEPARTMENT 2800 – TAX COLLECTOR**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. Nichols: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 2800 – Tax Collector – All Line Items totaling \$97,000.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 2900 – ASSESSOR**

Mr. Schlesinger informed the board that Line Item 110-0110 - Assessor Wages needs to be changed to \$44,816.00 from \$37,347.00. He explained that the Deputy Finance Director, Joan Williamson, has informed him that the Assessor is going to be working 24 hours per week instead of 20 hours per week. Ms. Duhaime asked if this change needs to be addressed through the Board of Aldermen. Mr. Schlesinger said he didn't believe so.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. DeFala with a second by Mr. Kurtyka: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation change Department 2900 - Line Item 110-0110 - Assessor Wages from \$37,347.00 to \$44,816.00 due to a change in hours that was incorrectly calculated.

**DISCUSSION ON MOTION**

Ms. Getlein asked why the hours are being increased. Mr. Schlesinger explained that his office was under the assumption that the Assessor was working 20 hours per week and that's how they calculated the amount. They discovered that they miscalculated the amount since the Assessor has been working 24 hours per week. Hearing no further discussion...

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. DiSorbo: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 2900 - Assessor – All Line Items totaling \$99,546.00 as amended on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 3000 – AUXILIARY POLICE**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Nichols with a second by Mr. Varsanik: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 3000 – Auxiliary Police – All Line Items totaling \$19,400.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Mr. DiSorbo abstained. Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 3100 – POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Romano with a second by Ms. Getlein: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 3100 – Police Department - All Line Items totaling \$3,043,917.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Mr. Kurtyka recused; Mr. DeFala recused; Mr. DiSorbo abstained. Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 3200 – FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. DiSorbo with a second by Ms. Getlein: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 3200 – Fire Department – All Line Items totaling \$228,845.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Mr. Varsanik recused. Motion carried.**



- **DEPARTMENT 3300 – CIVIL DEFENSE**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. Kurtyka: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 3300 – Civil Defense – All Line Items totaling \$19,293.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 3400 – FIRE MARSHAL**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Nichols with a second by Ms. Getlein: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 3400 – Fire Marshal – All Line Items totaling \$90,077.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 3600 – PUBLIC HYDRANTS**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Nichols with a second by Ms. Getlein: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 3600 – Public Hydrants – All Line Items totaling \$280,000.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 3700 – MISCELLANEOUS CAPITAL**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. Kurtyka: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 3700 – Miscellaneous Capital – All Line Items totaling \$767,972.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 4100 – HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Romano with a second by Ms. Getlein: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 4100 – Highway Department – All Line Items totaling \$1,377,443.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 4200 – CITY ELECTRICITY**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. Kurtyka: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 4200 – City Electricity – All Line Items totaling \$523,000.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 4300 - SANITATION**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. Kurtyka: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 4300 - Sanitation – All Line Items totaling \$1,263,701.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 5100 – PARKS, RECREATION, COMMUNITY CENTER**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. Kurtyka: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 5100 – Parks, Recreation, Community Center – All Line Items totaling \$251,795.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008.



### **DISCUSSION ON MOTION**

Mr. Varsanik asked if we could discuss changing the following Line Items:

- ✓ Line Item 390-0001 Derby Colt Baseball – Restore back to \$3,300.00
- ✓ Line Item 390-0009 Soccer – Restore back to \$5,000.00
- ✓ Line Item 390-0010 Little League – Restore back to \$8,000.00

Mr. Varsanik noted this would increase Parks & Rec by \$2,300.00. He said he would also like to include Line Item 390-0007 - Girls Softball and have it restored back to the original \$2,500.00. Mrs. Szewczyk said if we are looking to restore the line items back to their original amounts shouldn't Line Item 390-0011- Pop Warner also be changed? Ms. Romano also noted Line Item 480-0484 – Youth Basketball – restore back to \$9,000.00.

### **AMENDMENT TO MOTION**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. DeFala with a second by Ms. Romano: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation amend the motion to reflect the following changes: Change Line Item 3900-0001- Derby Colt Baseball from \$3,000.00 to \$3,300.00; Change Line Item 390-0007 - Girls Softball from \$2,250.00 to \$2,500.00; Change Line Item 390-0009 - Soccer from \$4,000.00 to \$5,000.00; Change Line Item 390-0010 - Little League from \$7,000.00 to \$8,000.00; Change Line Item 390-0011 Pop Warner from \$9,000.00 to \$10,000.00; Change Line Item 480-0484 - Youth Basketball from \$8,000.00 to \$9,000.00.

### **DISCUSSION ON AMENDMENT TO MOTION**

Ms. Getlein said she understands the fees haven't been raised in three years and we have discussed this issue and she doesn't see the need for the increases, especially for Pop Warner. Pop Warner does a ton of fund raising – where does that money go? Mr. Kurtyka said if the director really wanted the changes then he should be here in person to make the request. Ms. Romano said the director presented his budget, as did every other department head. Hearing no further discussion on the matter a roll call vote was taken:

### **ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ms. Duhaime – NO  
Ms. Romano – YES  
Mr. DeFala – YES  
Mr. Kurtyka – NO  
Mr. DiSorbo – YES  
Mr. Nichols – NO  
Ms. Getlein – NO  
Mrs. Szewczyk – NO  
Mr. Varsanik – YES  
Mr. Laskowski – NO

**YES – 4 / NO – 6**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. DeFala with a second by Ms. Getlein: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 5100 – Parks, Recreation, Community Center – All Line Items totaling \$251,795.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008.



### **ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ms. Duhaime – YES  
Ms. Romano – NO  
Mr. DeFala – NO  
Mr. Kurtyka – YES  
Mr. DiSorbo – NO  
Mr. Nichols – YES  
Ms. Getlein – YES  
Mrs. Szewczyk – YES  
Mr. Varsanik – NO  
Mr. Laskowski – YES

**YES – 6 / NO – 4**

There was a lengthy discussion as to the action to take. Mr. Schlesinger suggested moving the equipment/maintenance figures down a little bit and up the other amounts it might be a little bit more palatable for everyone. He said he isn't advocating doing this, just merely making a suggestion. Mr. Nichols said he would suggest reducing equipment/maintenance by \$2,000 and funding all the Line Items to the Mayor's recommendation.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Nichols with a second by Mr. DeFala: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation reduce Line Item 330-0330 - Equipment/Maintenance from \$28,000.00 to \$26,000.00; Change Line Item 3900-0001 - Derby Colt Baseball from \$3,000.00 to \$3,300.00; Change Line Item 390-0007 - Girls Softball from \$2,250.00 to \$2,500.00; Change Line Item 390-0009 - Soccer from \$4,000.00 to \$5,000.00; Change Line Item 390-0010 - Little League from \$7,000.00 to \$8,000.00; Change Line Item 390-0011 - Pop Warner from \$9,000.00 to \$10,000.00; Change Line Item 480-0484 - Youth Basketball from \$8,000.00 to \$9,000.00.

### **DISCUSSION ON MOTION**

Ms. Getlein said the end result is still going to be the same. We're going to reduce the equipment/maintenance line item and pass it along to the parents. She said the fees could just be increased to the kids participating in the programs.

### **ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ms. Duhaime – YES  
Ms. Romano – YES  
Mr. DeFala – YES  
Mr. Kurtyka – NO  
Mr. DiSorbo – YES  
Mr. Nichols – YES  
Ms. Getlein – NO  
Mrs. Szewczyk – YES  
Mr. Varsanik – YES  
Mr. Laskowski – YES

**YES – 8 / NO – 2 MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Nichols with a second by Mr. Varsanik: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 5100 – Parks, Recreation, Community Center – All Line Items totaling \$254,345.00 as amended on the run dated May 29, 2008.



### **ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ms. Duhaime – YES  
Ms. Romano – YES  
Mr. DeFala – YES  
Mr. Kurtyka – NO  
Mr. DiSorbo – YES  
Mr. Nichols – YES  
Ms. Getlein – NO  
Mrs. Szewczyk – YES  
Mr. Varsanik – YES  
Mr. Laskowski – YES

**YES – 8 / NO – 2 MOTION CARRIED.**

- **DEPARTMENT 5400 – HEALTH SERVICES**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. Kurtyka: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 5400 – Health Services – All Line Items totaling \$151,758.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008.

### **DISCUSSION ON MOTION**

Mr. DeFala noted the large cut in the Storm Ambulance Corps. The amount has been changed from \$69,000.00 to \$35,000.00. He said he would like to maybe put \$10,000 or \$15,000 back into the line item.

### **AMENDMENT TO MOTION**

Mr. DeFala said he would like to amend the **MOTION** to change Line Item 270-0002 from \$35,000.00 to \$45,000.00, thereby changing the total of Department 5400 Health Services from \$151,758.00 to \$161,758.00. A second to the motion was made by Ms. Romano.

### **DISCUSSION ON AMENDMENT TO MOTION**

Ms. Romano asked Mr. DeFala what the increase would be based upon. Mr. DeFala said he is just concerned that the cut is too significant for one year's time. Ms. Duhaime pointed out that the City did purchase an Ambulance for Storms. Ms. Getlein noted they are also collecting insurance payments for those ambulance runs and we just write them a check and they are not required to submit to the City what the funds are used for. Mr. DiSorbo questioned whether some of the money from the previous years went towards the costs of maintaining the old ambulance noting with a new ambulance there may not be any more, or as many, of those costs. Hearing no further discussion...

### **ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ms. Duhaime – NO  
Ms. Romano – YES  
Mr. DeFala – YES  
Mr. Kurtyka – NO  
Mr. DiSorbo – YES  
Mr. Nichols – NO  
Ms. Getlein – NO  
Mrs. Szewczyk – NO  
Mr. Varsanik – RECUSED  
Mr. Laskowski – NO



## **YES – 3 / NO – 6 / RECUSED 1 – MOTION FAILS**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Nichols with a second by Mr. Kurtyka: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 5400 – Health Services – All Line Items totaling \$151,758.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Mr. DeFala – No. Mr. Varsanik – Recused. Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 5500 – LIBRARY**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. Kurtyka: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 5500 – Library – All Line Items totaling \$422,846.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Mr. Varsanik – Opposed. Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 5600 - CEMETERY**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. Kurtyka: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 5600 – Cemetery – Line Item 110-0110 in the amount of \$600.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 6100 – BUILDING INSPECTOR**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. DiSorbo with a second by Mr. Laskowski: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 6100 – Building Inspector – All Line Items totaling \$132,881.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008.

### **DISCUSSION ON MOTION**

Mr. Varsanik asked Mr. Schlesinger if the Building Inspector was approved by the Board of Aldermen. Mr. Schlesinger said he was told that the Building Inspector was approved by the Board of Aldermen.

### **MOTION CARRIED.**

- **DEPARTMENT 6300 - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Mr. Schlesinger informed the board members that Line Item 110-0110 Development Director Wages needs to be adjusted from \$80,730.00 to \$78,000.00

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Romano with a second by Mr. Varsanik: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation change Line Item 110-0110 Development Director Wages from \$80,730 to \$78,000. **Motion carried.**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. Kurtyka: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 6300 – Community Development – All Line Items totaling \$119,947.00 as amended on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 6400 – FLOOD CONTROL**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. Kurtyka: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 6400 – Flood Control – All Line Items totaling \$7,000.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**



- **DEPARTMENT 6500 – PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Kurtyka with a second by Ms. Getlein: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 6500 – Planning & Zoning Commission – All Line Items totaling \$16,100.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Mr. Varsanik opposed.**  
**Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 6510 – INLAND/WETLAND COMMISSION**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. Kurtyka: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 6510 – Inland/Wetland Commission – All Line Items totaling \$1,000.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 6800 – SENIOR CENTER**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. Laskowski: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 6800 – Senior Center – All Line Items totaling \$190,866.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 7100 – BONDED INDEBTEDNESS**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. DeFala: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 7100 – Bonded Indebtedness – Line Item 500-0500 in the amount of \$2,506,601.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 7200 – LoCIP FUNDS**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. Kurtyka: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 7200 – LoCIP Funds – All Line Items totaling \$200,000.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 8100 – CITY HALL MAINTENANCE**

Mr. Schlesinger informed the board members that the City Treasurer has asked that the City Audit – Line Item 150-0151 be raised to the full value of \$54,500.00 and that the Board of Education share of \$12,500.00 be reduced from their budget. Ms. Duhaime asked when the request was made. Mr. Schlesinger noted that Mr. McLiverty made the request to him and Ms. Duhaime last week. Ms. Romano stated that Mr. McLiverty sent an email out over the weekend.

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Ms. Romano: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation increase Line Item 150-0151 – City Audit - from \$42,000.00 to \$54,500.00.

### **DISCUSSION ON MOTION**

Mr. DiSorbo asked Mr. Schlesinger if this impacts the way the audit is done. If not, then what is the reasoning behind it? Mr. Schlesinger said he doesn't know if there has been problem with payment to the auditors by the Board of Education. He said that Mr. McLiverty felt that the audit should come out of the City's coffers and not the Board of Education. Ms. Romano asked if the Board of Education has been made aware of this proposed change. Mr. Schlesinger said he does not know if the Board of Education has been informed. Mr. DiSorbo said the only downside he sees is if the Board of Education is not happy with the services performed for their audit; the bill would be paid either way. Ms. Romano asked if the Board of Education and the City



budget balancing monthly? Mr. Schlesinger said it has gotten better than what it was. Ms. Romano asked Mr. Schlesinger what is the advantage of making this change. Mr. Schlesinger said in his opinion the only potential gain is more autonomy from the auditor. He said he thinks the main problem is payment of the bill and he believes the request to change it to this way came from the auditor.

#### **ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ms. Duhaime – YES  
Ms. Romano – YES  
Mr. DeFala – YES  
Mr. Kurtyka – YES  
Mr. DiSorbo – NO  
Mr. Nichols – YES  
Ms. Getlein – YES  
Mrs. Szewczyk – YES  
Mr. Varsanik – NO  
Mr. Laskowski – YES

#### **YES – 8 / NO – 2 – MOTION CARRIED**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Kurtyka with a second by Ms. Getlein: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 8100 – City Hall Maintenance – All Line Items totaling \$301,961.00 as amended on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

#### **ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ms. Duhaime – YES  
Ms. Romano – YES  
Mr. DeFala – YES  
Mr. Kurtyka – YES  
Mr. DiSorbo – NO  
Mr. Nichols – YES  
Ms. Getlein – YES  
Mrs. Szewczyk – YES  
Mr. Varsanik – NO  
Mr. Laskowski – YES

#### **YES – 8 / NO – 2 – MOTION CARRIED**

- **DEPARTMENT 8200 – CITY WIDE AGENCIES**

Mr. Schlesinger said he would remind everyone that earlier this evening we accept a bid waiver for Line Item 390-0398 – Fireworks Event – in the amount of \$12,000.00. He would suggest making an amendment to that line item.

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Romano with a second by Ms. Getlein: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation amend Line Item 390-0398 – Fireworks Event – from \$10,000.00 to \$12,000.00. **Motion carried.**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. DeFala: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 8200 – City Wide Agencies – All Line Items totaling \$146,674.00 as amended on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**



- **DEPARTMENT 8300 – CITY WIDE FUEL**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Romano with a second by Mr. Varsanik: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 8300 – City Wide Fuel – Line Item 370-0370 in the amount of \$150,000 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 8400 – BUDGET WORKING BALANCE**

Mr. Schlesinger said he would make a suggestion to adopt the Working Balance and the Special Working Balance and then allow the Finance Department to determine the Fund Balance replenishment based on balancing the budget once the Mil Rate is decided. He said we can estimate it; he just doesn't want to pass an exact number because it may be off and the budget has to be in balance. He said we can always say "estimated at" and not issue an official figure for what Line Item 390-0397 will be. He said they normally do that with the Working Balance but since we're having the Fund Balance Replenishment that's the number that has to be adjusted. He said he has the Special Working Balance now at \$232,279.

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Romano with a second by Mr. Kurtyka: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 8400 – Budget Working Balance – Line Item 390-0390 – Working Balance in the amount of \$20,000.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Romano with a second by Mr. DeFala: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 8400 – Budget Working Balance – Line Item 390-0391 – Special Working Balance in the amount of \$232,279.00 as amended on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 8600 – CITY ENGINEER**

**A MOTION** was made by Ms. Getlein with a second by Mr. Kurtyka: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 8600 – City Engineer – All Line Items totaling \$45,000.00 as shown on the run dated May 29, 2008. **Motion carried.**

- **DEPARTMENT 9100 – BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Mr. Schlesinger stated that based on the adjustment made earlier this evening (audit) the new figure for the Board of Education based on the May 29, 2008 run is \$16,564,500.00.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. DiSorbo with a second by Ms. Romano: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 9100 – Board of Education – All Line Items totaling \$16,564,500.00 as amended on the run dated May 29, 2008.

### **DISCUSSION ON MOTION**

Mr. Nichols said the Board of Apportionment & Taxation has been in agreement as a board on the number for a couple of months then last Friday evening due to it being basically a surprise meeting they didn't have the votes to pass the preliminary number of \$16,488,000.00 and he said that Mr. DiSorbo suggested sort of a compromise at that time and move the rest of the (inaudible) into the Board of Education line. Mr. Nichols said he is personally opposed to that and hopes that the current vote fails so a new motion can be made. Ms. Romano said this has to do with the additional \$89,000 that was granted in the preliminary budget hearing and that she has to respectfully disagree with Mr. Nichols. This board did not have a discussion and



agree to anything on the Board of Education budget as a whole. She said she does not specifically recall a work session discussing the Board of Education. Mrs. Szewczyk said she remembers several sessions where we did discuss it and she believes that she didn't miss any sessions.

#### **ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ms. Duhaime – YES  
Ms. Romano – YES  
Mr. DeFala – YES  
Mr. Kurtyka – NO  
Mr. DiSorbo – YES  
Mr. Nichols – NO  
Ms. Getlein – NO  
Mrs. Szewczyk – NO  
Mr. Varsanik – YES  
Mr. Laskowski – NO

#### **YES – 5 / NO – 5 – MOTION FAILS**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Nichols with a second by Mr. Laskowski: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept the amount recommended by the Mayor for Department 9100 - \$16,488,000.00 minus the cost of the audit <\$12,500.00> for a total of \$16,475,500.00.

#### **ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ms. Duhaime – NO  
Ms. Romano – NO  
Mr. DeFala – NO  
Mr. Kurtyka – YES  
Mr. DiSorbo – NO  
Mr. Nichols – YES  
Ms. Getlein – YES  
Mrs. Szewczyk – YES  
Mr. Varsanik – NO  
Mr. Laskowski – YES

#### **YES – 5 / NO – 5 – MOTION FAILS**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. DeFala with a second by Ms. Romano: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation accept Department 9100 – Board of Education – All Line Items totaling \$16,526,000.00 as amended on the run dated May 29, 2008.

#### **DISCUSSION ON MOTION**

Ms. Romano asked Mr. DeFala had he arrived at that number. Mr. DeFala said he took the \$16,564,000.00 and the \$16,488,000.00 recommended by the Mayor and took the difference of those two numbers and split the figure in half. Mrs. Szewczyk said she likes that approach.



**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ms. Duhaime – YES  
Ms. Romano – YES  
Mr. DeFala – YES  
Mr. Kurtyka – YES  
Mr. DiSorbo – NO  
Mr. Nichols – YES  
Ms. Getlein – YES  
Mrs. Szewczyk – YES  
Mr. Varsanik – YES  
Mr. Laskowski – YES

**YES – 9 / NO – 1 – MOTION CARRIED.**

- **DEPARTMENT 6000 – REVENUES**

Mr. Schlesinger said the changes that he has been requested to make by the board for your solicitation is at 26.25 mils in what you adopt in your preliminary budget you have property tax revenue of \$23,219,579. At 26.35 mils as an option is \$23,308,025, which would increase the Fund Balance Replenishment by \$88,456. If you go to 26.4 mils, a .9 mil increase, you would have \$23,352,263, which would increase the Fund Balance Replenishment an additional \$132,684. Mr. Schlesinger noted with the changes that were made this evening he has a Fund Balance Replenishment of \$267,865. He said everyone needs to keep in mind that the \$267,865 and the \$232,279 that was adopted did not include the potential liability of the City losing the fight on the change in health benefits to an HSA System. He said if that money would have to go into the Special Working Balance we would actually be running a deficit at the current mil rate that's been preliminary adopted. He said the \$267,865 with the increase expense of losing the medical coverage would be \$345,000 – we would be about \$80,000 short if that happens. Mr. Schlesinger said the worse case scenario if everything stayed the same and if we lost the health care and we had to pay out the entire Special Working Balance for all the items that it is there for we would run a deficit of \$80,000. He said at 26.35 if we lose the medical and if everything else is paid out as per the Special Working Balance we would run a balanced budget. At 26.4 if we lose the medical and if everything else is paid out as per the Special Working Balance we would have a \$44,000 surplus. At 26.4 the Fund Balance Replenishment would be .9 mils increase. Mr. Schlesinger said he would recommend going with 26.4 mils.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. DeFala with a second by Ms. Romano: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation set the Mil Rate at 26.4 for a .9 increase with property taxes of \$23,352,263.00.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ms. Duhaime – YES  
Ms. Romano – YES  
Mr. DeFala – YES  
Mr. Kurtyka – NO  
Mr. DiSorbo – YES  
Mr. Nichols – YES  
Ms. Getlein – NO  
Mrs. Szewczyk – YES  
Mr. Varsanik – YES  
Mr. Laskowski – YES



**YES – 8 / NO – 2 – MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. DeFala with a second by Ms. Romano: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation set the revenue at \$34,952,012 based on 26.4 mils with the adjustments made on the run dated May 29, 2008.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ms. Duhaime – YES

Ms. Romano – YES

Mr. DeFala – YES

Mr. Kurtyka – NO

Mr. DiSorbo – YES

Mr. Nichols – YES

Ms. Getlein – NO

Mrs. Szewczyk – YES

Mr. Varsanik – YES

Mr. Laskowski – YES

**YES – 8 / NO – 2 – MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Schlesinger said the Finance Department will balance the budget based on the revenue figure with all extra funds going into Department 8400 – Line Item 390-0397 – Fund Balance Replenishment equalizing all expenditures of the City of Derby at \$34,952,012.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. DeFala with a second by Mr. Laskowski: Move that the Board of Apportionment & Taxation authorize the Finance Department to balance the budget based on the revenue figure with all extra funds going into Department 8400 – Line Item 390-0397 – Fund Balance Replenishment equalizing all expenditures of the City of Derby at \$34,952,012. **Motion carried.**

Mr. DiSorbo thanked Ms. Duhaime for all her hard work noting that this is her first year as Chair. Ms. Duhaime thanked Mr. DiSorbo and the rest of the board members. Ms. Romano said she would also like to thank Mr. Schlesinger and Mr. McLiverty for their hard work and guidance.

Mayor Staffieri thanked all the board members for their hard work noting the time that they have put in as volunteers.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. DeFala with a second by Ms. Romano to adjourn the Special Meeting at 9:20 p.m. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Finn

Temporary Recording Secretary

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF APPORTIONMENT AND TAXATION AT THEIR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING**