

## MINUTES

Fiscal Policy Advisory Committee

February 3, 2011 4:30-6:00

Second Floor Conference Room

**In Attendance:** City Councilors - Allen Bennett (Chair), Mark Coen, Dan St. Hilaire, Candace White Bouchard, Jan McClure and Keith Nyhan.; Mayor Jim Bouley; City Staff – Tom Aspell, City Manager; Brian LeBrun, Deputy City Manager Finance; Bob McManus, OMB Director; Carlos Baia, Deputy City Manager Development;

**Absent:** Councilor Fred Keach

- 1) **Approval of January 20, 2010 Meeting Minutes:** Chair Allen Bennett called the meeting to order at 4:36 pm and requested a motion to approve the minutes of January 20, 2010. **Councilor Keith Nyhan moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilor Candace White Bouchard. The minutes were unanimously approved as presented.**
- 2) **Fiscal Monitoring Report** – City Manager Aspell started the discussion asking if there was any questions about the report now that the Committee has had a couple of weeks to review. There was considerable discussion about the Model projection for FY2012 and beyond on expenses, revenues and wage/benefit costs. Deputy City Manager LeBrun noted that the incremental increases in wages and benefits will be a recurring challenge each year. Without new revenues to offset these increases or fundamental changes to the wage and benefit levels the City will be faced with the same dilemma every budget season. The committee discussed at length what the appropriate tax rate increase target should be. **Councilor Mark Coen moved to recommend to the full council a 2.5% tax rate target increase, seconded by Councilor Jan McClure. The committee unanimously approved this recommendation.**
- 3) **Adjournment:** Chair Allen Bennett called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Councilor Dan St. Hilaire, seconded by Councilor Jan McClure, and a unanimous vote brought the meeting to an end at 6:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brian LeBrun  
Deputy City Manager – Finance