

**EAST PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**

**East Providence City Hall**

**145 Taunton Avenue**

**East Providence, Rhode Island 02914**

**October 24, 2006**

**Open Session**

**Chairman Gouveia called the meeting to order at 7:30PM. Five members were present: Robert Faria, Eileen Lovett, David Medeiros, Mildred Morris, Antone Gouveia. Also present: Dr. Jacqueline Forbes, Superintendent of Schools and Andrew Thomas, Esq.**

**Mr. Faria led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a Moment of Silence was observed.**

**2006-2007 Budget –Mr. Gouveia commented that pursuant to action taken by the City Council at their last meeting, there will obviously be a shortfall in the budget even with the \$399,000 cut by the School Committee at a prior meeting. The Superintendent, staff and the Finance Committee have collaborated to meet the actual budget number. Dr. Forbes reviewed the Proposed Budget Adjustments, which will have the least amount of impact on students:**

**School            Committee            Approved            Budget            -            City**

**Appropriations \$41,994,747**

**City Council Approved Budget - City Appropriations \$41,393,803**

**Difference \$600,944**

**Proposed Expenditure Adjustments Increase/(Decrease)**

**Salaries – Custodians - Removal of Four Custodial Positions (\$131,872)**

**Salaries - Due to Updated Personnel as of October 2006 (\$78,972)**

**Benefits – Custodians- Removal of Four Custodial Positions (\$77,717)**

**Benefits - Based on Recent Experience (\$538,516)**

**Services – Tuitions - New Enrollments \$476,000**

**Utilities - Based on Recent Experience and Price Adjustments (\$50,000)**

**Other Services - Based on Technology Needs \$15,000**

**Equipment & Capital Outlay - Removal of Maintenance Vehicle (\$15,000)**

**Total Expenditure Adjustments (\$401,077)**

**Proposed Revenue Adjustments Increase/(Decrease)**

**Custodial Fees - Based on Recent Experience \$5,000**

**Building Rental - Based on Recent Experience \$5,000**

**Medicaid Reimbursements - Based on Increase in Services Provided \$200,000**

**Housing Aid- Appropriation Adjustment (\$10,133)**

**Total Revenue Adjustments \$199,867**

**Total Adjustments to City Appropriations (\$600,944)**

**Page 2**

**Mr. Faria expressed uneasiness in decreasing revenues, which are sometimes already over-projected; he feels this could set up problems in the future. Dr. Forbes related that based on experience, she felt comfortable with the numbers.**

**Mr. Gouveia explained that he served on the Finance Committee and the benefits number (\$538,516) was always a best guess, as the School Department is self-insured. Mr. Vinhateiro budgeted 85% of the expense, however, when the budget review took place, B & E Consultants recommended that we budget 100%, which we ended up doing. He feels that three or four situations of high claims experience is likely with 1000 employees.**

**Mr. Faria asked if this compromises our Memorandum of Understanding with the auditors. Mr. Gouveia said we are still at 100%, but reducing by \$500,000 is leaving us budgeted alright. Mr. Gouveia said there is on-going discussion with the City regarding benefits.**

**Mr. Faria also asked if we will need additional teachers based on the number of additional children coming into the system. Dr. Forbes related that there is always a need for additional staff, but based on enrollment we will be alright even though the classrooms are maxed out.**

**Mr. Gouveia related that additional special education costs were picked up after the School Committee approved the budget. Dr. Forbes said the numbers could change tomorrow up or down. Discussion took place regarding utilities costs; a change at the Career Center from oil to gas for a savings of \$50,000.**

**A motion was made by Mrs. Morris to accept the Superintendent's recommendation, seconded by Mr. Medeiros, Roll call vote: Mr. Faria, aye; Mrs. Lovett, aye; Mr. Medeiros, aye; Mrs. Morris; Mr. Gouveia, aye.**

**Motion to adjourn by Mrs. Morris, seconded by Mr. Medeiros. Vote 5-0.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Patricia A. Iannelli, Executive Secretary**

**David A. Medeiros, Clerk of the Committee**