

Budget and Fiscal Affairs Advisory Committee Minutes
City Hall Room Sister Cities Conference Room #1101
January 19, 2016

Present: David Baker, Margaret Gullen, Dak Hardwick, Jean Sun Kim, Ben Klein, Patrice Linehan, Skip Maginniss, Laurie MacNamara, Len Rubenstein, Clarence Tong, Mike Wenk.

City Staff: Mark Jinks, Morgan Routt, Alex Braden, Whitney Harris.

- 1. City Manager report.** Mark Jinks, City Manager, briefed the committee on the overall city financial and budget status. Staffing is down 10% in recent years, some as a result of efficiencies, some as a result of cuts that have had impacts. Revenue growth is about 2% a year, about \$13 million. The projected deficit for FY 17 is less than the \$24 million discussed at the time of Council retreat because of one time WMATA change. He anticipated an increase in ACPS budget in the range of \$11 million; superintendent's proposed budget has increase of about \$11.6 million. Also, ACPS has a \$5 million expense for debt service that had previously been thought to be covered by state aid. On the City side, the manager anticipates significant increases in employee compensation as a result of merit raises, reimbursement for the 1% increase in employee VRS payments by city employees, and health insurance. Aside from these across the board changes, other likely employee compensation increases include a higher living wage, pay adjustments for years of service in public safety and changes in pay scale for fire fighters to maintain competitiveness with other jurisdictions. The City Manager also has proposals for new initiatives including affordable housing, economic development, broadband, and pre-K/child care.
- 2. Elections.** BFAAC's officers elected: Dak Hardwick, chair; Ben Klein, vice-chair; Len Rubenstein, Secretary.
- 3. OMB report.** The committee discussed concerns that its submission to Council designed to be considered in connection with adoption of budget guidance and retreat did not reach Council until afterward; staff assured the committee that the process would be improved in the future. The 5-year financial forecast was reviewed - it is updated but essentially unchanged in substance from prior iterations.
- 4. Subcommittee formed.** BFAAC formed a subcommittee to review economic development issues as part of its FY 17 report. Members are Margaret Gullen, Clarence Tong and Ben Klein.
- 5. ACPS.** In addition to calendar distributed, work sessions between Council and School Board will be held on January 26 and February 9.
- 6. Next meeting.** The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 24

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.