

Meeting Minutes - Approved PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES (PILOT) TASK FORCE

Wednesday, August 29, 2012	5:30 PM	210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Bovd.
		Room GR-22

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 10 -

Jill Johnson; Joseph R. Clausius; Michael G. Heifetz; Jay Robaidek; Timothy J. Conroy; Rachel E. Krinsky; Jean A. Bachhuber; Andrew M. Reschovsky; Roger Goodwin and Darrell L. Bazzell

Absent: 1 -

Mark Elsdon

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No minutes to approve.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no registrants.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

AGENDA

27493 Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) Task Force 8-29-12 Agenda

1. Introductory Remarks from Mayor Soglin

Mayor Soglin welcomed the committee and expressed his appreciation to each member and staff person for what they bring to the table for this task force. He explained what the goals and focus of the task force are. The task force needs to present it's report to the Common Council within 12 months of this meeting.

2. Comments from Task Force Chair

If you are unable to attend a scheduled meeting, please contact Sally Miley in the Mayor's office prior to the meeting. The committee will probably meet once a month and in December or January will host a Public Hearing to allow for public input.

- 3. Task Force Member Introductions and Perspectives
- 4. Task Force Topics and Materials

5. Questions and Discussion

After the Mayor's presentation, the task force members had the following discussion:

Member Krinsky asked about the interaction of services provided by non-profit entities and city services.

Mayor Soglin clarified that the city provides services to all properties in the city, regardless of tax status.

Chair Goodwin stated that the task force will be addressing services provided to the public by non-profits.

Member Reschovsky highlighted the interaction between the health of the core services of the city and the strength of non-profits.

The Mayor also stated that the city faces many challenges and that while office buildings may provide the lowest ratio of service costs to property value, the reality is there are different types of activities throughout the city that demand corresponding services.

After the PowerPoint presentation on the type of property in the city, city revenue sources, the state's payment for municipal services program and the task force work plan, members had the following questions:

Member Heifetz asked about the calculation of the tax-exempt properties in the absence of a statutorily mandated report.

Mark Hanson and Mike Kurth answered that the estimates were derived from land values for the tax-exempt parcels and calculations of the value of improvements based on square footage.

Member Bazzell asked about the impact of the state's proration of the payment for municipal services to the city, as well as where those payments are shown in the city's revenue graph.

David Schmiedicke explained that the shortfall in the state's payment is subsidized by property taxes paid by both commercial and residential property. The impact on residential property is equivalent to \$85 on the average value home. Payments for municipal services are reflected as state aid.

Member Krinsky asked if the state mandated levy limits can be exceeded. Member Reschovsky asked about the frequency of such referenda.

David Schmiedicke responded that the levy limits can be exceeded through voter referenda, but very few communities have used this option.

Member Reschovsky commented that he has been involved in PILOT research and can provide the task force with background information on this topic. 6. Discussion of Open Meetings Law

Roger Allen, Assistant City Attorney, discussed quorum and negative quorum requirements as well as what to do if an open records request is received by a member of this task force.

7. Scheduling Next Meeting

According to the survey to the task force members, Wednesday evening will work best. September's meeting was planned for September 26 but will need to be rescheduled due to Yom Kippur. The October Meeting will be October 24 at 5 pm. We are in the planning stages of a November 28 (tentative date) teleconference with staff from the City of Boston's Planning Department. The meeting will probably be held at the Water Utility building.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjuourned at 6:23 p.m.