

MEMBERS PRESENT: President Frank B. Cook, Vice-President Peter Blais. Councilors: Ronald Churchill, Richard Conti, Mark Cooper, Jeremy Denlea, Shannon Heagney, Brian Kirby, Heather Porreca and Walter Thibodeau.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jonathan Weydt

President Cook led the Council and the audience in the Salute to the Flag.

President Cook reminded Councilors and the audience to turn off all cell phone devices as it interferes with the cable broadcast.

President Cook explained that he would call to Suspend the Rules as there were presentations that would occur during the meeting and a need to take the communications out of the normal order.

President Cook entertained a motion to Suspend the Rules.

Voted on Roll Call—10 yeas—0 nays (Mr. Weydt absent). All were in favor.

No public hearings were held.

President Cook invited Elks' members and Veteran's Agent Carl Bradshaw to the podium.

Vice President Blais thanked the Attleboro Elks Lodge #1014 for their donation of flags and helping the veterans. Elks Exalted Ruler Rob Silva introduced Frank Kerns, Larry Quaglia and Veteran's Agent Carl Bradshaw.

President Cook presented the Elks with the following Resolution:

***RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION
TO***

BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF THE ELKS #1014

On behalf of the Attleboro Municipal Council and the residents of the City of Attleboro, it is with great pleasure that I extend our heartfelt thanks for your commitment to the City of Attleboro

It is with great pride and enthusiasm that the Attleboro Elks Lodge #1014 be recognized for your organization's generosity in providing American flags and assistance to our local veterans.

Your organization is truly an inspiration to all the residents of Attleboro. Attleboro is a better place because of your actions and we applaud all of your efforts.

*Once again, **THANK YOU** for your outstanding community involvement. Your contributions to this community and mankind will live on for many years to come.*

*Signed and Sealed this 19TH Day
of May in the Year 2015*

*Frank B. Cook
Council President*

*Peter Blais
Council Vice-President*

Exalted Ruler Silva thanked Mr. Bradshaw for his services.

The following communications were received and read by the Clerk of the Council, Elizabeth Shockroo:

Recommendation from the Attleboro Planning Board recommending in the affirmative (5 Yeas, 0 Nays and 3 Absent) to adopt the proposed amendment to certain sections of the Zoning Ordinance relative to new sections pertaining to Bituminous/Asphalt Plants and Concrete Plants as follows: Amend §17-3.4 TABLE OF USE REGULATIONS – WHOLESALE, TRANSPORTATION, AND INDUSTRIAL; §17-3.5 TABLE OF ACCESSORY USE REGULATIONS; and §17-11.2 DEFINITIONS

REFERRED TO THE ORDINANCE, ELECTIONS AND LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

Notice of a Special Meeting to be held on Tuesday, June 9, 2015 at 7 P.M. for the purpose of holding public hearings relative to the General Government, Water and Waste Water Departments for the FY2016 budgets and any other legal matter that may come before the council.

MEMBERS GIVEN COPIES

Petition from Verizon New England, Inc. and Massachusetts Electric Company (NGRID) to relocate JO Pole No. T.6710/e.6710 on the Northeasterly side of Olive Street approximately 634 feet Southeasterly from the center line of Robert Street on Olive Street to allow for a proposed street. (no public hearing required)

REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Applications for 2015 Renewal Hackney Carriage Driver's Licenses from:

- Andrew James Maden, 216 Knight Avenue, Attleboro, MA
- Mae Irene Fitton, 140 South Avenue, Attleboro, MA

REFERRED TO THE LICENSE COMMITTEE

Communication from Renee Lumb requesting that the License Committee hold her Hawker's and Peddler's License until she has all the documents necessary to proceed for Council approval.

REFERRED TO THE LICENSE COMMITTEE

The following communications were received from the Mayor and read by the Clerk of the Council, Elizabeth Shockroo:

May 19, 2015

Dear Municipal Councilors:

I respectfully submit a communication from City Treasurer Ethel Sandbach requesting funds to cover a shortfall in the Med-Tax Account. The unexpected salary payment for snow, new hires, unexpected overtime, retro pay and contractual raises are added costs to this account. In order to meet payroll for June 30, 2015, this request needs to be voted on by June 2, 2015. Therefore, I hereby request Your Honorable Body to transfer \$25,000.00 from 1000-359000(Undesignated Fund Balance/Free Cash-General Government) to Account 11451000-517240 (Treasurer-Medicare Tax). (Copies in your packets)

1/5/19/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE—BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS

As you are aware, on November 10, 2014, Your Honorable Body transferred funds to upgrade the telephone system at City Hall. All expenses for the upgrade to the telephone system have been satisfied and no longer require funding. Therefore, I hereby request Your Honorable Body to transfer \$594.44 from Account 11241000-585065 (City Wide-Telephone Upgrade) to Account 11241000-578300 (City Wide- Reserve Fund for Transfer). Upon approval, the available balance in Reserve Fund for Transfer will be \$11,525.41.

2/5/19/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE—CITY PROPERTY & CLAIMS

I respectfully submit for confirmation by Your Honorable Body the appointment of Jason Gittle, 553 Lindsey Street, to fill an unexpired term on the Planning Board. Term to expire February 2016. (Copies in your packets)

3/5/19/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE—PERSONNEL & HUMAN SERVICES

I respectfully submit a communication from Director of Recreation Dennis Walsh regarding the need for funding in Lights & Power due to the rate increase. Therefore, I hereby request Your Honorable Body to transfer \$2,600.00 to 16301000-524020 (Recreation – Lights & Power) to the following:

\$ 350.00 from Account 16301000-514020 (Recreation – Night Differential)

\$2,250.00 from Account 16301000-511000 (Recreation – Salary & Wages)

(Copies in your packets)

4/5/19/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE—CITY PROPERTY & CLAIMS

I respectfully submit a communication from Legal Secretary Alison Wood regarding surplus items that the Park and Forestry Department would like to declare surplus and hereby respectfully request Your Honorable Body to declare the following as surplus for trade-in or resale value and available for disposition: (Copies in your packets)

<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>MODEL</u>	<u>SERIAL NO.</u>	<u>CONDITION</u>
1	Gravelly flail motor attachment			Poor
1	Gravelly snow blower attachment			Poor
1	Gravelly snow plow attachment			Poor
1	1988 Toro walk behind mower	402707		Poor
1	1989 Gravelly 50" walk behind mower	49001		Poor
1	1960 Gravelly walk behind plow	Model L	L202	Poor
1	Ford 3PTH flail mower			Poor

5/5/19/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE—CITY PROPERTY & CLAIMS

I respectfully submit a communication from Personnel Director Owen Bebeau and Personnel Consultant Janice Silverman regarding the need to amend the Personnel Rules and Regulations for exempt employees. As you are aware, certain exempt employees are eligible to receive a clothing allowance. Current language states that these employees are to receive this benefit in the same manner as union employees. However, due to changes in the recent union contracts, this clothing allowance has now been built into their base salary and this cannot be done for exempt employees. Also, the Police & Fire exempt employees currently receive their clothing allowance in the same manner as the union employees but it is not codified in our rules and regulations but is only referenced in the union contract. Therefore, I request Your Honorable Body to amend Article XVI – Uniform and Clothing Allowances as described in the attached Personnel Rules and Regulations for Exempt Employees in order to properly deal with these two (2) issues (revised 05/19/2015). (Copies in your packets)

6/5/19/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE—PERSONNEL & HUMAN SERVICES

I respectfully submit a communication from Veterans Agent Carl Bradshaw regarding the need of \$30,000.00 in the Veterans Aid Account for the remainder of FY2015. Due to a tremendous increase in requirements, the last request for funds will not cover the additional expenses. Therefore, I hereby request Your Honorable Body to appropriate \$30,000.00 from Account 1000-359000 (Undesignated Fund Balance/Free Cash) to Account 15431000-577010 (Veterans-Benefits Veterans Aid). (Copies in your packets)

7/5/19/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE—BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS

I respectfully submit a communication from City Auditor Deborah Gould regarding Our Common Backyard Briggs Playground Project. As you may recall, in July 2014, Your Honorable Body appropriated \$415,000.00 from the Stabilization Fund for this project of which the Commonwealth of Massachusetts was to reimburse the City \$200,000.00 from our Common Backyard Grant. In April 2015, the City received these funds from the Commonwealth's Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs for this project. Therefore, I hereby request Your Honorable Body to appropriate \$200,000.00 from Account

3533-599000 (Our Common Backyard Briggs Playground Fund – Other Financing Uses) to Account 8455-499000 (Stabilization Fund – Other Financing Sources) in order to reimburse the stabilization fund.

In addition, on October 7, 2014, an appropriation was granted in the amount of \$30,320.55 as well as a \$10,000.00 contingency for “any unforeseen matter that might arise in the field during construction”. There is \$1,828.25 remaining in this fund which is no longer needed for construction. Recreation Director Dennis Walsh identified a need for security cameras for this newly revitalized playground. Therefore, I hereby request Your Honorable Body to approve the use of \$1,828.25 in fund 3533 (Our Common Backyard Briggs Playground Fund) toward the acquisition of security cameras. (Copies in your packets)

8/5/19/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE—PUBLIC WORKS

For Your Information: I regret to inform Your Honorable Body we have received the resignation of Director of Veterans’ Services Carl Bradshaw effective June 6, 2015. Carl has served Attleboro for the past five and a half years and now has accepted another position in Northbridge where he currently lives. I know you will join me in thanking Carl for his service to the City and wish him best in his future endeavors. (Copies in your packets)

9/5/19/15

Sincerely,

Kevin J. Dumas, Mayor

May 19, 2015

Dear Municipal Councilors:

I respectfully submit to Your Honorable Body the City of Attleboro’s General Government Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2016.

1/5/19/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE—BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS

A motion was made, duly seconded and unanimously voted to hold a **PUBLIC HEARING on Tuesday, June 9, 2015** relative to the FY2016 General Budget.

--Approved by the Mayor on Thursday, May 21, 2015

I respectfully request Your Honorable Body, under the provisions of Chapter 44, Section 53 E-½ as amended, to approve for Fiscal Year 2016 the reauthorization with continuing balances of the following Departmental Revolving Funds in the amounts indicated and with conditions as specified:

Animal Shelter (expenditure limit \$6,000.00) [2615]

- To receive one-third of income generated by the adoption fee derived under City Ordinances 9-2 (as amended) for both dogs and felines, and to receive \$1.00 of every fee collected pursuant to Section 9-43 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Attleboro.

- To be expended by the Animal Control Officer with the approval of the Mayor and the Superintendent of Parks & Forestry for the purposes of direct services for the care of animals, such as medical treatment, spay and neutering of animals, and food for animals. Building maintenance, facility care expenses and salary & wages are prohibited.

Capron Park Zoo (expenditure limit \$1,100,000.00) [2607]

- To receive all fees paid for admission to Capron Park Zoo, including the Gift Shop, Concession Operations, and Education Programs from individuals or organizations in support of the operation of Capron Park Zoo.
- To be expended by the Zoo Director with the approval of both the Mayor and Superintendent of Parks & Forestry for the operation of Capron Park Zoo.

City Property (expenditure limit \$50,000.00) [2612]

- To receive income generated by tax title or other city-owned property.
- To be expended by the City Treasurer as Custodian of City Property with the approval of the Mayor for the support of tax title or other city-owned property, including any costs associated with the custody and/or sale of such property.

Council on Aging (expenditure limit \$20,000.00) [2606]

- To receive all income generated by senior programs.
- To be expended by the Director of the Council on Aging with the approval of the Mayor for printing and postage for the senior newsletter and for any other expenses for Council on Aging activities.

Fire Ambulances (expenditure limit \$1,100,000.00) [2610]

- To receive 40% of the income generated by charges for municipal ambulance service.
- To be expended by the Fire Chief with the approval of the Mayor for the purchase or lease of municipal ambulances, for the equipping and maintenance of said municipal ambulances, for personnel expenses and/or stipends associated with operating and administering the City's emergency medical service, and for expenses related to third party billing.

Fire Alarm System (expenditure limit \$40,000.00) [2609]

- To receive 50% of all fees paid in association with the Municipal Fire Alarm System.
- To be expended by the Fire Chief with the approval of the Mayor to support fire alarm activities and for the purchase and maintenance of communication equipment for the Fire Department and fire alarm stipend.

Health Immunization (expenditure limit \$10,000.00) [2611]

- To receive 100% of fees generated by the administration of vaccines and testing.
- To be expended by the Health Agent with the approval of the Mayor and the Health Officer for the purposes of necessary immunization for residents of the City of Attleboro, or as determined to be necessary to prevent the spread of diseases.

Parking Administration (expenditure limit \$250,000.00) [2602]

- To receive 50% of the income from parking fees and fines for parking violations.

- To be expended by the Parking Clerk with the approval of both the Mayor and the Director of Budget & Administration to support parking enforcement and to maintain and improve city-owned public parking areas.

Police Vehicles (expenditure limit \$280,000.00) [2601]

- To receive 50% of the income generated by the traffic fines collected for the City of Attleboro by the Attleboro District Court and the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles, to receive proceeds from disposal of surplus police vehicles and vehicle-related equipment, and to receive 100% of the fees charged for the use of a police vehicles on traffic details.
- To be expended by the Chief of Police with approval of the Mayor to support traffic enforcement and for the purchase and maintenance of Police Department vehicles and vehicle-related equipment.

Police False Alarm (expenditure limit \$50,000.00) [2616]

- To receive 100% of the income generated by false alarm fees and fines collected for the City of Attleboro by the Attleboro Police Department.
- To be expended by the Chief of Police with the approval of the Mayor to provide any needed training and equipment; and provide for any personnel expenses including overtime associated with the operating and administering the false alarm ordinance.

Police K-9 (expenditure limit \$10,000.00) [2617]

- To receive 25% of the income generated by marijuana fines collected by the City of Attleboro.
- To be expended by the Chief of Police with the approval of the Mayor to support the police department K9 Unit for the purchase and maintenance of related K9 equipment, training, and any other related cost associated with K9 unit activities.

Recreation (expenditure limit \$175,000.00) [2614]

- To receive income generated by Recreation Department activities and rental of Recreation Department facilities to support such activities or facilities.
- To be expended by the Director of Recreation with the approval of the Mayor for the operation of Recreation Department activities, including wages for program staff for such activities.

Special Disposal (expenditure limit \$700,000.00) [2604]

- To receive \$25.03 per unit of the solid waste disposal fee as well as any other fees paid for solid waste disposal and recycling programs and to receive the income generated from the sale of rubbish bags.
- To be expended by the Health Agent with the approval of both the Mayor and the Health Officer for the operation of solid waste, recycling and household hazardous waste disposal programs, and by the Superintendent of Parks & Forestry with the approval of the Mayor for the operation of the City Compost Site.

Protective Inspection Services (expenditure limit \$65,000.00) [2603]

- To receive 65% of the fees paid for plumbing, gas and electrical inspection permits when needed to be performed by an outside contractor.
- To be expended by the Inspector of Buildings with the approval of the Mayor for the cost of professional services as established by ordinance for appointed plumbing and gas inspectors and all alternate inspectors.

2/5/19/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE--BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS

I am pleased to present to Your Honorable Body the proposed Wastewater and Water Enterprise Budgets for Fiscal Year 2016.

3/5/19/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE--BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS

A motion was made, duly seconded and unanimously voted a **PUBLIC HEARING on Tuesday, June 9, 2015** relative to the FY2016 Water Enterprise Budget and FY2016 Wastewater Enterprise Budget.

--Approved by the Mayor on Thursday, May 21, 2015

For Your Information: We have been able to provide wastewater services at no increased cost in the rate structure. Therefore, there is no need to change the ordinance for the wastewater rate for FY2016.

4/5/19/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

I hereby request Your Honorable Body appropriate \$193,639.01 from Account 6000-359000 (Wastewater Retained Earnings) to fund the Wastewater Betterment's Share of debt in the FY2016 Budget.

5/5/19/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE--BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS

I hereby request Your Honorable Body appropriate \$100,000.00 from Account 6000-359000 (Wastewater Retained Earnings) to fund the FY2016 Wastewater Enterprise Fund.

6/5/19/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE--BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS

With reference to the Title V Betterment Loan Program, I hereby request Your Honorable Body appropriate \$5,669.00 from Fund 2500 (Receipts Reserved for Appropriation-Title V Reserve Fund) to the General Fund to provide program funding for FY2016.

7/5/19/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE--BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS

For Your Information: We have been able to provide water services at no increased cost in the rate structure. Therefore, there is no need to change the ordinance for the water rate for FY2016.

8/5/19/15 –

I hereby request Your Honorable Body appropriate \$70,000.00 from Account 6100-359000 (Water Retained Earnings) to fund the FY2016 Water Enterprise Budget.

9/5/19/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE--BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS

I respectfully request Your Honorable Body to approve an appropriation in the amount of \$16,514.38 from Fund 8502 Water Reserve for Plant Fund to fund the FY2016 Water Enterprise Budget.

10/5/19/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE--BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS

As you are aware, a portion of the Water & Wastewater Enterprise FY2016 Budgets includes an Indirect Cost allocation that is used to pay for costs incurred within the General Government budget. As requested by Your Honorable Body in your FY2015 message, the City solicited quotes for a new indirect rate study, and retained the Abrahams Group to conduct this new study. In accordance with the indirect rates established by the Abrahams Group, I hereby request Your Honorable Body to transfer \$688,880.51 from Fund 6100 (Water Enterprise Fund) to the General Government Fund to fund the indirect cost for FY2016. The dollar amount presented is from the FY2016 budget book. Please note this figure excludes the Water Grant Reserve and all debt expenses. I also hereby request Your Honorable Body to transfer \$586,201.94 from Fund 6000 (Wastewater Enterprise Fund) to the General Government Fund to provide funding for the indirect cost for FY2016 budget. The dollar amount presented is from the FY2016 budget book. The required transfer is consistent with all other indirect transfer requests as it excludes the expenses associated with debt and capital purchases

11/5/16/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE--BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS

For Your Information: We have been able to provide solid waste collection at no increased cost to the solid waste collection fee. Therefore, there is no need to change the ordinance for the solid waste collection fee which is \$184.00 for FY2016.

12/5/19/15 –

There is a snow deficit of \$1,480,251.80 for FY2105. However, and in order to take advantage of a recently enacted law that authorizes cities and towns to amortize their FY2015 snow and ice removal account deficits over the next three fiscal years in equal installments or more rapidly, I hereby request Your Honorable Body to adopt Chapter 10, Section 58 of the Acts of 2015.

13/5/19/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE—ORDINANCE, ELECTIONS AND LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

In order to cover a portion of the FY2015 snow deficit, I respectfully request Your Honorable Body appropriate \$400,000.00 from Fund 8455 (Stabilization Fund) to the FY2016 General Government Budget. It is my intention to return these funds back to the Stabilization Fund once Free Cash is certified in the Fall of 2015.

14/5/19/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE--BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS

In accordance with M.G.L. c 59, Section 25, the Attleboro Board of Assessors has released \$100,000.00 from the FY2005 Allowance for Abatement Account, and \$100,000 from the FY2006 Allowance for Abatement Account. Please find the enclosed vote of the Board of Assessors releasing \$200,000.00 of available surplus overlay to the City for any lawful purpose. In accordance with proper procedures, upon release excess Allowance For Abatement funds are transferred into the Fund Balance Reserve for Overlay Surplus account

and can be appropriated for any lawful purpose. Therefore, I respectfully request Your Honorable Body appropriate \$100,000.00 from Account 1000-359600 (General Fund – Fund Balance Reserve for Overlay Surplus) to account 1000-321200 (Fund Balance Reserve for Expenditures) to fund the FY2016 Budget. In the coming weeks, I will send Your Honorable Body an additional request to appropriate the remaining \$100,000.00 currently in the Fund Balance Reserve for Overlay Surplus.

15/5/19/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE--BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS

I hereby request Your Honorable Body appropriate \$75,000.00 of available free cash from Account 1000-359000 (Undesignated Fund Balance/Free Cash) to fund the FY2016 budget.

16/5/19/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE--BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS

I hereby request Your Honorable Body establish the position of Constituent Services Administrator on the Classification Plan at Grade 4. This position is being created in order to efficiently carry out duties within the Mayor’s Office. As I am sure that you can appreciate, daily the Mayor’s Office serves a variety of individuals and businesses within the community we all represent as well as matters throughout the Commonwealth that impact the City of Attleboro. In order to effectively assist people navigate the business of government as well as assist businesses and individuals to help thrive within our City, I believe this position will add a great deal of value to the City. While Constituent Services will be the primary focus of the position, I am certain that additional efficiencies throughout the City will be the result of this position as a point person will provide coordination of services throughout departments. I feel compelled to note that the administrative support staff of the Mayor’s Office already serves our community well; this position is intended to enhance the operations of the Office of the Mayor and provide much needed additional support to the Office as the constant, and always growing, demands of the Mayor’s Office cannot continue to be met without this additional permanent support. Please note that as Mayor I considered a variety of options within the organizational structure of the Office of the Mayor. It is my belief that this position, at this time, in this fiscal environment is in the best interest of the City as a whole and I therefore respectfully request the support of Your Honorable Body for the Constituent Services Administrator.

17/5/19/15 – REFERRED TO COMMITTEE—PERSONNEL & HUMAN SERVICES

Sincerely,

Kevin J. Dumas, *Mayor*

Mayor Dumas appeared before the Council and distributed the General Government Budget and the Water and Waste Water Enterprise Budgets. He read the following statement into the record:

May 19, 2015

*Mr. Frank B. Cook, President
Attleboro Municipal Council
City Hall, Government Center*

77 Park Street
Attleboro, MA 02703

RE: FY2016 General Government Budget

Dear President Cook and Honorable Municipal Councilors:

I respectfully submit herewith the City of Attleboro's Annual Budget for Fiscal year 2016. The attached budget totals \$121,160,860.64, which represents a .48% increase from Fiscal year 2015's revised budget of \$120,579,520.87.

Although this budget continues to provide level services, it has been one of the most challenging budgets to balance in recent memory, given several factors. First and foremost, this budget reflects my Administration's promise to invest in our education system. For the second year in a row, this budget reflects a school appropriation that is \$1,000,000.00 above the Net School Spending requirement. That level of funding is unprecedented in Attleboro, and I am proud that Your Honorable Body supported that commitment in FY2015. I ask that you joint with me as we continue that level of investment into FY2016. In addition, this budget reflects a school transportation budget that is more in line with not only contractual obligations but also more reasonable projections for the ever-increasing costs of out-of-district special education and homeless (McKinney-Vento) transportation. Finally, and while I understand and appreciate the School Committee's role in requesting a nearly \$74,000,000.00 budget (including transportation), the additional \$4.6 million dollars it seeks simply does not exist. Just to put that dollar value into perspective, the City would have to close the Department of Council on Aging, the Veterans Department, the Public Library, the Recreation Department and the entire Park and Forestry Department; and even then there would still be a \$458, 000.00 shortfall. Many, many hours, and a great deal of effort have gone into preparing a budget that responsibly and realistically continues the many citywide services that our citizens have come to enjoy and respect. I hope you will join me in thanking the members of my staff and those department heads who do recognize the reality of limited funds.

Second, the time has come for the Commonwealth to reexamine how it funds our educational needs. Under the Education Reform Act, passed in 1993, the Commonwealth has been using a formula for distributing aid to local school districts. Many, including myself, feel this formula is outdate and fails to take into consideration factors that have emerged since 1993. I now sit on the Foundation Budget Review Commission, whose 21 member charge is to "review the way in which foundation budgets are calculated and to make recommendations to the general court regarding changes that may be appropriate." I remain hopeful that the recommendations of the FBRC, and the Legislature's adoption of those recommendations, will result in a new funding formula that will have a positive impact on cities like Attleboro in FY2017.

Third, and as we remember all too well, this past winter brought record-breaking snowfall and corresponding costs of snow and ice removal. Between January 26-28, 2015, the City of

Attleboro, like most cities and towns in Massachusetts, experienced a snowstorm so severe that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency declared it a federal disaster event. And although the City will seek as much Federal disaster relief for that event as possible, we are told that the most we can recapture is 75% of a single 48 hour period in that one event. Those limited reimbursement funds pale in light of the fact that the January 26, 2015 event was just the beginning of an unprecedented 28-day weather event that brought record snowfall and bitter cold temperatures to the Commonwealth. All tolled, the City of Attleboro spent \$1,480,251.80 on snow and ice removal in FY2015. Recognizing the devastating effect that these snow removal costs would have on the operating budgets of our cities and towns, the Massachusetts Legislature provided an opportunity that would allow municipalities to amortize their FY2015 snow and ice removal account deficits over the next three fiscal years in equal installments or more rapidly. I sincerely believe that it is in the best interests of Attleboro to take advantage of this opportunity, and I ask for your support in adopting Chapter 10, Section 58 of the Acts of 2015.

Fourth, this budget reflects the reality of the ever-increasing cost of health insurance. Nevertheless, I am relatively pleased that we have managed to hold this years' overall health insurance increases to single digits. At a time when many other cities and town are experiencing double digit increases, I am appreciative of the cooperation shown by our employees to help manage these costs in the most efficient manner.

But to help offset the budgetary impact of our school investments and the snow deficit in particular, I am recommending that the City temporarily utilize \$400,000.00 from our Stabilization Fund. It is my intention, as I have done in the past, to return these funds back to the Stabilization Fund once Free Cash is certified in the Fall.

This budget also reflects several important changes that are designed to help provide our services more efficiently. In the Mayor's Department, for example, you will see a \$45,000.00 reduction in the City Solicitor account. These savings reflect my intention to bring current City Solicitor, Robert Mangiaratti, to City Hall on a full-time basis. This is an exciting opportunity for the City, and I am very much looking forward to the efficiency of having Attorney Mangiaratti's presence at City Hall as part of our full time staff.

On a more global basis, we also took a critical look at several of our revolving funds to determine whether their successes could provide an opportunity to shift some expenses that have been, up to now, covered by the General Fund. Under the Parking Enforcement Department in the General Government Budget, you will see a savings of \$10,000.00, which represents the shifting of the Parking Enforcement Services (ComPlus) to the Parking Administration Revolving Fund. Similarly, in the park and Forestry Department, this budget reflects the shifting of the Zoo Director's position to the Zoo Revolving Fund. Finally, in the Fire Department, this budget reflects the shifting of the full-time ALS Director's position to the Fire Ambulances Revolving Fund. These changes help lower City government expenses without negatively affecting services to the citizens, as requested by Your Honorable Body the FY2015 message. In addition, these changes help continue the goal of making our revolving funds more-self-sustaining.

This budget also contains the results of a new Indirect Cost Study, as recommended by Your Honorable Body in its FY2015 Budget Message. After a competitive procurement, the City hired the Abrahams Group to prepare a cost allocation plan. After a comprehensive process, which included in-person meetings with staff from virtually every department as well as an in-depth review of the City's financial data, the Abrahams Group produced one of the most detailed and comprehensive reports I can recall. Although the new indirect rates have been calculated and applied to this budget, the final report is still being formatted for public view, and I expect it shortly.

I am also pleased to submit a budget that requires no increase in our Solid Waste Collections Program for FY2016. This program, in addition to the many other qualities of life programs and services provided under this budget, remain the hallmark of what it means to live in Attleboro. Citizens need not travel very far from their homes to see the incredible progress here in Attleboro. Whether it's a new private development happening in South Attleboro and downtown Attleboro, and soon in the Industrial Business Park, or the municipal improvements on Riverfront Drive, the new DPW Storage and Maintenance Facility, or the new roadway improvements at Tiffany Street and South Avenue, we continue to move forward in Attleboro. Finally, I'm sure you will join me as we open the City's new Animal Shelter on Pond Street and the new Concession Stand at Attleboro High School.

I end my message to you in much the same way I began it. This FY2016 budget has been one of the most challenging of any budget I have submitted to Your Honorable Body. But one thing has remained true in all of my budget recommendations. I, like you, believe in Attleboro, and I believe in Blue Pride. So while other communities face significant budget crisis, cut basic services, and seek Proposition 2 ½ Overrides, I am proud that we in Attleboro continue to find new ways to responsibly move this great city forward, while never forgetting that we must live within our economic means.

To that end, I wish to publicly thank Your Honorable Body, as well as the many dedicated employees who made this budget possible as well as the employees who help make this City great.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin J. Dumas, Mayor

President Cook announced that the Budget Department meetings would start on Thursday, May 21st.

Mayor Dumas read the following Water and Wastewater Budgets into the record.

May 19, 2015

*Mr. Frank B. Cook, President
Attleboro Municipal Council*

City Hall, Government Center
77 Park Street
Attleboro, MA 02703

RE FY2016 Enterprise Budgets

Dear President Cook and Honorable Municipal Councilors:

In accordance with Chapter 44, Section 53F1/2 of the Massachusetts General Laws, I am pleased to submit herewith my proposed FY2016 Water Enterprise Budget of \$6,424,658.34 and Wastewater Enterprise Budget of \$9,849,117.72.

I am also pleased to report that the FY2016 Water Enterprise Budget represents a 6.87% decrease from FY2015 revised budget, and that there will be no need for a water rate adjustment of FY2016. This decrease is largely due to the use of retained earnings during the year to help move several capital improvements forward, including the Wading River East and West Basins (\$328,607), the purchase of a safety trailer and heavy truck (\$71,274), the replacement of 1,100 water meters (\$237,000) and the design of the new Water Maintenance Building (\$88,000), among others.

In December of 2014, Your Honorable Body approved the \$4,900,000 loan authorization to complete the necessary repairs to the City's West and East Basins at the Wading River Pumping Station, located in Mansfield. I am pleased to report that the repairs are now approximately 70% complete. Once fully on line, the City must provide for the proper upkeep and maintenance of these wells to ensure they operate as efficiently as possible. Therefore, future Water Department budgets will require a line item specifically for the maintenance of these wells.

The Hoppin Hill Dam repair project also continues to progress. The design is substantially complete, and permitting has begun.

In addition, I am also pleased to report that our favorable balance in the Water Retained Earnings allows us to utilize a modest amount to help maintain the current water rate, with no increase. To achieve this objective, an appropriation is, therefore, requested in the amount of \$70,000.00 from the Water Retained Earnings.

In FY2016, we finally reach the end of the need for the Water Grant Reserve. Congratulations are in order to Your Honorable Body for supporting the policy of annually raising and placing aside funds for this Water Grant Reserve. Had you not supported the establishment of this reserve, the water rate would have been burdened this year by an additional \$16,514.38 of debt. An appropriation is, therefore, requested in the amount of \$16,514.38 from this Water Grant Reserve to subsidize the FY2016 Water Enterprise Fund.

I am also pleased to report that the FY2016 Wastewater enterprise Budget represents a .35% decrease from the FY2015 revised budget, and that there will be no need for a wastewater rate adjustment of FY2016. Similar to the Water Department, this decrease reflects the use

of retained earnings during the year to help move several capital improvements forward, including the replacement of an F350 truck, the design & engineering services to replace a sewer main on Brownell Street, design services for upgrades to the Nitrogen Pilot Plant as well as the reimbursement for its percentage share of water meters from the Water Department.

The FY2016 Wastewater Department debt section reflects a decrease of \$67,120.36 or 1.54% in total debt service. In the upcoming months, my administration will be putting forth a plan for a new sludge landfill project for your consideration.

As with the Water Department, I am also pleased to report that our favorable balance in the Wastewater Retained Earnings allows us to utilize a modest amount to help maintain the current wastewater rate, with no increase. To achieve this objective, an appropriation is, therefore, requested in the amount of \$100,000.00 from Wastewater Retained Earnings.

I strongly believe that the rates we set for each of these Enterprise Funds should be true to the conservative philosophy of enterprise funding; that is, to fully fund the expenses anticipated in a given fiscal year, and moreover, operate the funds so that they are truly solvent. As I mentioned in my General Government Budget Message, these Enterprise budgets reflect the results of a new Indirect Cost Study, as recommended by Your Honorable Body in your FY2015 Budget Message. After a competitive bid, the City hired the Abrahams Group to prepare a cost allocation plan. After a comprehensive process, which included in-person meetings with staff from virtually every department as well as an in-depth review of the City's financial data, the Abrahams Group produced one of the most detailed and comprehensive reports I can recall. Although the new indirect rates have been calculated and applied to the budgets, the final report is still being formatted for public view, and I expect it shortly.

We have and will continue to carefully scrutinize all expenditures by these two Enterprise Department, I want to express to the public that we are every mindful to curb expenses as much as possible that lead to the least rate increase. As these Enterprise Budgets reflect, we have been able to continue providing valuable water and wastewater services without an increase in either of the rates in FY2016.

The continued financial viability of these two vital municipal services depends on our skillful and forthright stewardship. I look forward to discussing these budgets with Your Honorable Body.

Respectfully Submitted:

Kevin J. Dumas

Mr. Denlea thanked the Mayor and his staff for their hard work.

Mr. Kirby thanked the Mayor and his staff for bringing the budget to the Council and that this is the earliest that the budget has been submitted.

Mayor Dumas discussed the work that went into the budget preparation and the new developments throughout the city. He stated that the Administration has worked hard and that the City needs to continue investing in long-term wealth.

Ms. Heagney thanked the Mayor and his staff.

Mr. Thibodeau discussed the overlay funding for the senior program and asked if the senior abatement could be increased.

Mayor Dumas advised Mr. Thibodeau that he would meet with Council on Aging Director McNeilly and Chief Assessor Nacewicz to discuss this matter.

Mayor Dumas stated that the budget is not an easy task and thanked Budget Director Barry LaCasse for his work.

VOTED: TO GO INTO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE at 9:02 P.M. to hear anyone who wishes to speak on any matter pertaining to City business.

No one appeared at the Committee of the Whole.

VOTED: TO ARISE at 9:03 P.M.

The Council took a brief recess.

The Council resumed the meeting at 9:12 P.M.

City Clerk Elizabeth Shockroo read the following communication into the record:

Application from the Attleboro Zoning Board of Appeals relative to amending relative to amending certain sections pertaining the Flood Plain District of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Attleboro, specifically §17-12.1 GENERAL relative to map panel numbers and a date; §17-12.2 DEFINITIONS, Mean Seal Level and Floodway; and §17-12.6.3(A)(3)(A) SPECIAL PERMITS by deleting the reference to “120G” of the State Building Code 780 CMR. REFERRED TO THE ORDINANCE, ELECTIONS AND LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE AND TO THE PLANNING BOARD FOR STUDY)

A motion was made, duly seconded and unanimously voted to refer the following matter to the Planning Board for study and recommendation and to hold a **JOINT PUBLIC HEARING on Tuesday, June 2, 2015** relative to amending certain sections pertaining the Flood Plain District of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Attleboro, specifically §17-12.1 GENERAL relative to map panel numbers and a date; §17-12.2 DEFINITIONS, Mean Seal Level and Floodway; and §17-12.6.3(A)(3)(A) SPECIAL PERMITS by deleting the reference to “120G” of the State Building Code 780 CMR.

--Approved by the Mayor on Thursday, May 21, 2015

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

On recommendation of the **Ordinance, Elections and Legislative Matter Committee** and on motion of Mr. Denlea, the following vote was taken:

1. Voted unanimously to hold a **PUBLIC HEARING on Tuesday, June 2, 2015** to amend the Revised Ordinances of the City of Attleboro by inserting a new Section 11-18, NICOTINE DELIVERY PRODUCTS.

--Approved by the Mayor on Tuesday, May 21, 2015

Mr. Denlea called for an Ordinance, Elections and Legislative Matters Committee meeting on Tuesday, May 26, 2015.

On recommendation of the **License Committee** and on motion of Mr. Churchill, the following votes were taken:

1. Voted unanimously to approve the application for a 2015 Hackney Carriage Public Stand License from Houle's City Cabs, 70 Park Street, Attleboro, MA for nine cabs.

--Approved by the Mayor on Thursday, May 21, 2015

2. Voted unanimously to approve the following applications for 2015 Renewal Hackney Carriage Driver's Licenses from:

- James David Philibert, 37 Pleasant Street, #6, Norton, MA
- Jeffrey A. Hunt, 53 Emory Street, Attleboro, MA
- Caryn Elizabeth Smith, 38 N. Main Street, Attleboro, MA
- Jeffrey C. Fasulo, 65 N Main Street, P.O. Box 12, Attleboro, MA
- Kathleen A Kade Birks, 168 N Main Street, Attleboro, MA
- Dennis R O'Donnell, 126 Wilmarth Street, Attleboro, MA

--Approved by the Mayor on Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. Churchill called for a License Committee meeting on Tuesday, May 26, 2015.

On recommendation of the **Capital Improvements & City Development** Committee and on motion of Mr. Conti, the following votes were taken:

1. Voted on Roll Call—10 yeas—0 nays (Weydt absent) to approve the request of the Mayor to transfer \$92,172.53 from Account 6000-359000 (Wastewater Enterprise Retained Earnings) to Account 6000-553150 (Wastewater – Water Meter Supplies) to cover the cost of 915 water meters that were installed at locations with water and sewer accounts.

--Approved by the Mayor on Thursday, May 21, 2015

2. Voted on Roll Call—10 yeas—0 nays to approve the request of the Mayor to appropriate \$22,220.00 from Account 6100-359000 (Water Enterprise Fund – Retained Earnings) to Account 6100-530101 (Water Enterprise Fund – Professional Services) to upgrade the electrical service at the Water Plant.

--Approved by the Mayor on Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. Conti called for a Capital Improvement & City Development Committee meeting on Tuesday, May 26, 2015.

On recommendation of the **Budget & Appropriations Committee** and on motion of Mr. Kirby, the following votes were taken:

Ms. Heagney abstained from the following vote and left the Council Chambers.

1. Voted on Roll Call—9 yeas—0 nays (Heagney abstained and left the Council Chambers) to approve the request of the Mayor to transfer \$94,543.19 from Account 11241000-578360 (City Wide-Reserve for Compensation 53rd Week) and to appropriate \$40,311.85 from Account 1000-359000 (Undesignated Fund Balance/Free Cash) to accounts as follows:

- \$ 594.88 to Account 11111000-511000 (Council-Salary)
- \$ 3,170.47 to Account 11211000-511000 (Mayor-Salary & Wages)
- \$ 987.54 to Account 11211000-511000 (Budget & Administration-Salary)
- \$ 775.00 to Account 11351000-511000 (Auditor-Salary & Wages)
- \$ 842.30 to Account 11411000-511000 (Assessor-Salary)
- \$ 1,001.86 to Account 11461000-511000 (Collector-Salary)
- \$ 1,779.91 to Account 11611000-511000 (Clerk-Salary)
- \$ 1,134.71 to Account 11751000-511000 (Planning & Land Use-Salary)
- \$54,025.71 to Account 12101000-511000 (Police-Salary)
- \$ 39.68 to Account 12111000-511000 (Parking Enforcement-Salary)
- \$53,250.00 to Account 12201000-511000 (Fire-Salary & Wages)
- \$ 2,875.54 to Account 12401000-511000 (Protective Inspection-Salary & Wages)
- \$ 340.04 to Account 12921000-511000 (Animal Control-Salary)
- \$ 7,935.91 to Account 14201000-511000 (Public Works-Salary)
- \$ 2,851.38 to Account 15101000-511000 (Health-Salary)
- \$ 2,339.69 to Account 15411000-511000 (Council on Aging-Salary & Wages)
- \$ 910.42 to Account 15431000-511000 (Veterans-Salary)

--Approved by the Mayor on Thursday, May 21, 2015

2. Voted on Roll Call—10 yeas—0 nays to approve the request of the Mayor to transfer \$14,835.57 from Account 6000-578360 (Wastewater Reserve for 53rd Week) and to appropriate \$756.09 from Account 6000-359000 (Wastewater Enterprise Fund-Retained Earnings) to Account 6000-511000 (Wastewater Enterprise Fund-Salaries).

--Approved by the Mayor on Thursday, May 21, 2015

3. Voted on Roll Call—10 yeas—0 nays to approve the request of the Mayor to transfer \$11,165.11 from Account 6100-578360 (Water Enterprise Fund - Reserve for 53rd Week) to Account 6100-511000 (Water Enterprise Fund-Salaries).

--Approved by the Mayor on Thursday, May 21, 2015

4. Voted on Roll Call—10 yeas—0 nays, pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 184, §32 and M.G.L. Ch. 40, § 8C, to approve the grant by the Attleboro Conservation Commission of a

Conservation Restriction, more fully described in the document set forth as Attachment A (*Conservation Restriction To Mass Audubon And Attleboro Land Trust-Handy Street Conservation Area*), to the Attleboro Land Trust, Inc. and the Massachusetts Audubon Society, Inc., on two parcels of land located in the City of Attleboro, Massachusetts, as described in deeds recorded at Book 21685, Page 270, and Book 21685, Page 274, in the Bristol North District Registry of Deeds. Further, that the Municipal Council, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53A, hereby approves the acceptance by the Attleboro Conservation Commission of \$25,000.00 paid in consideration of the above-referenced Conservation Restriction.

--Approved by the Mayor on Thursday, May 21, 2015

5. Voted unanimously to strike the following item from the Docket of May 5, 2015: In accordance to M.G.L. Chapter 30B, Section 12, subsection b, the School Department's 60 month lease with ACT Leasing Inc for eight (8) Ford Transit vans in the Transportation Department.

--Approved by the Mayor on Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. Kirby called for a Budget & Appropriations Committee meeting on Tuesday, May 26, 2015.

Mr. Kirby reminded Councilors that the first of the department budget meetings would be held on Thursday, May 21, 2015 at 5:30 P.M.

He reminded Councilors that the Ten Mile River Cleanup (meet at Community Gardens on Mechanic Street) would be held on Saturday, May 23rd from 8 A.M. to 11 A.M.

On recommendation of the **Public Works Committee** and on motion of Mr. Blais, the following votes were taken:

1. Voted on Roll Call—10 yeas—0 nays to authorize the Mayor to execute and submit a Municipal Aggregation Plan for Electric Service to the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities for review and approval.

--Approved by the Mayor on Thursday, May 21, 2015

2. Voted on Roll Call—10 yeas—0 nays to approve the request of the Mayor to appropriate \$40,000.00 from Account 1000-359000 (Undesignated Fund Balance/Free Cash) to Account 11241000-521030 (City Wide – Street Lights) due to the increase of usage and rate increase.

--Approved by the Mayor on Thursday, May 21, 2015

3. Voted on Roll Call—10 yeas—0 nays to approve the request of the Mayor to transfer \$19,000.00 from Account 11241000-578300 (City Wide – Reserve Fund for Transfer) due to an increase of usage to the following accounts:

\$12,000.00 to Account 11241000-521005 (City Wide – Water)

\$ 7,000.00 to Account 11241000-521006 (City Wide – Sewer)

--Approved by the Mayor on Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. Blais called for a Public Works Committee meeting on Tuesday, May 26, 2015.

Mr. Thibodeau called for a Transportation & Traffic Committee meeting on Tuesday, May 26, 2015.

On recommendation of the **Public Safety & Emergency Management Committee** and on motion of Mr. Cooper, the following votes were taken:

1. Voted on Roll Call—10 yeas—0 nays to approve the request of the Mayor to transfer \$6,717.08 from Account 12101000-511000 (Police – Salary and Wages Full Time) to Account 12101000-524011 (Police – Building Maintenance) to continue using the services of a janitorial company as the police department custodian will be out of work for the next several months.

--Approved by the Mayor on Thursday, May 21, 2015

2. Voted on Roll Call—10 yeas—0 nays to approve the request of the Mayor to transfer \$150.00 from Account 11241000-5783000 (City Wide – Reserve Fund for Transfer) to Account 12201000-514035 (Fire – Prior Year Longevity) regarding the need for funds for a prior year longevity payment due to a change in credible service date for an employee.

--Approved by the Mayor on Thursday, May 21, 2015

On behalf of Mr. Weydt, Mr. Cooper called for a Zoning & Land Use Committee meeting on Tuesday, May 26, 2015.

Mr. Cooper called for a Public Safety & Emergency Management Committee meeting on Tuesday, May 26, 2015.

On recommendation of the **City Property & Claims Committee** and on motion of Ms. Porreca, the following votes were taken:

1. Voted unanimously, in accordance with Section 1-12 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Attleboro, to accept the donation of a Vitapur water cooler with an estimated retail value of \$100.00 to the Attleboro Municipal Council.

--Approved by the Mayor on Thursday, May 21, 2015

2. Voted on Roll Call—10 yeas—0 nays, in accordance with Section 2-12 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Attleboro, to declare the Water Department items as surplus and available for disposition:

<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>CONDITION</u>
240	Water Meters	Used

--Approved by the Mayor on Thursday, May 21, 2015

3. Voted unanimously, in accordance with Section 1-12 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Attleboro, to accept the donation of eight (8) trees; two (2) Zalcove, two (2) Tupelo, two (2) Sweet Gum, and two (2) Honey Locust (estimated value is \$2,500.00) from National Grid.

--Approved by the Mayor on Thursday, May 21, 2015

Ms. Porreca called for a City Property & Claims Committee meeting on Tuesday, May 26, 2015.

On recommendation of the **Personnel & Human Services Committee** and on motion of Ms. Heagney, the following vote was taken:

1. Voted on Roll Call—10 yeas—0 nays to approve the request of the Mayor transfer \$520.00 from Account 11241000-5783000 (City Wide – Reserve Fund for Transfer) to Account 11751000-513000 (Planning – Overtime) due to an increase in both the hourly rate and evening meeting hours as compared to last fiscal year.

--Approved by the Mayor on Thursday, May 21, 2015

Ms. Heagney called for a Personnel & Human Services Committee meeting on Tuesday, May 26, 2015.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

VOTED: TO ADJOURN at 9:58 P.M.

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk/Clerk of the Council

MINUTES APPROVED BY COUNCIL: _____
(DATE)