

BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE

MAY 22, 2023

A meeting of the Budget Review Committee was held Monday, May 22, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

Alderman Richard A. Dowd, Chairman, presided.

Let's start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance.

Members of Committee present: Alderman Richard A. Dowd, Chairman
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
Alderman June M. Caron
Alderman Ernest Jette
Alderman John Sullivan

Members not in Attendance: Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly

Also in Attendance: Alderman Ernest A. Jette
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Matt Sullivan, Community Development Director
Sam Durfee, Planning Manager
Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager
William McKinney, Building Manager
Nelson Ortega, Code Enforcement Manager
Camille Correa, Transit Administrator
Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

COMMUNICATIONS - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS - None

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES – None

TABLED IN COMMITTEE

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN TO REMOVE FROM THE TABLE R-23-125
MOTION CARRIED**

R-23-125

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

**RELATIVE TO THE ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF
NASHUA GENERAL, ENTERPRISE, SPECIAL REVENUE AND GRANT FUNDS**

DEPARTMENTAL REVIEWS OF THE PROPOSED FY23 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF NASHUA

<u>Dept. #</u>		<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Appropriations</u>
	<u>Community Development Division</u>		
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155	Code Enforcement		165

170	Hydroelectric Operations	181	181
181	Community Development	157	
182	Planning & Zoning	173	173
185	Sustainability		169
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109	Civic & Community Activities		39
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Chairman Dowd

This evening we're going to be discussion Community Development Division. Director Sullivan you want to bring everybody up? After you give your opening, we're going to be starting with Building Inspection with revenues on 161 and appropriations on 162. If you'd like to give an overview.

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

Sure. Thank you, Mr. Chair. For the record, Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you this evening as we do every year and thank you for providing some real estate for members of our team to sit with you and join you this evening. I know that you have an opportunity to work with many of these folks in their various capacities but you'll have an opportunity this evening to hear briefly from them on the work that they've done in 2023, and what they're looking forward to in 2024, and certainly the budget to support those efforts as well. I tend to believe myself and I know you all appreciate this is a good opportunity to build relationships with the folks who are doing the work on behalf of the City. So they'll probably kick me for saying this but do you have any questions unrelated to the budget that we might answer tonight we're happy to do that as well subject to the permission of the Chair of course.

Chairman Dowd

As long as it's associated with the budget as part of your Division.

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

So again, thank you for the opportunity to speak this evening. I wanted to quickly introduce members of the team. I expect they'll do so after I do this briefly. Down to the left we have Camille Correa, the Nashua Transit System Administrator; we have Sam Durfee, our newest member of the management team within the Planning and Zoning Department. I'm Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director; Nelson Ortega - the longest tenured of the managers here in the City and our Code Enforcement Department Manager; Julian Long with Urban Programs; Deb Chisholm of Sustainability; and last but certainly not least Bill McKinney our Building Official and Building and Safety Department Manager.

Mr. Chair if I may I want to quickly make a few comments to provide some context through the discussion tonight as I have done in the past. I want to start by communicating perhaps the most blunt message of the evening and that is that the budget before you this evening on behalf of Community Development represents an increase of 8.1% from the prior fiscal year. I do want to take a minute to quickly qualify what's behind that 8.1% because it's not simply an increase of salaries or any clear line items. There are in fact two items that lead to that substantial increase and I want to quickly touch on those.

The first is actually the result of substantial conversations over the last year with the Mayor, and the financial management team, and of those in leadership about the movement of certain expenses that have traditionally been done as part of what we refer to as the escrow process but sort of the supplemental budget process. Movement of items that are traditionally considered operating expenses as part of that escrow process into the place where they truly belong, that being the operating budget. So the example that you'll see this evening when I speak about my Community Development budget is the movement of Your Voice, Your Choice. The City's participatory budgeting program into the Community Development budget proper so that it becomes a part of our programming on a year-to-year basis moving forward and certainly based on many continuous and consecutive years of successful implementation of that program. So that's been moved into the Community Development budget.

The second is actually a modification in the hydroelectric operations budget and so substantial change. That is the result of a contract approved by this body as part of the Finance Committee process last year when we modified our contract

with Essex Hydroelectric who's responsible for the day-to-day operations of the two hydroelectric facilities here in the City of Nashua. That contract underwent not only a monetary change or a compensation change but also a structural change in the way that their expenses are charged to the City and therefore the monies that were owed to them at the end of each quarter. Ms. Chisholm will speak to that modification in a bit more detail as we get into her section of the budget but together, those are two substantial modifications to our budget.

Removing those two for just a moment, our budget actually represents an increase of 3.8%. Much more in line with the Mayor's guidance on operational budgets this year. With the exception of those modifications, the two primary changes are of course salaries and benefits. In fact, that's really the only changes you'll see within the budgets presented before you this evening and represent very de minimus modifications.

I did want to get ahead of a few questions. I fortunately or unfortunately depending upon how you look at it, watch each of your Budget Review meetings to-date. I've seen some consistent questions that have been asked related to staffing and of course to changes made as part of the mayoral budget review process. We currently have three and soon to be four open positions across Community Development. One each within the Sustainability Department, the Building Safety Department, the Code Enforcement Department, and one that may be pending with our Transit Department as well that we're aware of. I think you'll hear this evening and I'll certainly reiterate for the record that despite even some long standing vacancies in those positions, the Department Managers before you this evening will speak to the criticality of those positions moving forward in ensuring that their departments and certainly our Division is executing to the highest extent possible or to the maximum efficiency possible. So certainly we have plans to fill each of those four positions moving forward and we can speak to those details this evening.

I also want to speak just briefly to the fact that we've had some in depth conversations as part of the finance process and two contracts and one bond that came before you over the last year since our last budget process. One being the hydroelectric facility \$1.5 million dollars that was discussed in some detail. The other being the First Transit contract or operational provider for the Nashua Transit System and the increase that just was recently approved and the third being a modification to that Essex Hydroelectric provider contract. All three of those I think resulted in a more in depth conversation than I believe we're expecting tonight or that the Chair is expecting tonight but certainly we're happy to address some higher level questions related to each of those increases and to the extent they impact the operational budget.

Finally, I just wanted to touch on those modifications that were made subsequent to the mayoral review process. I know that's an important part of this committee's consideration and I want to comment briefly that we had several, or I myself, had several meetings of review with the Mayor and the budget team, including CFO Griffin, Administrative Services Director Tim Cummings, Strategic Initiatives Analyst Megan Caron, and of course our Senior Finance Manager Janet Graziano. We did have several requests or multiple requests I should say not several but multiple requests that we ultimately modified and removed from the budgets that you'll see before you this evening mostly related to the capacity that we're seeing from permits and land use activities generally. We're seeing a lot of activity in that regard so I think our Department Managers brought forward some requests that they're seeing some need for but ultimately through that collaborative budget process and really being a part of the city team when it comes to budgeting and respecting the City's goals for financial health over the coming year, we ultimately come before you this evening being fully supportive of the components included in the budgets before you and fully comfortable to move forward what's been proposed. We thank everyone involved in the budgeting process that resulted in this budget being presented to you.

Lastly, I'll just say that Urban Programs is listed on your agenda for this evening but as is the case in prior years with Urban Programs being fully federally funded, we do not plan to present or discuss that budget in detail this evening. Urban Programs Manager Julian Long who has a great depth of knowledge about the department's operations and ongoing activities is happy to answer questions subsequent to this meeting or any point in time. We do not intend to address that directly this evening again, based on that federal funding component.

With that Mr. Chair at your pleasure, I'd like to pass it off to Mr. Bill McKinney to provide an overview of the Building Safety Department and their activities.

William McKinney, Building Manager

Thank you Chairman Dowd and members of the Committee. I'm Bill McKinney. I'm the Building Official and Manager for the Department of Building Safety for the City of Nashua. I'm going to give a quick summary of our budget if you will. So beginning in FY24, we're proposing a budget of \$852,117, which is a 4.2% increase over FY2023. Most of our significant increases in our budget are union contractual obligations related to salaries and benefits.

Our department remains quite busy. As you know in 2022, we were very busy. We remain very busy in FY2023 and I foresee in FY24 we will. In the last year-to-date, we've issued 990 permits which is a 7.4% increase over FY22 and then 7,277 inspections have been conducted which is a 4.8% increase over FY22. I will note that in the past two years, we've seen an 18.4% increase in permit activity and a 35.8% increase in inspectional services.

In FY23 we are completing our biannual permit review fee review that we do to try and keep us in line with increasing costs as well as keeping in line with other communities as far as permitting expenses. That will be forwarded to the Board of Aldermen in the next few weeks. Just to give you a quick overview of how important the bi-annual fee review is, if you remember, that's a program we instituted in 2013. In FY21, our expenses exceeded revenues by \$115,000. That year we completed our permit fee review and with the support of the Aldermen, they enacted our recommendations. In FY22, our revenues exceeded expenses by \$221,000 and so far in FY23, our revenues are exceeding expenses \$215,000 to-date.

FY23 we will also complete our review and amend NRO - the Nashua Revised Ordinance Article 105 Building Construction to more comply with the State's 2018 Codes that we have several amendments that we need to get approved. If you're not aware, the State of New Hampshire amended the whole process for doing local amendments and it's a more complicated process with review through the Building Code Review Board. So we've removed quite a few of the amendments we used to have and we've restructured some of the amendments.

In FY23, we transitioned the department to digital codes. What this does for us is that we've been able to eliminate a majority of our paper codes that you see - the thick books that hang around our office - and now all of the codes are available 24/7 to all of our inspectors through their tablets and laptops. This also provides us access to more code and standards that we would have to pay for if we needed them. Now we get the access to them through this program. What this also does for us is it provides for more level budgeting than the peaks and valleys that we would do every three years for code adoption. If you remember years between code adoptions, we'd lower that budget line item and then a year of a code adoption we'd have to increase it again to purchase all the code books. Now we just pay the annual fee and we're more level.

In FY24, we proposed a part-time Permit Technician in the department that as Director Sullivan mentioned we did end up removing that from the budget just due to the current fiscal climate. We have one position currently that is not filled. We have advertised the position and we are accepting applications for that. That is our Building Inspector and Assistant Plans Examiner. This is an extremely important position for our department in that it helps support our Chief Plans Examiner and it also is one of our primary inspectors in the field. To give you an idea of since we've lost that position or since we lost that person in October, our review times for residential projects have gone to four weeks and beyond which are typically two week review times. Our commercial review times are currently running at six to eight weeks and that's typically a four to six week review time. Inspections are now scheduled three to four days in advance and most recently when we had another inspector out, we were scheduling a week and a week and a half in advance. Those are typically our all of our inspection requests when we have a full staff are typically honored within 24 hours. So this is an extremely important position and I would request your support that we continue with this position. With that, that is my brief summary and I'll entertain any questions.

Chairman Dowd

Thank you. Questions? Alderman Jette?

Alderman Jette

Thank you. So Mr. McKinney if I heard you correctly, you said that you're submitting a schedule of fees that's going to be an increase in fees. You're submitting that to the Aldermen and we're gonna?

William McKinney, Building Manager

I wouldn't say it's an overall increase in fees. There are some areas that will be increased to better address what our actual costs are. Permit review is one of those areas but as far as an overall fee increase, no. We are not doing that because I don't believe. As you can see with the revenues that we're generating, we need to do an overall increase. That doesn't make sense. We need to address some of our areas in our department that we do have expenses and I don't think we're fully covered.

Chairman Dowd

Follow up?

Alderman Jette

So you say that yet you said that you had wanted another person but you removed that in order to comply with the Mayor's directive about keeping a budget down. If you increase your fees, you'd be able to afford another person wouldn't you? My understanding is that you don't have enough people to do the work you need to do and that you could use some extra help. If you increased your fees, that would pay for that and it wouldn't require and we'd be able to get around the Mayor's directive wouldn't you?

William McKinney, Building Manager

I do agree with that.

Alderman Jette

Okay, so...

Chairman Dowd

Do you want to add something Director Sullivan?

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

I believe Alderman Jette may still be talking and I didn't want to interrupt?

Alderman Jette

Well I'm looking for your answer. My question is so why don't we increase the fees to hire the people you need?

Chairman Dowd

Yes, go ahead.

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

The short answer to that Alderman Jette is that unlike some of the other departments within the City, the Building Safety Department does not operate - it doesn't operate directly nor indirectly as an enterprise fund. The intent is not to cover expenses with revenues. Frankly, there's a lot of danger in my opinion in doing that. We don't operate our Planning Department that way. We don't operate other departments - Code Enforcement that way because I would argue, and it's not the case in Building Safety, but it can have unexpected consequences when it comes to review and it can unnecessarily drive permit fees up when that might not actually be justified. So Mr. McKinney and I have spoken about this in some detail. I think we've both seen that in other communities and have seen that attempts to see that implemented.

The reality is that when creating staff positions and planning for staff, neither Mr. McKinney nor any of the other departments here do that solely in the context of the revenues that they're collecting. We really do it in the sense of, and I want to point out we're in a very pro-growth period right now, we're trying to create a stable staffing plan long term. So while it may be very clear today that it makes sense to bring on staff person, two years from now, three years from now, potentially when the economy changes there may be a need to then remove that staff position and we really would like to avoid doing that if at all possible.

Now to Mr. McKinney's point, we certainly have a need right now but that biennial review has not - that fee modification has not been done. That's not in place and so it would have been premature to explore any potential staff addition right now until that's actually approved by the Board of Aldermen. I've given you a long answer, but there are a lot of reasons why we don't simply throttle up staff capacity in numbers based on the revenues that we're collecting within our departments.

Chairman Dowd

All set Alderman Jette?

Alderman Jette

Yeah, I guess I would just like to comment. I guess we have a different opinion. I think that the Building Department for example provides a service. People who are building buildings like these developers that are building these office buildings, or apartment buildings, or whatever, you know, they have to have the buildings inspected. That enables them to do these projects and to sell the buildings, or rent the buildings, or whatever. It enables them to generate income for themselves. My feeling is that the City ought to be charging an appropriate fee for the service that it provides especially, I would think if I haven't spoken to any of these people so I may be completely wrong, but I think one of the complaints is that they're not trying to shirk these inspections. They want these inspections the sooner the better. So if it's going to cost them a little extra money to get the inspection done so that they can get their project done, I think they'd be more than willing to pay that. That's my opinion.

Chairman Dowd

Okay. Alderman Sullivan?

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was looking at last year's budget and the objectives that you had laid out and then tying them into this year as objectives. One I had a question on which was activation of customer portal in permit and inspection software to allow for online permit applications, documents, and submittal of payment fees. Then over here for fiscal year objectives, Fiscal Year '24 objectives - continued implementation of electronic project and plan review process. I'm just going to assume but my question is how is that progressing? Did you start it in Fiscal Year '23 and is it proceeding nicely as planned? Kind of what's the status bar update on that?

Chairman Dowd

Mr. McKinney?

William McKinney, Building Manager

How shall I say this? I think nothing in government really moves at the pace that I'd like it. But yes, it's a long range plan that we have. It's been a multi-year project that we've been working on. As far we've made the purchase of the electronic plan review table. It's a matter of working. We've had to make some adjustments in our plan review room to accommodate that. IT's been working with us on that. We're in the final stages of bringing that table online. We're also working with our IT Department as far as the final steps of bringing on the portal. I'm hoping to have that within the next couple of months up and running. But again, it's a lengthy process of coordination with us, with our vendor, with the permit and inspection software, and with our IT Department so.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay. Follow up please?

Chairman Dowd

Follow up.

Alderman Sullivan

It sounds like a great idea. Help me understand. If money set aside in the current fiscal year, money set aside in the upcoming fiscal year for this project to either continue, come to fruition, make it happen dollars set aside for that versus what was completed. So what I'm trying to figure out is how much money did we put into this project? Doesn't sound like it's done yet. Is there money in the upcoming budget for that? How much is that?

William McKinney, Building Manager

All of those items were purchased when we bought the software for permitting and inspections. So it was a package that we purchased. It was paid for at that time. Now it's really just internal personnel to get it up and running.

Alderman Sullivan

Please?

Chairman Dowd

Follow up.

Alderman Sullivan

Do we know when we bought that software?

William McKinney, Building Manager

That software was purchased in 2018 and then we had a two year implementation. It will live in 2020 and then the last piece of it, they needed to train other departments in that software before we could put the online portal online. Those departments I believe are all up to speed now and we're working with the IT Department to bring our portal online.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay.

Chairman Dowd

All set?

Alderman Sullivan

Yes.

Chairman Dowd

Any other questions? Alderman Lopez?

Alderman Lopez

Okay so I have a question but I'm gonna start with a comment. I would make sure IT gets the time it needs to do it right because I don't really want to see everybody's property records get hacked.

In reference to the earlier questioning that Alderman Jette had and to the Chair Mr. McKinney, is it possible to create a tiered permitting fee structure or would that create like an inequity? Like if you have - if you say like okay you can get your response in a more expedited timeframe but you have to pay 20% more. Is there a way to do that without making it like okay now the people don't have the 20% are going to be in some kind of limbo?

William McKinney, Building Manager

The answer to that would be staffing. We do not have the staffing where we could on a consistent basis do expedited plan review and permitting. We would recommend someone go to third party which that is going to be one of the amendments that you'll see in the revised Ordinance that we would have the ability to send projects out for third party review to relieve some of the stress on our office rather than adding staff.

Chairman Dowd

All set?

Alderman Lopez

Yup.

Chairman Dowd

Any other questions? Alderman Caron?

Alderman Caron

Thank you. So I understand what Director Sullivan said about the proposed budget but is there anything within your budget that you wanted that was taken out that we should be aware of?

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

I think Mr. McKinney might say the same thing. I mean I think we're having - if you can find someone to fill the existing position that's vacant within the department, that's not necessarily something you'd see in the budget but I think above all else, that's Mr. McKinney's objective. That Plans Examiner position is critical in that it's both a field and an office position and is an important liaison. I would just emphasize the fact that there was conversation about additional Administrative Permit Technician that would assist with some of the processing tasks. So that's something that's not included in the budget here. It's in that list of things that I think we need some time to understand the financial impacts of and that certainly came out through the conversation with the Mayor and the budget team.

I also expect that something you'll probably see Mr. McKinney propose again in a future year as part of his budget because I think the demand will increase. So that's something that was removed but something that we need more time to understand.

Alderman Caron

Okay, thank you.

Chairman Dowd

Anyone else? So I would be remiss if I didn't say that Mr. McKinney and his staff have been absolutely outstanding with our construction of our schools making sure that their inspections are done on time, that the items they're inspecting at done to the specification, and are done right, and they've been very responsive. I would say the only thing every once in a while like we have a Plan Reviewer, I can understand we have two new schools that we're renovating and I think the plans are reviewed. That's been the one thing that's been a little delayed but I understand because of the staffing. Other than that, your group has been amazing with the schools making sure that the inspections are done on time, and kept our building on schedule, and making sure that everything's done correctly. So thank you for that.

William McKinney, Building Manager

I thank you for those comments.

Chairman Dowd

Okay, then we'll go into Code Enforcement.

Nelson Ortega, Code Enforcement Manager

Good evening. I am Nelson Ortega the Code Enforcement Manager for the City. As far as our budget, our budget is pretty much consistent as last year's with the exception that our increase is salary. I still do have one open position which we're actively posted so we're just waiting to see if we can get the right candidate in that position.

We're down the one Code Officer. We have the Officer who left whose still helping us 15 hours a week to help us stay current with our paperwork. So we only have two individuals besides myself that are out in the street trying to keep up. We actively right now have 235 active open cases at the moment. Since the last numbers were up, we're up to almost 800 complaints which due to the pandemic and so forth, the numbers have actually gone down. But the complaints are just getting more difficult and more time consuming as some of the Aldermen here know. So we're consistently looking to see if we can fill the position. It is a grant position. There's still about a little over a year left on that position. So hopefully we can get somebody in there to cover that

Really I don't have much of anything new. Our work is just general maintenance. Our complaints go from a simple trash complaint to a full blown zoning violation. So each one just has his own timeframe to work on. We'll have some that we can take care of in an hour and then we'll have some that actually takes months to work with. But the Code Officers, you know, they're carrying a good caseload trying to keep up with it and we just have to keep rolling with it.

Chairman Dowd

Questions for Mr. Ortega? Alderman Sullivan?

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you. You mentioned you had one open position. I missed how long that position has been open.

Nelson Ortega, Code Enforcement Manager

It has been open for about 13 months now.

Alderman Sullivan

13 months. Comment please?

Chairman Dowd

Comment Alderman Sullivan?

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you. I just wanted to say that I would imagine you're probably spending a lot of time in Ward 9. There seems to be a lot of things going on in Ward 9 so I appreciate the time that you're spending down in my little corner of the City. I appreciate it. Thank you.

Chairman Dowd

And that position that's been vacant as you said it's a grant position. So it's funded by a grant?

Nelson Ortega, Code Enforcement Manager

It's under the Lead Program.

Chairman Dowd

Okay. Questions Alderman Jette?

Alderman Jette

So if that position were filled, do you feel that you can handle - I mean I know that I've relayed complaints to you and I think your office has been very responsive? Sometimes I get a little bit of a push back saying you've only got so many people. So if that position were filled do you have enough people to do your job?

Nelson Ortega, Code Enforcement Manager

With the case numbers and the case log that we have presently if the position were filled, we'd be in pretty good shape.

Chairman Dowd

Follow up Alderman Jette?

Alderman Jette

So when someone violates the code, when you fine someone, there's a fine that goes along with that isn't there? I don't see any revenue in here so where does that fine go?

Nelson Ortega, Code Enforcement Manager

Our fine system is set up - it is not set up as a revenue generating source. It is there for us to use as a tool when we have non-compliance. So we have the option of giving the individual a fine first after if they're totally ignoring us. If they're working with us, we will always work with someone who works with us. If they don't, we have the option of giving them a ticket which is the fine or taking it to District Court. We've done both but we do not regularly give out citations because

most of the time people do work with us.

Chairman Dowd

I think Alderman Jette was saying where does the revenue go from the fines? I think goes into the general fund.

Nelson Ortega, Code Enforcement Manager

I believe so.

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

I would like to confirm this. From my understanding is that ticketing in the context of Code Enforcement does actually go to the general fund. It does not have a dedicated revenue account receiver within the Community Development nor in the Code Enforcement budget. It goes to the general fund at large. I can't speak to that number historically but to Mr. Ortega's point, fines are certainly the last remedy. Compliance is our primary objective. There have been some situations where we've had fines but they've been limited and I think they go to the general fund but I can certainly confirm that too.

Alderman Jette

Okay, thank you.

Chairman Dowd

All set. Any other questions for Mr. Ortega? Seeing none, we'll go onto Hydroelectric Operations.

Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

Hi. Good evening. Deb Chisholm - I'm the well I guess when I talk about hydroelectric operations I'm the Waterways Manager. Also wear the sustainability hat. We'll save that one for later. You can see and we've discussed this in the past, the hydroelectric operations are a fairly significant revenue source for the City. You can see in your packet, the revenue is going to be - we're anticipating the revenues to be a little bit less in Fiscal Year '24. The hydro facility at the Jackson Mills site is undergoing a major equipment replacement finally now in this summer. It should have happened two years ago and we had some hiccups with our extensive permitting process with the federal agencies but we are back on track and we are ready to go. We are hopeful to actually get started next month. So keep your eyes peeled for giant cranes, and lots of heavy equipment, and dump trucks around the BAE facilities parking lot, Margaritas. Feel free to go to Margaritas and hang out down there. You'll have a really good view of - not that I'm going to be doing that. I actually have a little spot at the library I think I'll be sitting out to check out the work that's going on. So for this upcoming fiscal year that project will start in June. We'll be installing a cofferdam in the water at least by July 1st. At that point, that facility will not be operational until probably April. So that's really where the revenue decline will be. We're hopeful that Mine Falls we'll keep plugging away, knock on wood, as the equipment there is just as old as the stuff we're pulling out of Jackson Mills. So we're hopeful that those two turbines at Mine Falls will continue operating.

I will say that we had a bit of an increase in our budget and Director Sullivan spoke to it during his opening comments relative to the - I mean we've got increases that are fairly typical. We've got actually it seems ironic but we've got increased electricity costs that are required to operate both of those facilities. We have port-a-potties, and we have trash pickup, and those have some fairly standard increases every year. Our major increase this year is for we have a new contract with our existing contractor Essex Hydro who by the way has done a fantastic job of operating that facility. I don't want people to think that I have any idea how to operate either of those facilities. We hire a contractor and they're really great. As a matter of fact, the woman who was in my position as Waterways Manager originally - Madeleine Mineau - actually works for Essex Hydro now. So we really couldn't have better help as far as operating both of those facilities. She's been really, really helpful. We have a new contract with them and that really is what you're going to see here in the increase in the appropriations in the property services that's essentially the increase. We pay Essex Hydro a quarterly administrative services amount and that amount is based purely on revenue. So it's a little bit challenging to try to anticipate what that cost is going to be as challenging as it is to try to figure out what our revenues are going to be. So we're hopeful that what we've got here in front of you is exactly what we're looking at.

We will have, again, the decreased revenues. However in our new contract with Essex Hydro, we have a 5% increase in what we actually pay them each quarter. So depending on the revenue, we have in the past we've paid them fairly extensive checks but those are to cover the administrative services. So when Madeleine when I call her on the phone,

they don't charge me extra for that. It comes out of their administrative services fund amount that we pay them every quarter.

So really that's the chunk of it right there. We are hopeful that we don't have a lot of major expenses when it comes to operation and maintenance. That's essentially what this general fund budget is for. If we have some other additional equipment failure or repairs that need to be made, we typically look to our escrow account for those funds. Any of the funds that we have the bond amounts are used for the equipment upgrade at Jackson Mills and any of the changes that need to be made as part of the relicensing process of the Mine Falls facility, which hopefully will be coming to an end soon.

Chairman Dowd

Questions for Miss Chisholm? Alderman Sullivan?

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you. I'm trying to understand the revenue line adopted budget \$1.178 million; year-to-date the hydroelectric has generated from what I understand \$821,000.

Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

Right as of March 31st.

Alderman Sullivan

Correct.

Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

So at this point, we've generated \$1.27 million as of last week.

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

Spring is very strong for us.

Alderman Sullivan

\$1.27 million.

Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

Right. Sorry.

Chairman Dowd

It's up on the big chart.

Alderman Sullivan

I didn't read that line. Well that's great. Nice comeback. So help me understand available budget \$778,000. What is that number? What is that?

Chairman Dowd

What are you looking at?

Alderman Sullivan

If you look at revenue, you see the adopted budget and then next to it, it says Fiscal Year '23 available budget, and then the next column over year-to-date as of 3/31. I understand the first one and the third one. I don't understand the middle one.

Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

That's an excellent question. I also do not understand the middle one.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay.

Chairman Dowd

I think available budget.

Alderman Sullivan

I thought it would be the difference but it's not.

Chairman Dowd

You can see in this instance it doesn't make sense.

Alderman Sullivan

Mr. Griffin if you're out there.

Alderman Lopez

Can I just point out that if that third one is as of 3/31, it's not a complete picture so it might be the difference?

Chairman Dowd

Yeah, we'll put that question out to Treasurer Griffin. I'm sure he's listening so. Either he or Cheryl one of the two will get an answer to that.

Alderman Sullivan

Thanks.

Chairman Dowd

Any other questions? Alderman Lopez.

Alderman Lopez

With regards to the comments about updating Mine Falls, I realize that it's like an antique literally but didn't we just replace the turbine, send one back, get it refurbished, and bring it back.

Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

We have made repairs on I think unit one had some replacement work done two years ago. Fairly expensive, yes.

Alderman Lopez

I mean it wasn't there. It's like they took it out.

Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

Well exactly. So hopefully that at a minimum will help keep that facility up and running. It may be that unit two is the one that gets replaced first but we are trying to be somewhat proactive about that. I certainly don't want to run those until they're broken because then we will be down for two years if that's the case. But yes, you're correct. That one did - it was pre COVID for sure. 2019 I think the crane was out there pulling that thing out.

Chairman Dowd

Follow up?

Alderman Lopez

With regards to budget items and operation, is there any need for like information security in that area? Is it electronic?

Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

Both of the facilities we do have outdoor cameras that are running 24/7. We did catch some kids running where they shouldn't have been running at one point. Thanks to the cameras, we were able to see that.

We've had a couple of break-ins in the equipment shed at Jackson Mills. We are hopeful that with the upgrades to the equipment, we will also be upgrading some of the locks on those facility doors to make sure that we're staying at least somewhat safer than where we are at right now.

Alderman Lopez

But nobody can hack it and like change the water level or anything right?

Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

I'm not gonna say nobody could. It's surprising to me what people can do these days. Essex Hydro does have remote access to all of that operation of both of those facilities. But I mean you do bring up a good point. It's something that we should probably be discussing internally to figure out if there are some other additional measures that could be done.

Alderman Lopez

I like kayaking just not to work.

Chairman Dowd

All set? Alderman Jette.

Alderman Jette

So is the Jackson Falls is that operating now?

Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

Yes it is. Yup.

Alderman Jette

Okay.

Chairman Dowd

But it's going to be going down as soon as you start the replacement.

Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

It will. We are continuing to operate that facility through the fish passage season which typically ends around the beginning of June. Once that fish passage season is done, then we'll shut the facility down and start installing the coffer dam.

Chairman Dowd

Follow up?

Alderman Jette

So this new thing is that going to be replacing what's there or adding to it?

Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

It's a complete overhaul of the equipment out there - the turbine, the generator, and all the controls are being replaced.

Alderman Jette

Okay. So it's not going to double the revenue because it's a...

Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

It is the same size. It's a one megawatt turbine. The idea would be that that thing is going to be running 24/7 as often as it can and will be much more reliable. We've had several weeks where Jackson Mills has been down for repairs. We've been stringing it along now for the last couple of months hoping that we can keep it running until the very last minute but yeah.

Chairman Dowd

You'll recall that with the turbine that we're talking about was being held in Europe. We had to authorize the money to get it here and now its here.

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

It's not here just yet.

Chairman Dowd

It's on route?

Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

It's not even on route yet. We don't want it to be here until we're - I mean ultimately I would love to take it off of the truck that it came in and put it right in the powerhouse. I don't think that's going to happen but we don't want that equipment to be sitting out in the parking lot too long because of maintenance that's required.

We've got to measure a lot of different items to make sure that there's no condensation in the metal works, etc.

Chairman Dowd

The design of this turbine is more modular than the previous one. It can be repaired easier, faster and I think we also authorized spares in case it does go down. Are those being delivered at the same time?

Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

Correct. Yes.

Chairman Dowd

Okay. So it'll be far more reliable and will ultimately produce more revenue because it will be running more than the previous ones not because it doesn't make more because it's running more. Alderman Sullivan?

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you. Going back to the revenues. It looks like if you take Jackson Falls offline for what looks to be much of the year, I'm thinking that it looks to me as though Mine Falls generates about 75 cents out of every dollar that we get.

Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

That's correct. Yeah there are two turbines over there and that's a three megawatt facility. So it definitely is the workhorse of the two facilities. So what we'll end up with next year is we may end up with two or three months of revenue for Jackson. Fingers crossed.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay. One more question.

Chairman Dowd

Follow up question.

Alderman Sullivan

With the improvements on Jackson Falls do you feel it will even it out or do you think it'll still be 75/25 in favor of Mine Falls?

Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

I think we'll get additional revenue out of out of Jackson because it's a new turbine so it should run more efficiently. It should run more often. It is not a three megawatt. It's a one megawatt turbine so they can only produce so much.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay. All right. Thank you.

Chairman Dowd

Alderman Jette?

Alderman Jette

So Chairman Dowd's question triggered this question in my mind. So this new turbine is it still in Europe? Is it on the ocean? Is it stateside? Where is it?

Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

It is sitting at the facility where it was manufactured in the Czech Republic.

Alderman Jette

So it's still there?

Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

It is still there. Typically I've been told from the manufacturer that it typically takes between six and eight weeks for transport but they plan for three months in case something happens. So we're anticipating that that equipment will be shipped at the beginning of July and will get here - we're hoping it gets here in October but it will probably get here in August and then we'll have to accommodate having that equipment out there and make sure that it stays safe.

Alderman Jette

Okay, thank you.

Chairman Dowd

All set. Any other questions? Thank you Miss Chisholm.

Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

You're welcome.

Chairman Dowd

Next is Community Development.

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

Thank you Mr. Chair. Matt Sullivan, Community Development Director. I think this is the night of the year where I kind of ask what is it that I do here and I'm not sure if I know the answer sometimes when I have all the departments here talking about the work that they're doing. From a budgetary perspective, very minimal modification to the Community Development Division or Department of the Division budget heading into FY 2024. The one change I would review for the Committee is that \$60,000 have been pivoted into this operational budget with the intent to use those monies for the *Your Voice, Your Choice* program next year. There's an active conversation happening around that program right now about some potential rotating of the geography of focus. As many of you may remember and certainly Alderman Lopez knows very, very well, typically these monies have been through the participatory budgeting process in the tree streets neighborhood here in the City. There's been some conversation about now moving those monies around to other vulnerable populations and neighborhoods potentially Crown Hill area, some other neighborhoods have been discussed. We look forward to 2024 and the implementation of an additional \$60,000 of construction money or some other investment into one of those communities and hopefully mirroring the success of that program that we've had in the past.

Just as a note because I expect this question may be asked, you may recall last year we've had some delays on implementing this funding. We're currently in the process of doing two improvements. One is a substantial upgrade to the lighting at the futsal court and skate park near the Los Amigos Park right on Ash Street. Then what we'll be doing in the fall is actually redoing the Los Amigos playground in full. We have one remaining design component that we have to work through but we're very excited to be really putting two and a half years of money into a complete redo of the recreational facilities along the Ash Street corridor. So we're very, very excited about that. Again, look in July to see some lighting work underway and then later this fall to actually see the playground proper being reconstructed and we're working very closely with the Parks and Recreation Department to do that. So just wanted to point out where that programs as of today.

To point out a few highlights coming up this year recognizing that predominantly this budget is a personnel, wages, and benefits budget. Few things that we're working on and you're well aware of obviously is the Mohawk Tannery project, the Library Plaza reconstruction which I've shown a summary photo up here, certainly some transportation work in the downtown Main Street, East Hollis Street corridor, along the DW Highway. We have several transportation projects ongoing right now including a downtown circulation study overhaul that we're working on collaboratively with several departments. Also working closely with Housing. I know with certainly some folks around this table that are involved in the housing conversation working in the Housing Trust Fund realm. Housing Trust Fund Committee to actually get those monies out the door and into the community. Hoping to work closely over the next year to come back to you and talk about some successes that work and the \$10 million of ARPA funding that were put into the Housing Trust Fund.

Lastly, I think I'd be remiss if I didn't mention that we're hoping to go under construction for the Heritage Rail Trail East Project in the coming year. This is an extension of the Rail Trail out to the Henry Hanger (inaudible) corridor and looking forward to bringing that construction forward and into fruition based on a lot of the investment that we're seeing happening on that corridor. Some questionable but nonetheless we're very excited to be doing that work moving forward.

Beyond that, I'd be happy to speak to any of the goals or accomplishments that were presented within the budget. As you'll see a lot of those are stolen from the wonderful members of my team that worked for me but I would like to just thank them for all the work that they're doing and I'm just happy to be a part of a lot of the projects going on across the Division generally.

Chairman Dowd

Questions for Director Sullivan? Alderman Sullivan.

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you. Okay. So I'm just going bottom line here. Your adopted budget was \$409,000 in Fiscal Year '23. Your proposed budget is lower at \$365,399. That is absolutely cannot happen. I don't understand how that's happening.

Chairman Dowd

What page are you on?

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

The summary page.

Alderman Sullivan

Yeah I've got an online.

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

Alderman Sullivan I do not believe that that total - I'm just looking at the numbers quickly and I can do the math as we sit here. I do not believe that 365 includes the increase of \$60,000 and I'll do that math right now on my phone. I can't speak directly to why that is but I believe that might be the deficiency there.

Alderman Caron

It's in here. The \$60,000 is in there that you talked about.

Alderman Sullivan

I do see it in there but I think what he's saying is it's not reflected in the total. It's to carry through to the total.

Chairman Dowd

Another question for the Treasurer?

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

It does appear to carry through. Alderman Sullivan I'll take a look after the presentation and I can certainly try and find discrepancies and come back.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay. Just one follow up too please.

Chairman Dowd

Follow up.

Alderman Sullivan

You mentioned some capital improvements that you are going to make. There's an available budget - I don't want to say you. Your department has an available budget of \$1.88 million in there. So is that's the money you're going to use. You're going to use those monies towards those capital improvements?

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

So that's a great question and it's sort of interesting the way that the budget was presented this year. So I'm happy you asked this question because admittedly when I saw that number, I thought wow. I've got some cash somewhere that is really good to have. What that represents is several years of capital outlays and improvements that have been requested that are either encumbered or are currently being executed. To give you an example of that, this Board acted to allocate \$1.5 million of ARPA funding to the Library Plaza Project. Those monies were put in the Community Development bin if you will for capital improvements. So that \$1.5 million is actually reflected in that capital outlay/improvement line. Community Development is carrying those monies but the intent is to use them and they've been dedicated to the library project because I'm responsible for the Library Plaza Project myself.

Similarly, we have several components of match funding for DOT transportation projects that were allocated in prior years. Those have been put into the Community Development bin because I'm responsible for managing those projects. So that

capital outlay line represents several incremental capital investments that have been made that have either been spent or will be spent over the coming years. Hopefully that answers your question because it's a little bit interesting the way it's presented here.

Alderman Sullivan

Could I have a follow up, please?

Chairman Dowd

Follow up.

Alderman Sullivan

I would love to see for that specific line item, Capital Outlay/Improvements, a detailing of what great narrative that you put together however, I would love to see inflow, outflow, pending, all of that. That's a big chunk of money. I would just love to know, and I think it would be good for the public to see as well, what's in that, what we'll get for that money, what is slated to be improved on that, and I think our process is to send it through Donna Graham.

Chairman Dowd

Director Sullivan if you would provide that answer through Donna Graham so the entire Board can get a copy of that.

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

I'd be happy to and I think, you know, to Alderman Sullivan's point, they're all projects that have been discussed but with different iterations of the Board at different points in time. So I think it's good to circle all that up into one comprehensive list of projects. Yeah, I'd be I'd be happy to provide that.

Chairman Dowd

Alderman Lopez?

Alderman Lopez

With regards to the shift in the *Your Choice, Your Voice* focus has that decision being made and how is it being communicated to the public?

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

Alderman Lopez that's a great question. I even feel premature mentioning that potential shift this evening because the decision has very much not been made. I mean only to represent that the decision has not been made to direct those funds to the tree streets at this point in time. That's a conversation that's actively happening between myself, certainly the Mayor, Megan Caron in the Mayor's office, and it will be communicated with the appropriate Aldermen as well when that decision is ultimately made. I expect that some Aldermen will be involved in that decision making process.

Relative to how it will be communicated in finality, I can certainly put together a communication for the Board of Aldermen but there'll be many, many touches along the way to make sure that everyone's aware of where those monies are going.

Alderman Lopez

Ultimately, I think the responsibility for the oversight and justification is in your office. I think it would be important to the fundamental concept of participatory budgeting to tell the neighborhood that had sort of gotten used to it but haven't really seen anything last year or two about this that hey now we're letting another neighborhood participate and that way that neighborhood doesn't feel like okay we're participating as long as they let us.

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

That's a good point.

Chairman Dowd

Okay. Any other questions for Director Sullivan? Alderman Jette.

Alderman Jette

So Director Sullivan in your preliminary remarks you talked about there being I think you said four vacant positions. So I know that Mr. Ortega has a vacant position and I'm not sure if Mr. McKinney does too. So what are the other two?

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

So there's one confirmed vacancy in addition to that one and that is actually the Sustainability Planner within Miss Chisholm's Sustainability Department that she'll talk about in just a few minutes. That was previously held by Julie Chizmas. But the position was actually transferred out of the Community Development budget into the Sustainability budget as part of the last year's fiscal process. That position has remained open for some period of time and we can speak to that in a few minutes. Deb's done very well without it but certainly one we need moving forward. The fourth position is actually one that we may have within the Transit Department yet to be confirmed as of this moment but we may have a vacancy that needs to be filled there as well.

Chairman Dowd

All set Alderman Jette?

Alderman Jette

Yes, thank you.

Chairman Dowd

If there are no other questions for that we'll go into Planning and Zoning.

Sam Durfee, Planning Manager

Good evening Chairman Dowd, members of the Committee. I'm Sam Durfee the Planning Manager for the City of Nashua. To briefly touch on budget, this is primarily a salary, and wage, and benefit increase as well as slight dues increase for the Nashua Regional Planning Commission who we are an active partner with.

In speaking with our revenue, we to this date that we have already exceeded our target from last year. That's primarily due to some large projects in particular the Mohawk Tannery Project. As a conversation has already occurred regarding fees, this is definitely reflective of, I think, a good fee schedule for the sort of development that we are seeing. It's consistently competitive with other communities and I think as we see the type of development that is occurring in cities like Nashua built out, the redevelopment, these do require large projects to be profitable and I think that's a trend that we're going to continue to see, especially as we hope to overhaul our Land Use Code and generate such projects like those.

We are trending a little lower in our Planning and Zoning Board applications. I think that is, again, to that continuing trend of the different types of projects we're seeing. We are no longer seeing these multiple subdivision applications. We are running out of land. Again, the larger housing infill and redevelopment projects like you see up on the screen. This is at 249 Main Street - a vacant lot on Main Street, 45 affordable units that is currently under construction now. That is the type of projects that we will see primarily and will be a substantial part of our Land Use Application budget and revenue line item.

I do not have too much to add in terms of comments on a revenue and appropriations. However, I'd be happy to speak to some of our objectives for next year and some of the work we've done so far in Fiscal Year '23.

Chairman Dowd

Okay any questions for Mr. Durfee? Alderman Jette.

Alderman Jette

So Mr. Durfee do you feel that you have the staff that you need to do the job?

Sam Durfee, Planning Manager

Yes, I certainly do. We are sufficiently staffed to carry out the duties and the tasks that we typically see in a typical year. I will state that with this incoming code update, it will be a more intense workload than we have seen in the past. This is a legacy project that comes around every 20 years or so. We have been speaking nearly weekly with our staff about how we're going to approach the project. We are hiring a consultant and we feel confident that we will be able to balance our current workload as well as undertake this code update.

Chairman Dowd

All set?

Alderman Jette

Okay, thank you.

Chairman Dowd

So you have had some pretty large crowds at some of your meetings lately but we all know what that's about. So all set? Do you have a question Director Sullivan?

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

Subsequent to Mr. Durfee. Just going back to because I want to close this loop to Alderman Sullivan's question on my budget. The reason for that reduction is in fact that there was \$120,000 and if you look back at our budget sheets in Community Development, \$120,000 were allocated to capital outlay in FY 2023 and that was for the match for two projects - the Spruce Street connector and the Railroad Square reconfiguration. So that increased the budget up to \$409,000. With that removed, that brings us down to if I'm not mistaken, if I can find my notes that I just took, essentially ends up being such that it's a much more minor modification and increase from FY23 to 2024. I believe it brings a budget down to \$289,171 in FY2023. Does that answer your question?

Alderman Jette

Yup.

Chairman Dowd

All set?

Alderman Sullivan

May I?

Chairman Dowd

Yes.

Alderman Sullivan

So I just I just did this. So if I do 409,171 subtract out 120,000 that leaves me to 289,171 I believe you said that?

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

Correct.

Alderman Sullivan

And then if I add in the 60,000 for the- that's for *Your Choice, Your Voice*. That's 349,171 and then the balance are made up through the line items preceding that.

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

Correct.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay. Thanks. Thanks for doing that.

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

Yeah well it was actually fairly obvious and I just missed it. That's the risk of including those capital outlays. They can sort of throttle up and down the operational budget lines but it's really not. It's a capital expense.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay.

Chairman Dowd

All right, we'll move on to Sustainability.

Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

Hi. Good evening. Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager. Fairly straightforward budget this year for Sustainability. Last year was our first year of existence and we don't really have a lot of changes. We've got standard increases due to salaries. To go back to the issue with staff, currently Sustainability Department is me and Doria Brown who you've met several times. She's the Energy Manager. She and I have been lifting a heavy load in our department and we've got a job posting out there. We've posted it now twice. We may have a couple of candidates currently in the queue that may be somewhat qualified but it's kind of a niche position that we're looking to fill. So it's been a bit challenging to find just the right person. So we're hopeful actually, we've got fingers crossed that we've got maybe some potential candidates that we could get on board fairly soon.

That's really all. All of our other costs are really standard. We've got a little bit of an increase in our contracted services to cover the Aquatic Invasive Species Management that we do every year on the Nashua River. That line item also covers our payments to Kim Lundgren Associates. They are the ones who are responsible for updating and maintaining the livable Nashua dashboard which is a really great resource. If you don't already know, it's livablenashua.org. Feel free to check it out. A little advertising there.

That's about all we have. I do want to say that, again, that with just Doria and myself, Doria has been really this past year has spent 110% of her effort has been on Community Power and getting that up and running and so far, so good. I appreciate your involvement with that. So that's been really a huge lift for her to get the City to be playing such a major role in that whole program. So I just want to give a little kudos to her and all the work she's done on that.

Chairman Dowd

Questions? You had a \$9,000 training budget requested last year got cut basically in half. Now you have the \$9,000 in again. It's just the two of you. Who's being trained?

Deb Chisholm, Sustainability Manager

Well the idea is to have the money in there for three of us and it would be for training, it would be for conferences. Doria and I are just kind of coming out of the whole COVID thing and just trying to figure out exactly where we can go, what we can do. With only two of us actually doing any of the work right now, we're very short handed without that third person. So the idea of even now, Doria is going off and getting herself married, and then going to be out on her honeymoon, and I'm like, oh geez, okay. What's gonna happen? So, yeah.

Chairman Dowd

All right. Any questions? Seeing none, we'll go into Urban Programs.

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

Mr. Chair just briefly. We won't be discussing. Happy to answer any questions that folks have offline about that department. It's kind of a shame not to talk about in detail tonight because we're doing a lot of great work but hopefully we go into Civic and Community Activities.

Chairman Dowd

Civic and Community Activities.

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

Good evening. Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager. I oversaw the process for allocating grants under our Community Development Block Grant Program and also was the staff liaison to the Citizens Advisory Commission as they met and reviewed grants through the Mayor's office. I'm happy to answer any questions about any of those.

Chairman Dowd

Questions? Alderman Jette?

Alderman Jette

What page would I find that on?

Chairman Dowd

39.

Alderman Jette

Say it again.

Chairman Dowd

39.

Alderman Jette

Right after the Legal Department. That can't be good.

Alderman Lopez

Said the lawyer.

Chairman Dowd

On my page 39 Civic and Community Activities.

Alderman Jette

Right. I was just pointing out that it comes right after the Legal Department.

Chairman Dowd

Oh. Where did it end up in the book?

Alderman Lopez

I'm trying to figure out where it is on the website.

Chairman Dowd

Yeah, they're not sequential the way they line up in our reviews.

Alderman Sullivan

It's under, if I may, online it's under General Government and then like you said, it's under Legal. I don't know where it ties in on the on the pages.

Chairman Dowd

Half of Legal but not part of Legal.

Alderman Sullivan

It's in general government.

Chairman Dowd

So who is our liaison for that group?

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

To the group that makes these decisions?

Alderman Lopez

Yeah are you talking about the stuff to Human Affairs Committee?

Chairman Dowd

We need appropriations.

Alderman Lopez

So you're saying liaison but you mean staff?

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

So Mr. Chair, the Civic and Community Activities budget is a bit of an odd one. I think that's because and that's evidenced by the fact that where it's housed in the budget book and the online budget book is a bit out of place. As you'll see when you open up the budget for Civic and Community Activities, it includes some appropriations are actually under the Mayor's Office and some other appropriations that are actually under the purview of the Citizens Advisory Committee. Mr. Long is the liaison and the staff to the Citizen Advisory Committee and supports their activities and has been an active part of that process as his predecessor Carrie Schena was. It's always an interesting one for us to present because, again, some of these lines we can't speak directly to but we can certainly try as best as we can to answer the questions. It's actually multiple departments involved with this budget and its creation.

Chairman Dowd

Alderman Caron.

Alderman Caron

I certainly can speak on this because I sat on this board for...before I became an Alderman, I sat on the CAC Committee. I will tell you, and I said this before, that this group of citizens throughout the community who have to review approximately 30 applications for the funding and they never know exactly how much they get til late. They work very hard. They look at the demographics. They look at the reports that they get to appropriate the money the best way they can. Over the years - well if you're going to have a volunteer group make decisions for you and you go back and change it because you don't like it doesn't help the process but over the years that has never happened. We've all agreed that the

decisions they have made are the right ones.

I really have to tell you Mr. Long that I appreciated the work that you did with this group this year and also with the CDBG money because you did talk through some of these agencies that didn't know that they could apply for these projects. So that really helps our community. What little we give no matter if it's \$10,000 or \$50,000, it benefits that nonprofit agency that we have within our community. So we could certainly ask questions as to what that money is going for but unless you have the full list, you could get a little confused with the process. I just have to say that they have done a great job and I hope you continue to be able to do that and you have the people working with you to provide the monies in the best way possible because it is a bit of federal money as well as general funding and that's a good thing. Thank you.

Chairman Dowd

Yes.

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

Thank you very much and thank you for the kind words. I thought it might be helpful if I just said a few words about what is this money? Where does it come from? I'll start with Citizens Advisory Commission. First of all, I want to echo the remarks. Working with them, I found them to be a very dedicated, hard-working group and we're very lucky to have all of them. So that money it starts with the Mayor's office. The Mayor's office provides us the budget for how much money is available for grants and the Citizen's Advisory Commission, all appointed folks including Alderwoman Timmons, met on a weekly basis from January through March reviewing those grant applications in great depth. They had a ranking system to help guide that process based on demonstrated community need, the agency's capacity to meet that need, and the agency's needs specifically for City funding. The best to my understanding, these are general municipal funds that are used for Citizen's Advisory Commission.

The City is also fortunate to have the Community Development Block Grants. That is federal money. That's through the US Department of Housing and Urban Development and we don't have to request that money. We're what they call an "entitlement community". We receive it every year and that's based on a formula. In both cases, we had a finite amount of funds that was not up to us. We were given a number and we worked with that number. On the CDBG side of the house, those grant applications went through the Human Affairs Committee which asked the applicants to present in person and had a few meetings of discussion and deliberation.

Chairman Dowd

Questions? Alderman Jette.

Alderman Jette

Thank you. Before I was an Alderman, I served on various boards of nonprofit agencies and I was coming to the Committee with my handout begging for money. So I know how much time they spend. They do a wonderful job. I have no quarrel with the decisions being made.

I did have a question about of the approximately \$800,000 that's given to the local nonprofits. You mentioned part of that was Community Development Block Grant money which is federal money and part of it was City money. How much is federal and how much is City?

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

For the Citizens Advisory Commission grants which is our municipal funding side, that number was \$557,270. For the Community Development Block Grant which is the federal money, that number was \$624,308.

Alderman Jette

Okay. So that adds up to over a million dollars but you only gave out less than \$791,000?

Julian Long, Urban Programs Manager

A portion of the CDBG Funds goes towards administrative costs - primarily staff and salary and benefits.

Alderman Jette

Okay. Thanks.

Chairman Dowd

All set? Alderman Lopez.

Alderman Lopez

Yeah I just wanted to comment on my confusion earlier. I wasn't sure I was being asked. So I was the liaison for the Citizens Advisory Commission last year but I had switched place with Alderman Timmons, particularly because I found the roles were very similar to the CDBG. I also chaired the Human Affairs Committee. I would say also because they're very, very rigorous in their assessment. I would argue that they're probably as a small group more rigorous than even this Board is and that they very closely review all of the financials, all the proposals, the histories of applications of performance by the agencies, and all that kind of stuff, and then they rank it multiple times like they rank each individual one itself. They overall use that scoring system to decide how funding is to be allocated but then they review that decision too to make sure that it's well done.

So to echo Alderman Caron's comments, it's a very, very well run process of vetting and thoroughly examining the different applications.

I would comment for members of the public. Sometimes that can be confusing too. I recall a couple of years ago at the Budget hearing, the public budget hearing, we had a member of the public who was actually a former Alderman come up and ask why we defunded the Girl Scouts. We didn't. The Girl Scouts didn't apply for money. So in looking at the CAC expenses in budget the previous year, it looked like there was no money awarded but that was not because anything was removed. It was because they didn't ask for it and there are a number of circumstances here where because an organization engages with the CAC, they become aware of more options. Julian's department helps them connect with other possible resources and avenues for that. Then something similar happens with CDBG where often a conversation can be started with a request for money but it doesn't have to end there and more often doesn't. Nashua leverages its nonprofits a lot. So while it could be said that the CAC and CDBG benefit them in that they're an organization that is designed not to make money, it benefits all of us very, very much because the work that they're doing are things that would cost the taxpayers considerably more. For the cost of helping winterize some windows for an orphanage, or provide handicap accessibility, helping them address incidental expenses that might overall be outside their range and limit their services, the City gets a lot out of that. I think this is an example of a very effectively vetted and very well leveraged use of resources.

Chairman Dowd

Thank you. Alderman Sullivan.

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you. Question for Director Sullivan - more of a comment. Just so you know, and maybe you knew this, but civic and community activities since we couldn't find it in the book it doesn't sit under your department. Thus, it's not factored into the budget lift that you talked about.

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

Correct. That is correct and I should have been clearer about that when we started. Admittedly, we had this conversation last year as well and I think moving forward it may actually have pulled out of the presentation this evening. Because of Julian's involvement, we've naturally presented on it but you're absolutely correct Alderman Sullivan, that is not included in that those figures that are presented at the beginning - the 8.1 and the 3.8.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay. I just wanted to double check on that. Thank you. Appreciate it.

Chairman Dowd

I think it was more - they spent so much time formatting this new book that they didn't get the shifts around so give them a pass this year. Next is Transportation.

Camille Correa, Transit Administrator

Good evening Chairman Dowd and members of the Committee. My name is Camille Correa the Transit Administrator for Nashua Transit System. The budget is grant funded by the Federal Transit Administration and some other organizations such as the New Hampshire DOT for matches to leverage federal grants, revenue contracts, and also the City of Nashua match. The 2024 budget changes have an increase of 3% through the City of Nashua local allocation. I'm happy to answer any questions you may have in regards to our objectives or accomplishments as outlined in the budget information presented.

Chairman Dowd

Questions? Alderman Jette.

Alderman Jette

So I know you've been having trouble having finding enough drivers. So does this budget take that into consideration? I assume to get drivers you're gonna have to pay more money.

Camille Correa, Transit Administrator

Director Sullivan presented the information and so he can talk to that.

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

Yeah, I'd be happy to respond to that. I wish I could simply respond by saying transit is very complicated but that's not a good response. So as everyone is aware, we recently saw a substantial modification to the City's contract with First Transit. First Transit and now First Transit/Transdev is the provider for the City of Nashua and has been for a long period of time. I represented figures as part of that contract presentation and we ultimately agreed to sort of an hourly rate increase for First Transit Services moving forward through the term of the contract that will expire June 30 of 2024. So about a year and some change remaining on that contract.

Right now, we're in the process of working with First Transit to hire drivers. I can report carefully that we are seeing some very positive results. We're beginning to have discussions about route restoration that you'll hear about at Transit Matters as part of other conversations. We expect to bring certain routes back over the next month and a half. We had to have a substantial restoration of services. So we're happy to report that in this case, throwing more money at the problem actually mattered based on our market study and based on what we were hearing from our drivers and the gap that existed there. So that's the good news.

The unknown news is when I presented that contract increase, I was very clear about the fact that we did not know for a variety of reasons whether or not let's say an increase of \$500,000 would require a \$500,000 additional increase on behalf or initial contribution on behalf of the City. There are a variety of factors that make it so that whatever our contract increase and whatever we're paying the drivers did not equate to a dollar on the dollar increase in the City's application system. So maybe getting in the weeds already but basically because we're offering diminished routes, our costs are lower. We're paying drivers more. We're not certain exactly how many of our routes we're going to be able to restore over the next year and some change. We did not take an aggressive approach with this year's budget to increase the local allocation to the transit system - that being the \$441,000 that's proposed within the budget before you.

What I said I think I said fairly clearly at the Finance Committee and Board of Aldermen is that over the next years as we understand more fully what our full route offerings look like across the community and the costs of offering those routes, I expect that as part of the FY 2025 budgeting process you are going to see a more substantial request for an increase from the City's allocation. So you may see that number move from 441 up to 550, 575. The reason we can't do that today is because we simply don't know what that gap will be until we see how the services are offered over the coming period of time with the coming year.

What I can say with confidence though is that we believe we have, and we feel very, very, very confident that we have enough funding in place right now to operate the service for the term of that contract and the term of the FY2024 fiscal year. Beyond that, we're going to be having a conversation with this group about a potential modification to a local

allocation as we understand how all those numbers work together. So it's a bit of a we don't know at this point in time but we aren't comfortable enough to take a plunge in asking for substantially more funds from the City until we know how everything plays out.

Chairman Dowd

All set Alderman Jette?

Alderman Jette

Yes, thank you. I appreciate the - I always appreciate the I don't know answer as opposed to the I pretend to know answer. So I know it's difficult because we went through COVID and then we've had trouble maintaining the routes because of lack of drivers. So it's a difficult thing to assess but, you know, do you have a feeling about the demand? Is there enough of a demand for the transportation system? Are there a lot of people trying to use it? Are there a lot of people using it and do you think there'd be more people using it if we had more routes? I've said this during the Transit Matters meeting. I think that in order to be successful, a bus system has to be dependable. People have to know that you put out a schedule and that the bus is going to be at their stop at a certain time, and that they can depend on it to get to work on time, or to get to a doctor's appointment, or whatever. First because of COVID and then because of the driver shortage you know, routes being constantly canceled, rerouted, or detoured. I imagine that's really caused havoc in the transit system. I'd be interested in what your take is on all of that.

Camille Correa, Transit Administrator

A lot of what you mentioned are the common variables in transit every day, especially during the summer. The summer months spring on pop-up construction, constant detours, delays with the light systems at certain times of the day when school gets out, or traffic from the school system. Coming out of post COVID, there's a lot more traffic on Amherst Street, and downtown, and in the south than we had during COVID. Some of these routes were put together right in the beginning right before COVID hit under the auspices of the traffic would remain the same. But indeed, we've seen that the traffic has increased over time. What we try to do is mitigate or try to plan ahead and we're working diligently with the Engineering Department to find out when those detours are going to take place so that we can let people know. Sometimes we don't know. If a gas company has a line that has to be dug up, or a main water line that's burst in the middle of winter, and so we try our best to get that information out.

One thing we do know that electronics nowadays and social media is our friend to try to communicate with people as much as possible for those that do have a phone. In the future, I've mentioned it before and we are moving forward with our technology grant for real-time bus information for our customers that do have those electronic devices or those options to be able to get real-time information. For those people who still want to use the old school pick up the phone and speak to someone on the phone and ask a question, we will have that available for people to be able to call as well. To answer your question, there are always many variables that are involved and we do try to mitigate as much as possible.

We have had several challenges since I've been here in the last two years and there were some challenges before I came which every single transit system in the United States was impacted by and that was COVID. During that timeframe, we've all been challenged by everything that we've had to go through and every single department has had those challenges and so has the City with wearing masks, and delays, or not having as many people to speak to, or people getting sick, or all the things that were involved. So thank you for asking the questions, those hard questions, because the question is why are the routes delay? Why are they impacted? Every day we try to mitigate the detours, the people who are throwing up on the bus because they get on because they didn't take their medicine properly and they got sick on the bus, and so we have to switch out a bus, or a bus may go down, or have a flat tire. So we do our best to do that.

There are times when a bus is delayed because of the way that the route is structured and we're looking into that as well because every single route that we have, with the exception of the two hybrid routes that are out there right now 712 and 19, have a 10 minute recovery on them built in. That 10 minute recovery does not work with detours, with the impacts of the traffic, and so we're looking into doing even more route planning in the future. We just had a conversation earlier today about do you bring back a route or do you add service or in addition to bringing back routes, do you add service to assist routes that are behind because of these pop up reasons? So we thought the best thing to do is really to do both. So we're looking into that as well.

Chairman Dowd

All set.

Alderman Jette

Yes, thank you.

Chairman Dowd

Alderman Sullivan.

Alderman Sullivan

Just some questions around explanations of performance measures. Fixed route service rides \$233,652. Is that bus rides or is that people on the bus?

Camille Correa, Transit Administrator

It's the number of boardings.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay, thank you. I do see that there is a fare. I'm just curious and maybe this is a budgeting situation but I'm just curious why we don't see a revenue line here since people do pay for the bus. We just simply see an appropriation. We don't see revenues and truthfully I mean once you start adding that up I mean even at a blended rate which is about .87 cents per ride if you factor in students and whatnot, it's about \$240,000. So I'm just curious why we don't see that as a revenue line.

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

I can take a crack and I'm going to embarrass myself because Camille knows the details but I'll take a broad brush crack at this. So I'll start by saying this, the Federal Formula Funding in the way that the City actually receives its' funding from Federal Transit Administration is relatively complicated. I know I've spoken to you several times about things that are complicated are a little scary and this is one example of that. With that FTA funding that's received, the municipality is required to provide a level of match support to receive those federal monies that come in. Broadly, the revenues that we collect through what we refer to as our "fare box" which is the bus fares being paid is actually used as part of that formula, although not directly as a match per se but it directly buys down the amount of match that the community actually has to provide in exchange for those federal monies that are coming in. So you don't see them reflected within the budget as revenue but they are actually a part of the match equation that allows us to receive the federal funds for 5307 for operational expenses.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay.

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

How did I do?

Camille Correa, Transit Administrator

Great.

Chairman Dowd

All set? Alderman O'Brien.

Alderman O'Brien

Yeah, thank you. This really doesn't have to have much to do with the budget, although maybe perhaps it could. Miss Correa are you familiar that the City is looking as part of its infrastructure working with the Fire Department and everything of increasing the Opticomm System? Now many communities have taken that very same Opticomm System and used it to transmitters. Of course, it's a computer generated program that will work specifically. It's not trying to clear the whole intersection but it might get you a right on red or something like that. Have you looked into that and is there granting or

anything else? If we're going to change the system, I would kind of hope that we would get the best for our tax dollars. I just wondered if you're aware of any of that.

Camille Correa, Transit Administrator

Correct me if I'm wrong, we're part of this conversation or the part of the conversation that the City of Nashua is having in regards to that software. We may not be one of the top tiers in order to assist with the lights and the amount of time that it may get may take us to get through a light but that it would increase the probability that the light would change quicker and that would be very helpful.

Alderman O'Brien

I think it has an environmental impact because now you don't have a diesel or whatever idling at a red light. So it does make sense.

Chairman Dowd

Alderman Lopez.

Alderman Lopez

So I want to start by saying one of the things that Nashua Transit has been doing that I've been seeing is they are hiring people, and they are staffing, and they're not getting people who are just doing it for money. They're doing a good job of engaging drivers who want to be drivers and want to be City bus drivers. I've seen three maybe four really, really good drivers start over the last two months. In fact, today was the lady's first time and she handled a lot all at once.

When we talk about the construction detours and all that kind of stuff, that results for the drivers and a bunch of people getting on the bus being like why are you 20 minutes - for me it was 20 minutes late, but I didn't ask okay because I understand they're already stressed. I watched a bunch of people get on and ask like which route is this even like. Is this the 6 or the 6A because it was a stop that would have been on either one but it was so in between they didn't know where they were going or what the bus was doing?

There were a number of new riders coming on and have been coming on more and more recently. There's a lot of complexities and figuring out transfers, giving directions, and all that kind of stuff. So drivers are doing a lot of work in addition to driving in addition to dealing with circumstances that other departments in the City may not be communicating effectively to them. So I think in terms of bang for our buck when it comes to did we get what was worth it by increasing the available budget at least for them to hire, yeah, I'm very confident. I know Director Sullivan doesn't necessarily want to speak to it prematurely but I can tell when there's a bus driver who's there and is taking their job seriously and is engaging everybody who comes in. So I think that part is very effective with leverage.

I understand the logic of saying we don't this year want to try to figure out what our fixed routes are going to be because as Alderman Jette pointed out and Director Sullivan as well, it's hard to figure out exactly what the ultimate consumer needs are going to be when your consumer base has been constantly impacted by 20 to 30 minute waits on very important things. A number of circumstances that I could point to are, for example, Gatewood and Palm Square. I hear about it when the residents can't get to the bus in time. That is difficult for people with mobility impairments and that type of stuff. There's alternate routes and alternate strategies that NTS puts into play like the paratransit and sending vans out to make sure that they're grabbing anybody who's caught but that also affects as wonderful as it is to have the little bus show up and be your private ride somewhere, it also affects rider trust. So people are trying to find other ways around traveling on the bus in some situations because it's unstable.

There's new opportunities for traveling too like insurance based transportation. So there's a lot of variables in place like. I understand the idea that we don't necessarily want to drop another 100 grand into the budget, hire a bunch of drivers, and then figure out what we're doing with them on the fly. That's very expensive. It requires the buses to be operational that might otherwise be better served as in a standby role. I think it's a very difficult and very complex operation. I think the investment in the electronic communication will be not only an opportunity for us to see as riders where the bus is and what its ETA is but also probably to figure out user data and maybe get a better sense of where people are trying to get transportation to or from.

I think that the suggestion that maybe instead of just adding more routes, and making shorter routes, making sure there's redundancy within the route structure that exists is also not only a very pragmatic solution for probably going to be a cost

effective one too because there have been plenty of situations where like the handicap ramp doesn't work exactly right or whatever thing is happening and the entire bus has to pull over at the main station in order to transfer onto another one. So making sure you have a backup plan is important, especially when you have that many riders on hand.

I think Nashua Transit is doing a lot with what they have. I do think there might be some additional disconnect with regards to people applying for jobs and the variance response they might be getting from like First Recruiter versus the people working at Nashua Transit directly. So that might be an area for fine tuning in terms of partnership. I think we're definitely on the right track and it does make sense to monitor as we go. It's just inconvenient to the budget process because we don't know as I believe your favorite phrase is "unknown unknowns". There's a lot of them when you talk about buses. You change one thing and another thing changes.

Chairman Dowd

I have one question. School – we're having problems getting school bus drivers. Are we paying comparable rate to First Student?

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

Yes we are. We're paying a competitive rate. But frankly, we're in competition to some extent. There are different companies at this point in time. First Student is one of our direct competitors and I hesitate to say that but we are paying a competitive rate to the drivers that may otherwise be going to work for First Student. With the school year ending, that represents quite frankly an opportunity for us and one that I don't think we'll miss taking advantage of but it's unfortunate that there's generally a lack of drivers in the market that we have to self-cannibalize but unfortunately, that's the reality at this point in time.

Chairman Dowd

Alderman O'Brien.

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you. Mr. Sullivan, can we trip back a little bit too earlier in the conversation. You brought up a park, which is Los Amigos Park, and the work that's being done there is completely outstanding but there's eight other Wards and many of them have many different parks. I know I've worked for eight years trying to get St. Andrews Field done. I went through three or four Directors of Park & Rec. Alderman Sullivan has jumped on board with it and it kind of makes me wonder is this like the sore thumb St. Andrews or do we have somewhat of an infrastructure with parks that needs to be looked at as addressed? Is there federal funding for these type of situations to upgrade the parks and different things like that, that will come under Community Development?

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

Aldermen O'Brien I think a few comments and responses to that. You know I'd be remiss if I did not say that I think Mr. Bryan Conant obviously the Parks and Rec Superintendent is probably better equipped to speak to the larger issue of park funding across the City. But relative to the role that Community Development funding might play or other federal funds might play, it's not unprecedented first of all for Community Development to seek funds to improve a public space that might be known as park. I think the Library Plaza is one example of that where we were highly effective through the support and assistance of Pamela Davies in securing congressionally directed spending there. I certainly think that we might be eligible to apply for additional funds.

But that brings me to another point that I think is important to point out and I can't speak in detail to St. Andrews but the Your Voice, Your Choice Program has been focused on active and participatory budgeting in neighborhoods and sections of the City that may often be disengaged or not have had access to the budgeting process or the process generally for identifying priorities for infrastructure improvements. That's really the biggest reason why this sort of specialized effort was created and led by the Mayor several years ago to create an alternative and ideally a more approachable method for individuals living in those neighborhoods that may be more vulnerable, or lower income generally, or not English speaking. Name the vulnerability, those are the folks who were dealing with. It gave them a special opportunity to participate directly in selecting an effort they'd like to bring forward above all other efforts in the City.

So I really want to sort of put aside Your Voice, Your Choice in a sense because that's a very unique methodology and program intended to fund any improvement not just a park. It could, in fact, be the creation of additional lighting as we're

doing in the tree streets neighborhood. It could be, you know, installation of drainage infrastructure if that's something that a neighborhood wanted for some reason. So I think Your Voice, Your Choice exists independently of more widespread park funding issues across the City.

With that said, I know Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Comeau, and others have led efforts over the last year to get funding allocated to parks that are particularly important to their constituents. I certainly think Bryan Conant would come here and say that we have additional need to fund our parks and improvements there too and certainly Director Fauteux would as well. But luckily for me, I don't know that's my issue to solve directly but I do want to say for the record that we're happy to assist in grant writing or implementation of any funds that might be available to the City to improve any of the parks that might be coming to top of mind of any of the Aldermen sitting around the table tonight.

Chairman Dowd

All set?

Alderman O'Brien

No it's just a follow up if I may? Just more of a comment. I think you highlighted it. Maybe I do not aware if Director Fauteux is aware that she can apply to look at grants or maybe she is to work with you together on something like this. If the money is out there from the feds, then we would be amiss if we don't try to get as much as our fair share of what everybody else is getting.

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

I certainly would just to follow up on that. I don't want to make it seem as though federal funds exist everywhere for park improvement.

Alderman O'Brien

No, I understand.

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Division Director

Director Fauteux is working very hard to try and you know seek funds and find funds for any of the infrastructure improvements she's talking about. But I mean only to say that we're part of a sort of a multi-jurisdictional team internally that's looking at all federally available funds. We've been very successful over the last period of years. I expect we'll continue to do that and park funding is no doubt a priority at that too.

Alderman O'Brien

Nice job. Thank you Mr. Sullivan.

Chairman Dowd

Unless there's some last minute questions. Seeing none, Alderman O'Brien do you have a motion?

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN TO TABLE R-23-125
MOTION CARRIED**

GENERAL DISCUSSION - None

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

REMARKS BY THE ALDERMEN - None

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN TO ADJOURN
MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting was declared closed at 8:49 p.m.

Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Committee Clerk



Nashua Riverwalk TIF District

Revenue

Name	FY2023 Adopted Budget	FY2023 Available Budget	FY2023 YTD as of 3/31	FY2024 Department Proposed	FY2024 Mayor Proposed
Revenue Source					
PROPERTY TAXES	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,382,915	\$1,300,000	\$1,300,000
INTEREST INCOME	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$19,628	\$2,000	\$2,000
(INCREASE)/DECREASE IN FUND BALANCE	\$111,600	\$111,600	\$0	-\$796,000	-\$796,000
Total Revenue Source:	\$1,313,100	\$1,313,100	\$1,402,543	\$506,000	\$506,000

Appropriations

Name	FY2023 Adopted Budget	FY2023 Available Budget	FY2023 YTD as of 3/31	FY2024 Department Proposed	FY2024 Mayor Proposed
Expense Objects					
53 - Professional & Technical Services					
ARCHITECT & ENGINEERING SERVICES	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,972,892	\$200,000	\$200,000
Total 53 - Professional & Technical Services:	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,972,892	\$200,000	\$200,000
54 - Property Services					
BUILDING/GROUNDS MAINTENANCE	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$307,830	\$200,000	\$200,000
Total 54 - Property Services:	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$307,830	\$200,000	\$200,000
55 - Other Services					
OTHER CONTRACTED SERVICES	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$26,646	\$50,000	\$50,000
Total 55 - Other Services:	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$26,646	\$50,000	\$50,000
61 - Supplies & Materials					
MISCELLANEOUS SUPPLIES	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000
Total 61 - Supplies & Materials:	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000
72 - Debt Service					
PRINCIPAL	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
INTEREST	\$7,100	\$7,100	\$7,100	\$5,000	\$5,000
Total 72 - Debt Service:	\$62,100	\$62,100	\$62,100	\$55,000	\$55,000
Total Expense Objects:	\$1,313,100	\$1,313,100	\$2,369,469	\$506,000	\$506,000





School Street TIF District

Revenue

Name	FY2023 Adopted Budget	FY2023 Available Budget	FY2023 YTD as of 3/31	FY2024 Department Proposed	FY2024 Mayor Proposed
Revenue Source					
PROPERTY TAXES	\$0	\$0	\$18,932	\$20,000	\$20,000
INTEREST INCOME	\$0	\$0	\$4,694	\$0	\$0
(INCREASE);/DECREASE IN FUND BALANCE	\$280,520	\$280,520	\$0	\$259,340	\$259,340
Total Revenue Source:	\$280,520	\$280,520	\$23,626	\$279,340	\$279,340

Appropriations

Name	FY2023 Adopted Budget	FY2023 Available Budget	FY2023 YTD as of 3/31	FY2024 Department Proposed	FY2024 Mayor Proposed
Expense Objects					
72 - Debt Service					
PRINCIPAL	\$170,239	\$170,239	\$170,238	\$174,166	\$174,166
INTEREST	\$110,281	\$110,281	\$110,280	\$105,174	\$105,174
Total 72 - Debt Service:	\$280,520	\$280,520	\$280,518	\$279,340	\$279,340
Total Expense Objects:	\$280,520	\$280,520	\$280,518	\$279,340	\$279,340

