

BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE

JUNE 16, 2022

A meeting of the Budget Review Committee was held Thursday, June 16, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber and via Zoom which meeting link can be found on the agenda and on the city's website.

Alderman Richard A. Dowd, Chairman, presided.

Let's start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance. If you are participating via Zoom, please state your presence, reason for not attending the meeting in person, and whether there is anyone in the room with you during this meeting, which is required under the Right-To-Know Law.

Members of Committee present: Alderman Richard A. Dowd, Chairman  
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.  
Alderman Ernest Jette  
Alderman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly  
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

Members not in Attendance: Alderman John Cathey  
Alderman John Sullivan

Also in Attendance: Alderman Thomas Lopez  
Kevin Rourke, Police Chief  
Karen Smith, Business Manager

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ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

COMMUNICATIONS

From: Kevin Rourke, Police Chief  
Re: Police Department's Proposed 2023 Proposed Budget

***There being no objection, Chairman Dowd accepted the communication and placed it on file.***

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-22-035  
MOTION CARRIED**

**R-22-035**

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess  
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.  
Alderman John Sullivan  
Alderman Patricia Klee  
Alderman Thomas Lopez  
Alderman Alex Comeau  
Alderman Richard A. Dowd  
Alderman John Cathey  
Alderman Derek Thibeault  
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

**RELATIVE TO THE ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 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>Public Safety</u>		
150	Police Department	35 & 239	116

Chairman Dowd

This evening we're going to be having our second to the last review of Divisions and Departments which is tonight is public safety, Department number 150 - Police Department. Revenue is on page 35 and 239. Appropriations are on page 116. With those that wish to present to us this evening, come up and introduce yourselves. When you speak when questions are asked and things, then please restate your name for the record so that transcriptionists can know whose speaking.

Alderman O'Brien

Also gentlemen to these are directional microphones. So make sure they're close pretty much in front of you and if you turn. So just that.

Chairman Dowd

All right. So would you like to give an overview Chief?

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

Sure. Chief Kevin Rourke, Nashua Police. Good evening and thank you for taking time and meeting with us. I'd like to thank the Police Commissioners and our Business Manager Karen Smith for all their hard work in preparing this budget. Tonight we present to you the FY2023 initial department requested budget of a 3.5 increase over FY2022. However, considering the uncontrolled current and projected price of electricity and gasoline contributed to .8% of the increase, we have removed the utilities from the formula to calculate a realistic raise of 2.7% for analysis purposes.

In summary, the increase is attributed to necessary positions which I'll list in one moment, previously negotiated and approved union contracts, unaffiliated agreements, in grade promotions, reduction of \$140,000 for attrition, recommended utility and gasoline prices, computer replacement schedule increases, hardware software maintenance schedule increase, broadband increase, our replacement body armor schedule increase which that is funded 50% usually by a State grant and 50% by us, educational assistance, training increase, and a federal per diem rate. The 3.5% increase is \$834,540 plus the Mayor proposed a budget includes changes of \$295,061 for the second year of a sixth annual payments for the police body cameras. Also the NPD bottom line budget reduction of \$50,000 which brings the total to \$1,079,601, which comes up to a 4.6 increase over FY2022.

The budget also includes the four new positions which I spoke about earlier that we would like. The first one is an attorney, which comes up to \$92,500. We currently have two and a half attorneys at the Police Department. We do also utilize our Captain, Lieutenant, Sergeant, and a few officers in the Legal Bureau to help out with the caseload. We currently have a caseload of over 1,800 cases. The caseload is overwhelming and adding another attorney is long overdue. Just for some comparison, Manchester PD has almost similar caseload that we have and they have nine attorneys that work in the City Solicitor's Office. So we feel that this position is long overdue and much needed.

The second position is a body camera specialist which we've had the cameras now for that we went live in November. We need someone to man that full time. Right now we are barring another civilian from another position in the building. We need to make this, in our opinion, a full time position and a position that we need. In speaking to other departments around the country, some departments our size have two people if not more full time working this body worn camera project. So it is highly intense and very involved.

The third position is a Records Technician I which is \$39,452. It's for additional staff needed for training and retirement plan. Two of our senior civilians that work in the Records Management Division are retiring by the end of the year. So we wanted to get someone in there, and train them, and get them up to speed which is very important for our department to move forward.

The fourth position is a part time recruiter. You guys are all aware of the problem around the country. Currently, we're down anywhere from 10 to 12 people right now. We just hired eight people. So we were down 18. We're thinking outside the box - instead of doing the bonuses and what you see around the country, we decided that we wanted to go to part time recruiter - a civilian, possibly a former police officer that knows the way we work and to get them out in the community, get them out into colleges, and have them out there recruiting full time so our two recruiters can stay in the building and do backgrounds and test at a more rapid rate than we can right now. So that would be very beneficial for our Police Department moving forward. Again, that's \$34,991.

We also requested to replenish the Overtime Expendable Trust fund in the amount of \$100,000. It has been requested through the budget. The ETF account is crucial to the funding of investigative overtime. As you know, recently we've had three major cases in the city. We recently had a homicide on Marshall Street, a shooting at a downtown bar, and recently an individual shot off an AK 47 in a neighborhood which hit two houses and thank God no one was hurt. Investigations like that take up a lot of resources, a lot of time. We were very fortunate in these three cases where the suspect was apprehended immediately in a short time. Very fortunate and a lot of resources are developed out there to these investigations and a lot of manpower. So that's why we have the actual trust fund.

With this funding set aside the significant occurrences, the NPD overtime budget can be managed for daily operations. With that overview, with that being said, we are here. Our Finance Manager Karen Smith is on Zoom. We're here to answer any questions you may have on any light items or anything that I've said.

Chairman Dowd

Would you like to introduce your Assistant Chief?

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

The Deputy Chief Joe Fay is right beside me and he can answer any questions also.

Alderman O'Brien

Mr. Chairman if I may. Just a little housekeeping by the Clerk, I'd like to welcome Alderman Lopez who has joined us.

Chairman Dowd

Okay. Questions the Police Department budget?

Alderman Lopez

Just regarding the expendable trust for overtime budgeting, like typical expendable trust fund that that doesn't get expended than it is returned to the city budget?

Karen Smith, Business Manager

No that is a revolving account and the funding would stay in the account.

Alderman Lopez

Okay. So my understanding then is that if we put the money in there, then we can pay officers to do the investigations, and get convictions, and intervention but if they don't need it, then...

Chairman Dowd

It is much like the one for snow removal. If we don't have a big year of snow, it stays in there for the years that we get swamped with snow. So this is a continually usable until it runs low then we have to replenish it.

Alderman Lopez

Well just as a follow up to your analogy though, is it low?

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

Right now it's low. Yeah.

Alderman Lopez

Okay.

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

Karen if I'm not wrong, we're at zero, right?

Karen Smith, Business Manager

Correct. Karen Smith. There's maybe \$100 in there. We expended in July or August \$70,000 of \$100,000 funded account. So depending on the year and the situation, it goes pretty quick. So here we are in June and we're having activity and were not able to use the Expendable Trust Fund for a homicide investigation. We're using regular budget operational overtime account to fund. Fortunately as the Chief mentioned, the June activity was relatively quickly solved and the cost factor was \$22,000 for one week. Significant but not as significant as the July activity.

Chairman Dowd

Ms. Smith I believe the mayor put \$100,000 in the budget to be put into that expendable trust?

Karen Smith, Business Manager

That is correct. It has been funded for the FY23 In the current proposed budget.

Chairman Dowd

Just want to make that clear for everyone so thinking we're not leaving you hanging out.

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Chief I see that you want to put an additional position in which is somebody with the body cameras. For somebody that doesn't really know, this is actually part of a legal recording that could be used in court. Its protection both for the officer and for the person that's interacting with the Police Department. As a camera would do, give you real time footage of how you know the situation is. So to me, it's kind of but would you like to just expand on that why having this person to have these cameras fully operational as opposed to a safety issue, a legal issue, and assists within the court system?

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

Yes there's a there's a lot to it. Just one case that we had, we have a Right to Know Request. It's not even speaking of the court cases but there's a lot of redaction. So you'd have to watch this thing second by second and there's State laws and provisions that we have to redact certain things from it. So someone has to manually watch the video to redact the footage. So it takes a lot of time and you have to be pretty proficient at it.

Chairman Dowd

All the positions you mentioned are all in this budget?

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

Yes they are.

Alderman O'Brien

And one other follow up?

Chairman Dowd

Yes.

Alderman O'Brien

Coming and talking to my friends, my former colleagues there in the Fire Department, they're having the same problem. Do you anticipate having somebody reaching out? Do you think I will really make an impact in recruitment because I know it's a Phenom? When I got on the Fire Department, I took the test with several hundred people. That's not happening today unfortunately.

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

No we just recently had a test last Saturday and we had 50 people sign up and 21 showed up for the test. So the recruiting is very hard at this time. I will say we're not lowering our standards. We have the same standards that we had when I got hired and all the way through. So we are not lowering our standard just because we're having a problem. We're going to hire and recruit the right person. The best person.

Chairman Dowd

Other questions of the Police Department?

Alderman Jette

Thank you. So Chief can you - I'm reading your letter and could you help me? Could you make it clear to me what the difference is between what the Mayor has proposed and what you're requesting? I'm not sure but I think your letter says that what the Mayor is proposing would require, in your words, "require an unmanageable reduction to the police budget for existing services and personnel". Am I understanding that correctly and could you explain that?

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

What part is that, Sir?

Alderman Jette

It's your letter in paragraph 1, 2, 3 - the third paragraph.

Karen Smith, Business Manager

Chairman, can I assist?

Chairman Dowd

If you want to speak, yes, go ahead.

Karen Smith, Business Manager

Yes. Karen Smith. If I could read the letter. It says that the 1.4% represents a \$329,584 increase which would require an unmanageable reduction to the police budget for existing services and personnel. That would be an unmanageable amount. So the amount that was initially asked of us would it be unmanageable. The amount that the Mayor has proposed with a \$50,000 reduction, I'll defer to the Chief to speak to.

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

The \$50,000 reduction was his request.

Alderman Jette

So Miss Smith so when you say that the 1.4% represents a \$329,584 increase which would require an unmanageable reduction to the police budget for existing services and personnel. So I understand that would be unmanageable so what is manageable? What do you what are you asking for that's different?

Karen Smith, Business Manager

1.4% is not manageable. 4.6% is manageable.

Chairman Dowd

And that's what the Mayor has authorized?

Karen Smith, Business Manager

Yes.

Alderman Jette

Okay so the Mayor agrees with you I guess and he's increased it to 4.6% but he's asking after doing that, he's asking that it be reduced by \$50,000? Am I understanding that?

Karen Smith, Business Manager

Yes, that is correct. So he did put in the funding for the \$295,061 for the body armor and then he recommended a \$50,000 reduction - bottom line reduction. Along with the \$140,000 that I had already reduced for attrition, the Chief has discussed it and we've agreed that we can manage that.

Alderman Jette

Okay so just to be clear - I'm sorry. It's so difficult for me to get this. So what the Mayor is proposing, including the \$50,000 reduction from the bottom line, is okay with you. You can live with that you're saying?

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

Yes.

Karen Smith, Business Manager

Correct.

Alderman Jette

Okay. Thank you.

Alderwoman Kelly

Thank you. And Alderman O'Brien started asking the question I had. It was around the body cameras. I was supportive of putting that through and I remember when we passed it that last year, there was a lot of talk about making sure that they're supported, and that they're ready to go, that there aren't issues, and the contract at that time had tech support. So I'm just wondering had you planned on adding someone or has it as you've been working through how these work realizing that you really need a person making sure these are ready to go?

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

Yes so good question. Last year around this time was it right around the budget time? So when we started exploring the body worn cameras, we then realized we needed someone to man this full time because once we dove into this thing, we realized that we needed someone full time. Someone that's kind of an expert and understands the whole thing with the redaction, getting the supplies. Batteries run out after a couple of months. The watches - the battery on those run out. The cameras - they're switching them. So you need someone full time for the supply, the redaction, and just the updates. There's a lot to the whole program and at that time, it was just at the time last year when we went to the budget and I actually spoke to the Mayor and said is there any way we can get someone full time. It was literally I think it was the day before they were passing the final budget. So we decided to take someone internally and move them over to this position and they've been doing it since we got the cameras but we didn't know at that point we were going to need someone full time. We're kind of late to the table to put in for it.

Alderwoman Kelly

If I could follow up?

Chairman Dowd

Okay I was just gonna say as your liaison understands also sophisticated software involved with these cameras, it needs somebody to watch over it as well.

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

Yes.

Alderman Kelly

So you had said that a department of this size would often times have two. Is one enough?

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

Yes. Bill Pease our Accreditation Manager was doing an assessment last year with a Police Department just outside of Chicago. I actually sat in on the part where he was questioning about the body worn cameras. They were actually a smaller department than us and they had two full time people working it. So right now, we would have one full time people but we also have a couple other people in the building that kind of pitch in and help out that we gave a little bit more training to. They're pitching in and helping out. We're managing fine and one person we think right now is sufficient.

Alderman Kelly

Okay, thank you.

Chairman Dowd

Other questions?

Alderman Jette

Thank you. So before COVID, you know, I noticed that there was a pretty good police presence in - especially the bicycle police. I've heard - with COVID I've been at home with everyone else so I haven't really noticed but I've heard people complain like, for example, I've had complaints about Mine Falls Park. There was a perception - I don't know if it's true or not - but there was a perception that there wasn't much of a police presence. People were complaining about not seeing police as much. The leash law for dogs not being enforced. Different complaints of that nature. So from your point of view, do you feel that you're able to cover places like Mine Falls Park or downtown? Is the bicycle group back up and running or back and pedaling I should say?

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

Yes. We just started - Deputy Fay runs the Uniform Division and we actually have two people out on Main Street. We have set our Sector 1, which is right across from Dunkin Donuts there. The little shack there. We have an officer there on first shift and second shift. They are on the bike so they're going through Mine Falls. They're on Main Street. We also just added for summer hours a Sector 3 which is on Main Street. So we have two offices out there up and down Main Street during the summer hours first and second shift. So we have increased it.

Alderman Jette

Well that's good to hear. The other thing that people complain to me about is the noise emanating from motorcycles and people playing music from their cars. You know it kind of reverberates in the canyon of Main Street. I think there was a time - I don't know if it was last year or the year before where you were able to put a special patrol out there to try to teach people not to do that. To be more mindful of the ordinance against loud noises. Where does that stand? Are you able to do that again?

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

So if you walk out on Main Street right now, you're probably gonna see six to eight officers enforcing those laws right now. So once a week, we will put our POP Unit and our Traffic Unit out there. We try to hit it early in the season with heavy enforcement to get the message out there. So for the past several weeks, we've put six or eight officers out there. If you go out there tonight, there's six or eight officers out there. Like I said, we've increased patrols. We've added the Sector 3, which is a sector on Main Street and try to deter the loud music because the last thing we want is to hear complaints that people are out to dinner, a nice dinner at one of the restaurants sitting outside and hear the motorcycles go by and the loud stereos. So we have been out there the last several weeks enforcing it and they're out there right now.

Alderman Jette

Good. That's good to hear. Thank you.

Alderman Wilshire

I don't have a question on your budget but I was out there at 5 o'clock and I saw at least two officers. So thank you for that.

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

Our POP Unit is out there, along with that Traffic Unit, and probably a Supervisor or two. So there's plenty of them out there tonight. Like I said, we try to get out there early to get the message out.

Alderman Wilshire

They're on bikes so that's good. Thank you.

Alderman Lopez

Just out of curiosity, is the audio on the body cams good to pick up like when a car is going by because I know it's a little hard to be like, hey stop that when they're like driving by but, you know, being able to tell exactly how audible the sound is and being able to get the plate number I feel like...

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

It's pretty sensitive. So if the camera is on if someone's just standing there, they're not gonna have their camera on. But if they put the camera on, you'd probably hear it. It's pretty sensitive and the quality is very, very good.

Alderman Lopez

Just wanted to know the capability. Thanks.

Alderman O'Brien

Yeah to Alderman Jette, I served 11 years on the State Transportation Committee. We wrote many laws regarding noise and it comes down to what is noise. I think in the example of Hampton Beach, I know they do have - they're able to pull over motorcycles and to test. It's a never ending battle between the biker clan. They want to have stronger pipes because they feel that that's a defensive mechanism that they won't get, you know, sideswiped on the highway. But unfortunately, it is noise. They're not speced by the manufacturer. Its aftermarket pieces and they're not supposed to get an inspection sticker. So also equal to blame is the inspection people. They should recertify these bikes by the law that if they come in with aftermarket pipes, they should not receive, you know, an inspection sticker.

But what I really want to comment if I may, Mr. Chairman, in my meanderings of Main Street. Chief to going back, you didn't make a promise to us when we were hearing on the barriers. You said that there was going to be more police to assist in everything else like that. Well can you imagine my pleasure to see an officer walking the beat down on Main Street. He stopped within the avenue that I hang out - Castro's Cigars and talked to the gentleman there and continued on his way. I'll tell you, that to me is the ultimate form of community policeman - to engage, meet the business owners, the citizens, and stuff like that. So I thank you for working with us - the Infrastructure Committee on the barriers and everything and holding your word that to keep a presence on Main Street. It has from what I've seen made a difference and I thank you for that.

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

Thank you. Yeah, we've received a lot of positive feedback so far. So it's good to hear.

Chairman Dowd

Any other questions? Just a couple things. Are you satisfied with your CERF requests? I think you have two motorcycles and correct me if I'm wrong, six cruisers in CERF?

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

Yes, that sounds...

Chairman Dowd

So do you have the motorcycles out being used now?

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

I don't think they've come in yet.

Joseph Fay, Deputy Police Chief

The ones that are going to be appropriated for the next fiscal year, they'll probably take about eight to ten months to show up. That's the pattern we've been seeing recently. The motorcycles that we currently have in inventory have only been used for the most part for like parade and memorial type events so far. Most of our traffic enforcement efforts just for it that wasn't clear. In the Chief's message a few minutes ago with the return of traffic patterns coming out of COVID with a return of traffic patterns kind of returning to normal, the traffic complaints and traffic issues related to speeding motor vehicles, disorderly motor vehicles have also increased. So as a result of that, we did reallocate some personnel to reconstitute our Traffic Enforcement Unit. So that's another unit - a two person unit - that you will also see out on the Main Street area, specifically dealing with the issues that you mentioned in regards to rapid acceleration of motorcycles, screeching tires, and so forth. So instead of using the usually the State law on that one, we are fortunate enough to actually have the Board of Aldermen and the city pass an ordinance about 10 - 15 years ago. I believe maybe Alderwoman Wilshire worked on that one for us that address that specific activity in particular with the motorcycles during the rapid acceleration, and blowing out everybody's eardrums, and whatnot. So it's been a very effective tool for us. It fills in the gaps where the State Statutes were not allowing for that. So we are hitting it on all angles. Foot patrols with the mountain bikes because they're a little bit more mobile and then also with the Traffic Enforcement Unit.

Chairman Dowd

Has there been any further activity with Officer Graziano memorial?

Joseph Fay, Deputy Police Chief

A letter was sent to the Ward Alderman the last I checked in on that. That effort to rename that traffic circle or name that traffic circle is still in progress.

Chairman Dowd

Okay. I thought the last thing we had was to reach out to Rivier College since they maintain that but the Mayor and everybody was in favor of doing that. So anything we can do to help.

Joseph Fay, Deputy Police Chief

Thank you.

Chairman Dowd

Any other questions?

Alderman Jette

Since you brought up CERF, Alderwoman Kelly and I just came from an Environment and Energy Committee meeting. So she's probably thinking it and although she hasn't said it yet, but when you're looking at buying vehicles in the future are you considering electric vehicles?

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

We have the hybrid vehicles coming next year.

Alderman Jette

Hybrid not all electric?

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

No, just the hybrid vehicles.

Alderwoman Kelly

If I could take his follow on. For the hybrid vehicles, are you looking at replacing anything that comes through the fleet or is it just certain ones that you're looking at?

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

Just the ones that are on the schedule.

Alderwoman Kelly

So any police cruiser that comes through, you'll make it hybrid?

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

Yes.

Alderwoman Kelly

Okay. I didn't know if it was like, we're only doing the patrol or the SWAT. I don't know if they make a SWAT that's hybrid yet. Okay. Good. Thank you.

Joseph Fay, Deputy Police Chief

So the marked vehicles will be hybrid. All of our newest marked vehicles or replacement marked vehicles that are being ordered in the upcoming fiscal year will be the hybrid vehicles as well as the unmarked vehicles. In terms of going straight electric, I just don't know that the technology is quite there yet for a public safety vehicle at least in the manner that we use them in a sense that we just have to keep in mind that we use them 24 hours a day. So there are those issues with the cars being down for recharging and whatnot. So we may have to watch and wait a little bit longer in regard to that and see how maybe other agencies that are delving into those waters make out so that we don't end up having to order, you know, three times our fleet right now and rotating out vehicles because of that downtime that's required for charging.

Alderwoman Kelly

Yeah, just a comment. And this is something that I said we were talking about CERF before too is I think we have to think about what does that infrastructure look like when you get there, right? Because you're gonna have to physically plug in these cars and someone's gonna have to swap out. So just something that I'm continually talking about is like, alright, well we're gonna get the cars eventually. It's probably going to go there but then what's the infrastructure that's got to go along with it? The garage is gonna look a lot different.

Chairman Dowd

Have you taken into account the charging stations that you'll need for those vehicles? Is that in the budget?

Joseph Fay, Deputy Police Chief

No.

Chairman Dowd

We had a long conversation today about charging stations at the new DPW building.

Alderman O'Brien

Yeah, they could go to the DPW. We could put another 12 in for you. Who's going to pay though?

Chairman Dowd

So any way. That's good that we're moving in that direction. We've had a lot of conversations lately about energy savings and environment. Any other questions?

Alderman O'Brien

On the motorcycle I hate to go back and revisit it but we don't have the pipe reader that you can get and the decimeter that could - I know Hampton works with the State. The State's very influential because it's a State beach and you know, that's stripped there but I know we're different with Main Street. Has that been on the radar with the Nashua Police to, particularly with the outdoor dining for somebody question where you could get the decimeter out and say, yeah buddy, you're a little loud?

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

We did call State Police and used their machine last summer. You'd be surprised. You think a motorcycle is at that limit and with the echoing off our buildings, it sounds a lot louder than the reading. So a lot of these motorcycles from what I was told, they thought they were gonna be over the limit and once they put the meter on it, they were actually below it. So it's a lot of echoing off the buildings that sounds a lot louder than it was. So the buildings aren't helping.

Alderman O'Brien

So the point is, if I may follow up Mr. Chairman, it doesn't behoove us at this particular time to look into any purchasing of such a decimeter on our own then.

Kevin Rourke, Police Chief

We can we can look into it. We'll look into it.

Joseph Fay, Deputy Police Chief

In addition to that the decibel limits for the law, they're also required to have baffles. So there's no baffles within the exhaust system. That is citable using the State RSAs. But again, the issue we seem to have and as anyone that's been downtown or especially if you're outdoor dining knows, it's more when the rapid acceleration happens. That's where that ordinance is really key for us for enforcing that.

Chairman Dowd

We were outside earlier. There's some cars that need to be checked. All right. Any other questions? Thank you very much for coming in and keep up the good work. I know you guys have been really busy lately.

Alderman Wilshire

Thank you, Karen.

Chairman Dowd

Thanks, Karen. Feel better.

Karen Smith, Business Manager

You're welcome. Thank you.

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN TO TABLE R-22-035  
MOTION CARRIED**

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Alderman O'Brien

I think Alderman Jette is correct with the loudness of the motorcycles. I'm glad the Chief is willing to look into maybe the decimeter. I don't know if that is the solution or not but like I say, noise is noise but is it actual legalness? So I'm glad they're open minded to that.

Chairman Dowd

And I think we'll find out it's kind of an expensive piece of equipment.

Alderman O'Brien

I wouldn't be a bit surprise Mr. Chairman.

Alderwoman Kelly

Just think out loud for a second. I wonder if there were alternate ways. If it's bouncing off the buildings like if there were more trees or like is there a way to like do something environmentally that might help?

Chairman Dowd

We could put sound abatement on the sides of the walls.

Alderwoman Kelly

If you put something up on your walls, you have less you know.

Alderman Jette

We could add foam to the barriers.

Alderman O'Brien

Alderman Jette, bingo! Very good.

Chairman Dowd

I can tell you that noise abatement in gymnasiums for the school projects is not cheap. Any other general discussion?

REMARKS BY THE ALDERMEN - None

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was declared closed at 7:39 p.m.

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