



# CITY OF FALL RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS

## CITY COUNCIL

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2017 DEC -8 A 9:17

**COLLEEN A. TAYLOR**  
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

**INÉS LEITE**  
RIVER, MA  
ASSISTANT CLERK OF COMMITTEES

December 7, 2017

Dear Councilor:

A meeting of the City Council Committee on Budget Preparation, Revenue and Audits will be held on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 4:00 PM in the Council Chamber, One Government Center, to discuss the following items:

1. Resolution – Discuss the amounts and sources of revenue in the Fiscal Year 2018 Budget (tabled 5-24-17)
2. Resolution – Discuss creation of an OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits) Fund (tabled 10-24-16)
3. Resolution – Committee convene to meet with department heads and supervisors to ensure efficient functionality of city departments (tabled 3-23-17)
  - a. Mayor
  - b. City Administrator
  - c. Corporation Counsel
4. Resolution – Discuss financial impact of cancelling PAYT (Pay as you throw) Program (referred 2-21-17)
5. Communication – Fall River School Department employees re: 2016-2017 School Year Shortfall (tabled 4-19-16)
6. Communication – Greater Fall River Vocational School District re: funding to Repair soccer/football field (referred 6-27-17)

It is respectfully requested that you attend this meeting.

Very truly yours,

Colleen A. Taylor  
Clerk of Committees

Committee Members:  
R. Cabeceiras, Chair  
S. Cadime  
L. Pereira

**ADA Coordinator**  
**Gary P. Howayeck, Esq. 508-324-2650**

City of Fall River, In City Council

Budget Preparations, Revenue  
& Audits /

(Councilor Richard Cabeceiras)

WHEREAS, projected revenue numbers are being discussed within the Administration,  
and

WHEREAS, it is important that the City Council is made aware of the amounts and  
sources of revenue in the FY18 Budget, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Administration be invited to the City Council Committee on  
Budget Preparation, Revenue and Audits to discuss this very important matter.

In City Council, May 16, 2017  
Adopted.

A true copy. Attest:

*Alison M. Bouchard*

City Clerk

*Tabled 5-24-17*

City of Fall River, In City Council

Budget Prep, Revenue & Audits 2

(President Shawn E. Cadime)

WHEREAS, the City of Fall River has unfunded pension liabilities, and

WHEREAS, the creation of an OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits) Fund could be beneficial to the City of Fall River, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Administration be invited to a future meeting of the City Council Committee on Budget Preparation, Revenue and Audits to discuss the possibility of creating an OPEB Fund.

In City Council, August 16, 2016  
Adopted

A true copy. Attest:

*Alison M. Bouchard*  
City Clerk

*tabled 10-24-16*

WHEREAS, all city departments are paid for with taxpayer dollars and many residents are unclear of the functions and responsibilities of these departments, and

WHEREAS, many times issues can be prevented if addressed early and the residents of Fall River could benefit from a transparent look at individual departments' functions and use of tax revenue, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council Committee on Budget Preparation, Revenue and Audits convene to meet with department heads and supervisors to ensure efficient functionality, prevent potential deficits and provide transparency to residents.

In City Council, October 11, 2016  
Adopted

A true copy. Attest:

*Alison M. Bouchard*

City Clerk

tabled 10-24-16  
tabled 3-23-17

City of Fall River, In City Council

Budget Prep., Revenue & Audits

4

(Councilor Pam Laliberte-Lebeau)  
(Councilor Cliff Ponte)

WHEREAS, there has been a steady decrease in Pay-as-you-throw projected revenues since the inception of the program, and

WHEREAS, even with these decreases the projections have still never been met, and

WHEREAS, this revenue has a significant overall impact on our Operating Budget, and

WHEREAS, there are other options available to the City to meet our solid waste needs, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Committee on Budget Preparation, Revenue and Audits convene to discuss the financial impact of cancelling the PAYT program and that the Administration and City Council offer alternative options to be considered.

In City Council, February 21, 2017  
Adopted, as amended

A true copy. Attest:

*Alison M. Bouchard*

City Clerk

*Budget Prep., Revenue & Audits*

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2016 MAR 18 A 11: 50

March 1, 2016

Samuel Watson Elementary School  
395 Eastern Avenue  
Fall River, MA 02723

CITY CLERK  
FALL RIVER, MA

Dear Mayor Correia, City Council, and School Committee:

I am writing to you today in regards to the pending Fall River Public Schools budget. As it stands at this time, our schools have a \$7 million shortfall for the 2016-2017 school year. Teachers employed by Fall River Public Schools are gravely concerned about the students of this city and their future.

The school department has made great progress these last few years to ensure that our students get the education they require and deserve. We have made great strides in social emotional education through professional development and Wraparound Zones in many schools, reorganized some schools to improve services to students, and offered programs for students and parents. Academically, schools have shown improvement on standardized tests, and our graduation rate has increased. Many have suggested that this progress is not enough.

We should be proud of the progress our students and schools have made, but there is still much to do. With the changing demographics of our city, our students come to us with more needs that require more resources. There is currently a consistent influx of English Language Learners, students with social emotional needs, and Special Education Students. If we do not adequately fund our schools or at least provide what is now available, there is no way we can continue on this upward trend. You cannot and should not expect our schools to advance with less when right now our needs are so great. As a community, we should be greatly concerned about what will happen to the neediest of our schools and students if we cut personnel and programs. This does not take into account other costs associated with our schools such as building maintenance, technology, and necessary supplies and materials. Our students deserve the same resources as those in more affluent communities.

**Our students deserve more, not less!** Please consider this when making decisions regarding the 2016-2017 school budget. As a community, we must work together to ensure our students believe and succeed.

Sincerely,

*Corraanne A. Agre*

Teacher, Watson School

CITY OF FALL RIVER  
IN CITY COUNCIL

APR 05 2016

*Referred to the Committee on Budget Preparation, Revenue and Audits, 8 years, 1 day*

*Filed  
4-19-16*

Budget Preparation, Revenue & Audits

# GREATER FALL RIVER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

6

FALL RIVER • SOMERSET



SWANSEA • WESTPORT

Thomas F. Aubin, *Superintendent-Director*  
[taubin@dimanregional.org](mailto:taubin@dimanregional.org)

251 Stonehaven Road  
Fall River, Massachusetts 02723  
Telephone: 508-678-2891  
Fax: 508-679-6423

Elvio A. Ferreira, *Assistant Superintendent/Principal*  
[eferreira@dimanregional.org](mailto:eferreira@dimanregional.org)

June 15, 2017

Mr. Richard Cabeceiras, Chairman  
Budget Preparation, Revenue and Audits Committee  
Fall River City Hall  
One Government Center  
Fall River, MA 02722

RECEIVED  
2017 JUN 20 A 9:39  
CITY CLERK  
FALL RIVER, MA

Dear Chairman Cabeceiras:

On behalf of the entire Greater Fall River Vocational School District, I would like to thank you for the Committee's May 24, 2017 invitation to speak with the Budget Preparation, Revenue and Audit Committee. Your invitation to possibly provide more financial support to our district is most appreciated, considering the fact that over three-fourths of our students are Fall River residents. At the aforementioned May 24<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Committee agreed that we should provide a proposed project and the approximate cost of the project so as to get consideration from the Committee.

To this end, we are asking the Committee if they could consider providing financial support for a desperately needed project at the school. We are currently attempting to renovate our soccer/football field that is in horrible disrepair. The field repair project is estimated to cost approximately one-hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000). We have committed forty-eight thousand dollars (\$48,000) of institutional funds for the repair. The Diman Bengal Educational Foundation has committed twelve-thousand dollars (\$12,000) for the repair as well. This leaves us approximately forty-thousand dollars (\$40,000) short in terms of funding this project. As we have nine teams that use the field in the fall, we are looking to have this repair done straight-away.

If you have any questions regarding this project, feel free to contact me at your earliest convenience.

Thank you,

Thomas F. Aubin  
Superintendent-Director

CITY OF FALL RIVER  
IN CITY COUNCIL  
JUN 27 2017  
*Ref to Committee on  
Budget Preparation  
Revenue and Audits*