

City of Alexandria, Virginia
BUDGET AND FISCAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BFAAC)

Monthly Meeting

December 19, 2023

City Hall, Sister Cities Conference Room

Summary Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Amy Friedlander (Chair), John Ruthinoski (Secretary), Chris Ferrara, Laurie MacNamara, David Millard, Michelle Millben, Rob Rapanut, Antonio Tamariz, Randall Williams

Excused/Absent:

Julio Ramirez, Mark Tonsetic

Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Staff:

Arthur Wicks, Morgan Routt

Guests:

Kendall Taylor, Director, Department of Finance
Catherine Delune, Alexandria Resident

Agenda:

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Friedlander called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. with a quorum present.
2. **Approval of the Minutes from the October 30, 2023 meeting:** A motion was made by Millben and seconded by Tamariz to approve the minutes of the October 30 BFAAC meeting. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.
3. **Introductions:** Chair Friedlander asked Catherine Delune, a HS Sophomore working on her Citizenship and Community merit badge, to introduce herself.
4. **BFAAC Education Session: Department of Finance**

Chair Friedlander pointed out a new form in everyone's packets: Budget 101 BFAAC Notes Outline. She asked BFAAC members to record their key takeaways from each education session on the form in the hopes that they will be helpful when BFAAC members develop their summaries after all the education sessions are complete.

Chair Friedlander announced that issues surrounding the proposed relocation of Monumental Sports to Potomac Yard would not be part of this evening's education session. Wicks stated that there was a 90-minute discussion at the previous evening's Council meeting if anyone is interested in that topic. Kendall Taylor added that FAQ on the financing of the project is under development and will be released publicly next week.

Kendall Taylor gave an extensive presentation on the functions of the Department of Finance. Following the presentation, **Chair Friedlander** asked all BFAAC members to reflect on one new thing they learned. She added that the next education session in January will focus on the CIP.

5. **OMB Report: Wicks** reported that ACPS presented its CIP in November, and it was pretty close to expectations. The School Board subsequently added another \$65 Million (with \$20 in the first year.) He added that OMB did not think that they would be able to fund all of it. OMB will publish their CIP in February.
6. **Other Business: Chair Friedlander** reported that two members of BFAAC chose to resign over the weekend due to a subcommittee issue that arose last week. She reminded BFAAC members that they represent Council and need to be comfortable with Council members hearing anything that is said in a public meeting.

Ferrara reported on the Ad-hoc Stormwater Committee meeting he attended. He reported that they discussed upcoming high-cost projects, including the installation of monitoring equipment at outfalls so that the city will be able to get real-time data on flooding. They are looking to expand these to streams across the city and will eventually develop a dashboard accessible to the public. **Chair Friedlander** announced that in the future, reports from this committee would be added to the agenda.

7. **Adjournment: Millard** moved the meeting be adjourned. **Rouff** seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:01 PM.

8. **Upcoming Meetings/Significant Dates:**

- BFAAC Regular Meeting (CIP Education Session) – January 16, 2023 – 7:00 PM
- BFAAC Regular Meeting (ACPS Budget Education Session) – February 20, 2024 - 7:00 PM
- FY 2025 Proposed Budget Presentation – February 27, 2024 – 7:00 PM
- FY 2025 Proposed Budget Presentation (public) – February 29, 2024 – 7:00 PM
- FY 2025 Proposed Budget Public Hearing – March 11, 2024 – 5:30 PM
- BFAAC Regular Meeting – March 19, 2024 – 7:00 PM