

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

**Monthly Meeting**

April 16, 2024, 7:00 PM

City Hall, Sister Cities Conference Room

**Summary Minutes**

**Committee Members Present:**

Amy Friedlander (Chair), Michelle Millben (Vice Chair), John Ruthinoski (Secretary), Nancy Drane, Chris Ferrara, Laurie MacNamara, Julio Ramirez, Rob Rapanut, Brant Snyder, Antonio Tamariz, Mark Tonsetic, Randall Williams.

**Excused/Absent:**

David Millard

**Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Staff:**

Arthur Wicks, Morgan Routt

**Guests:**

None

**Agenda:**

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Friedlander called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. with a quorum present.
2. **BFAAC Budget Work Session Debrief & Work Planning**

**Chair Friedlander** began by reviewing the BFAAC's presentation before the City Council's Work Session on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, including the suggestions made by City Council members for future BFAAC projects. Nancy **Drane** suggested the BFAAC partner with the ACPS Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) on a memo with recommendations for improving future budget guidance and improving communication between the City Council and ACPS. After discussion, it was decided that a draft of the memo should be available by the May BFAAC meeting. Nancy **Drane** will coordinate with BAC to prepare the draft memo. Michelle **Millben** also volunteered to work on the memo.

**Chair Friedlander** reviewed other potential future topics for BFAAC raised at the Work Session:

- Special Revenue Funds and Grants (education session originally planned for FY 24; will take place in FY 25.)
- Exploring the use of RHA/IDA and recommendations for legislative positions
- Other lenses for reviewing the budget (e.g, Diversity Scores)
- Dashboards and KPIs (including and update by the Department of Project Implementation)

- Economic Development (including an education session by Alexandria Economic Development Partnership)
  - Transportation (Including DASH & WMATA funding)
  - Budget education & outreach opportunities
  - Personnel & Compensation, including impact of collective bargaining on the budget (education session originally planned for FY 24; will take place in FY 25)
  - Revenue Master Plan
3. **BFAAC Education Series: Chair Friedlander** asked BFAAC members for suggestions about what a deliverable from the Budget Education Sessions might look like. **Millben** asked BFAAC members to think about who the intended target audience would be for the work products. **Friedlander** suggested BFAAC members review the four education work sessions that have been completed and record what the takeaways would be for each of them. She asked for a BFAAC member to spearhead these efforts. Randall **Williams** volunteered.

**Friedlander** announced that that next education session would be about the ACPS budget and would be held at the May BFAAC meeting. She asked BFAAC members to get questions to her in advance of the meeting by May 7<sup>th</sup>.

#### 4. Updates and Reports

- *Stormwater Utility & Flood Mitigation Advisory Group* – Chris **Ferrara** reported that the Advisory Group does not meet again until May 15, 2024.
  - *OMB Report* – Morgan **Routt** reported that Add/Deletes have been posted and that a public hearing was held last week. The Tax Rate Work Session will be held on April 24<sup>th</sup>. The Add/Deletes would require an additional \$12 M in revenue and a 2.5 cent real estate tax increase if all of them were adopted. He added that the \$12M includes \$8.7M of the School Board’s additional \$11M request.
  - Michele **Millben** thanked **Chair Friedlander** for her leadership and spearheading the Budget Education Sessions.
5. **Adjournment:** Robert **Rapanut** moved the meeting be adjourned. Brant **Snyder** seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 PM.

#### 6. Upcoming Meetings/Significant Dates:

- Tax Rate Public Hearing/Budget Work Session #6 – April 24, 2024 – 5:30 PM
- Budget Work Session #7 – Final Add/Delete Discussion – April 29, 2024 – 6:00 PM
- Budget Adoption – May 1, 2024 – 6:00 PM
- BFAAC Regular Meeting – May 14, 2024 – 7:00 PM