

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

**Monthly Meeting**  
May 14, 2024  
City Hall, Room #3008

**Summary Minutes**

**Committee Members Present:**

Amy Friedlander (Chair), John Ruthinoski (Secretary), Chris Ferrara, David Millard, Rob Rapanut, Brant Snyder, Antonio Tamariz, Mark Tonsetic, Julio Ramirez

**Excused/Absent:**

Nancy Drane, Laurie MacNamara, Michelle Millben (Vice Chair), Randall Williams

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

Arthur Wicks, Morgan Routt

**Guests:**

Robert Easley Director of Budget and Financial Systems, ACPS, Dominic Turner, Director of Financial Services, ACPS, Consuela Barber, Office of Management and Budget, Ryan Reyna, ACPS Budget Advisory Committee

**Agenda:**

1. **Call to Order: Chair Friedlander** called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. without a quorum present.
  
2. **BFAAC Education Series – Alexandria City Public Schools:** Staff from ACPS reviewed the budget structure and process for Alexandria City Public Schools. The Local Composite Index was also discussed as well as Alexandria’s small operations staff compared to other jurisdictions.  
  

**Tamariz** asked about average teacher salaries. Easley responded ACPS tries to be among the highest rated school system in teacher salaries, benefits, and class size. He recommended reviewing the website of the Washington Areas Boards of Education for this information about all local school systems. **Rapanut** asked how close the ACPS enrollment projections are in retrospect. **Easley** responded that they are usually not off by more than 1%. **Ruthinoski** asked about the timing of the enrollment projections. **Easley** said it is based on actual enrollment as of September 30<sup>th</sup>. **Friedlander** asked if ACPS staff would be willing to return next fiscal year for a more in-depth conversation; a “Budget 201” session.
  
3. **Approval of the Minutes from the April 16, 2024, meeting:** A motion was made by **Snyder** and seconded by **Tamariz** to approve the minutes of the April 16<sup>th</sup> BFAAC meeting. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

#### 4. **BFAAC Workplan Items Check-in**

**Chair Friedlander** reported that Williams created a template to capture main takeaways from BFAAC Budget Education Sessions. She recommended that every BFAAC member should review two of the sessions and complete the template or review one session and volunteer to consolidate the summaries for a specific session. In addition, she mentioned that **Millben** has an idea for a process to follow up on items raised during BFAAC meetings.

**Chair Friedlander** suggested that the BFAAC meet in June to finalize plans for reviewing the previous education sessions as well as set up a schedule for next year's budget education sessions. There being no objection, it was so moved. **Wicks** will poll members to find a date for the June BFAAC meeting.

5. **Ad Hoc Stormwater Committee Report:** Ferrara reported that the Ad Hoc Stormwater Committee does not meet again until May 21st.

#### 6. **OMB Report**

**Routt** announced that the final Add/Delete items resulted in an additional \$4M for ACPS compensation and \$3M for City compensation with some funding also being added to cash capital. He added that at the June 11<sup>th</sup> Council meeting an appropriations ordinance will be passed and then a \$200M Bond Authorizations will also be enacted, although the city will not borrow that much.

**Routt** reported that OMB was reviewing past budget guidance documents following the City Council's recommendation. OMB will develop an analysis that will be shared with the Council and the School Board that will be shared with the BFAAC before the Council adopts it in November.

7. **Adjournment:** **Routt** moved the meeting be adjourned. **Snyder** seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM.

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

- BFAAC Regular Meeting – TBA June – 7:00 PM
- BFAAC Regular Meeting – Tuesday, September 17, 2024 – 7:00 PM
- BFAAC Regular Meeting – Tuesday, October 15, 2024 – 7:00 PM
- BFAAC Regular Meeting – Tuesday, November 19, 2024 – 7:00 PM
- BFAAC Regular Meeting – Tuesday, December 17, 2024 – 7:00 PM
- BFAAC Regular Meeting – Tuesday, January 21, 2025 – 7:00 PM
- BFAAC Regular Meeting – Tuesday, February 18, 2025 – 7:00 PM
- BFAAC Regular Meeting – Tuesday, March 18, 2025 – 7:00 PM
- BFAAC Regular Meeting – Tuesday, April 15, 2025 – 7:00 PM
- BFAAC Regular Meeting – Tuesday, May 20, 2025 – 7:00 PM