

Daniel J Penney: 03/11/2019

Mr. Penney identified the following opportunities to help offset increased spending:

As the district has shared that P&W has significant tax exemptions, relative to the grand list, it seems that the commission should approach P&W to discuss fiscal support to help ease the tax burden on the district taxpayers.

The SFD has no compliance authority relative to the CVH campus, i.e. the state fire marshal is by CGS the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). Accordingly, if the district can't directly recover such related expenses for the fire services being provided, then the commissioners need to formally request that the city provide the equal amount share of PILOT funds it receives from the state.

The district has indicated that it will be entering into CBA negotiations with the local. The commissioners should identify cost savings that may reasonably be achieved and use to off-set district tax increases. Quite often, commissioners and staff reference such cost are "out control" relative to the CBA. However, in fact, commissioners do have control of such when they negotiate such a CBA for the district.

Significant overtime spending expenses continue to be proposed year after year, with limited analysis or justification. Mr. Penney agrees with the commissioners that a more focused analysis needs to be complete for the next budget workshop. This should include but not be limited to the subject areas of shift schedules, sick time, impact of increased shift staffing, training and a review of district mandated operational protocols.

A more comprehensive explanation of budgeted overtime vs reimbursed overtime is needed, i.e. revenues from power plant standby as compared to what was/is budgeted ?

Mr. Penney also asked that back-up detail relative to certain significant budget line items be provided.

The funding for the recommended forensic audit needs to be identified.

Are saving achieved when the insurance company picks up the cost of worker comp. claims?

Does the district anticipate any other revenue that may be realized for the 2019/2020 FY?

Further discussion needed relative to line item adjustments at fiscal year ending (FYE), including explanation relative to such line items such as 7707 - Contingency , \$50,000.

Need detail of CNR for next meeting as well as organizational chart, existing and proposed.

As in past years, are there any discussion at the state budget level relative to tax collections that may impact the district?