

SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

A Special Legislative, Finance, and Administration Committee Meeting was held on June 08, 2026, at 5:01 p.m. with Chairman Anderson presiding. Members of Council present were Council President Neil, Ms. Arndt, Mr. Boggerty, Ms. Hall (in at 5:12 p.m.), Mr. Lewis (in at 5:06 p.m.), Dr. Pillsbury (via WebEx), Mr. Rocha, and Dr. Sudler. Mayor Christiansen was also present. Civilian members present were Mr. Shevock and Mr. Garfinkel (in at 5:11 p.m.).

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Ms. Arndt moved for adoption of the agenda, seconded by Mr. Shevock and unanimously carried.

Proposed Ordinance #2026-12 – Amending Chapter 2 – Administration, Article V. – Finance, by adding Sec. 4-428. – Public Safety Fee (Sharon Duca, Acting City Manager)

Ms. Sharon Duca, Acting City Manager, reviewed the background for Proposed Ordinance #2026-12.

Staff recommended forwarding Proposed Ordinance #2026-12 to council for approval.

Responding to Mr. Rocha, Ms. Duca stated that the ordinance is structured to mirror processes similar to sanitation, sewer, etc., where rates are included in the rates and tariffs. She noted that once council has taken action, the residential rates would be set at zero. The commercial rates would be divided into three groups: small, medium, and large, which coincide with the electric designation for sizing commercial properties. Those rates would be \$10, \$20, and \$40 a month.

Responding to Mr. Rocha, Ms. Duca stated that it is set up so that residential could be included in the future if it were needed.

Mr. Anderson noted that the commercial numbers apply to businesses, nonprofits, and so forth.

Responding to Mayor Christiansen, Ms. Duca stated that the funds would be allocated for specific expenses related to police and fire. The funds for the fire department would be used towards fire truck debt services and purchases. The police department funds would be used in relation to their administrative expenses and capital costs. Therefore, establishing a separate fund would ensure that the money is going directly to where it is supposed to, due to the additional accounting standards that are required to monitor those funds.

Responding to Mayor Christiansen, Ms. Duca stated that it is important for the public to understand that the city does not cover their full expenses outside of the allotment provided once a year. Most of the funding is gathered through the volunteer fire department. She explained that the city covers fire truck purchases, which are being focused on. The needs of the fire department are not negated by the creation of the fee.

Mr. Anderson noted that he spoke with Chief Carey of the Dover Fire Department who did not raise any objections.

Responding to Mr. Lewis, Ms. Duca stated that the proposed fund's allocations should be discussed during the budget hearing process so that council is aware of how the funds will be used. She noted that if \$600,000 is budgeted, the intended uses of those funds should be identified during budget deliberations. Ms. Ducas further stated that any additional funding needs or newly identified expenditure should be brought back before council for discussion and consideration.

Mr. Rocha moved to accept the staff recommendation for Proposed Ordinance #2026-12. The motion was seconded by Dr. Sudler and unanimously carried.

Mr. Anderson moved for adjournment of the Legislative, Finance, and Administration Committee meeting, hearing no objection the meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.