

The second Public Hearing for the 2021-2022 fiscal year budget was held May 10, 2021 at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers. Present: Mayor Nystrom, President Pro Tem Bettencourt, Alderman Gould, Nash, Wilson and Myles. City Manager Salomone and Corporation Counsel Michael Driscoll were also in attendance.

**Please be advised that meetings of the Norwich City Council can be viewed in their entirety on the City of Norwich website “norwichct.org”.**

Mayor Nystrom opened the Public Hearing.

Fred Phelps, 17 Sabrina Ct, asked the Council to support funding to upgrade the Armstrong tennis courts.

Marvin Serruto, 100 Starr St, spoke in opposition to this budget and asked that the Board of Education make sacrifices to their budget. He asked for more accountability toward our taxes in the city.

Rodney Bowie, 62 Roosevelt Ave, stated his neighbors would like to know why taxes are so high. He asked to reduce government spending to keep taxes low and keep people in town.

Joanne Philbrick, 10 Elm Ave, stated that it is an insult for tax payers to be allotted only three minutes to speak on two budget hearings. She stated that the high taxes, salaries and spending is out of control. She told the Council that they don't understand how this affects citizens on a fixed income and people in Norwich can't afford a 50 mil rate.

Shiela Hayes, 382 Laurel Hill Ave, thanked Department Heads and the Board of Education for a good budget. She asked for the Council to approve the increase in the Board of Education budget of 3.95%. She told the Council that it was a very difficult/challenging last year for everyone and asked to help support the youth and families in the city as well as help support Arts and Culture programs.

John Blackburn, 15 Alice St, stated he doesn't like the 3.95% increase in the Board of Education budget. He stated he is not anti-education and feels the kids need to be in school. He stated the Council should do some internal housekeeping so that there won't be an increase in taxes.

Mayor Nystrom closed the Public Hearing at 8:07 pm



City Clerk