

**WARREN CITY COUNCIL
2015 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING
DECEMBER 11, 2014 – 5:30 PM**

PUBLIC HEARING – 2015 PROPOSED BUDGET

Mayor Cashman called the Public Hearing to order at 5:30 PM in Council Chambers of the Municipal Building and announced that it was for the purpose of hearing public comment regarding the 2015 Proposed Budget.

Council members present and responding to roll call were: Mayor Maurice Cashman, Dr. Howard Ferguson, Gregory Fraser, Samuel Harvey, Richard Kolcharno, John Lewis, and James A. Zavinski, Sr. Mrs. Freenock, Mr. Hildebrand, Mr. Holtz, Mrs. Leary, Ms. Nau, Chief Pascuzzi, Mrs. Risinger, and Chief Zydonik of City staff were also in attendance.

Mayor Cashman welcomed all visitors and stated that Council would give consideration to comments received.

PUBLIC PRESENT

- Pauline Steinmeyer: City resident – 18 Prospect Street
- Rob Anderson: Times Observer Reporter

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Pauline Steinmeyer addressed Council and noted that she had viewed the proposed 2015 Budget Summary, the Manager's Budget Message, and the 2015 Operational Plan. Based on her understanding of the documents, Mrs. Steinmeyer enumerated areas of the budget which were of concern to her and distributed documents to Council members which reflect her various concerns.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further citizens present and wishing to provide comment, Mayor Cashman thanked Mrs. Steinmeyer for her attendance and comments and declared the hearing closed.

Following the Public Hearing, Mrs. Freenock announced that the proposed budget had been revised and indicated that she would provide a brief overview of amended items. Mrs. Freenock noted that Council members were welcome to ask questions; however, there were to be no deliberations as the meeting was not advertised for such purpose.

Mrs. Freenock indicated that the proposed budget, in its current form, will be balanced without making cuts as previously suggested. It was noted that agreements have been reached with the Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge No. 83, and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union No. 459 which has allowed the respective departments to more accurately determine personnel expenses for 2015. Negotiations with the International Association of Firefighters, Local Union No. 1835 are ongoing. Also noted was the significant cost savings to be realized by changing to a new healthcare insurance provider.