

Govt - 5.14.15

BRYAN

THE CROSS INSURANCE CENTER AND BASS PARK WERE THE TOPICS DURING A BUDGET MEETING IN BANGOR.

COUNCILORS DISCUSSING THE NUMBERS AND THE EXPECTED REVENUE FROM THE VENUES FOR THE COMING FISCAL YEAR.

VO

ANOTHER MAJOR TOPIC--HOW TO DIVVY UP FUNDS TO PUBLIC WORKS IN ORDER TO FIX SHODDY ROADS.

AS ALWAYS, POTHOLES ARE A COMMON CONCERN AND THIS YEAR IS NO DIFFERENT. WHILE THE COUNCIL PLANS ON SETTING THE BUDGET BY MID-JUNE--MUCH OF THAT DEPENDS ON FUTURE POLICY IN AUGUSTA.

COUNCILOR BEN SPRAGUE SAYS REVENUE SHARING WILL PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN HOW THE CITY FINALIZES THE NUMBERS--ADDING THAT HE BACKS ONE PROPOSED TAX PLAN OVER ANOTHER.

TIME CUE:/00:21/

SOT EDUCATION FUNDING AND FUNDING FOR STREET REPAIRS AND SIDEWALKS. A LOT OF THAT DOES COME FROM AUGUSTA. SPEAKING JUST FOR MYSELF, HAVING THE DEMOCRATS' PLAN TO HAVE REVENUE SHARING PRESERVED AND TO NOT DRAMATICALLY DECREASE THE INCOME TAX AT THE EXPENSE THE PROPERTY TAX DOES MAKE MORE SENSE BUT DIFFERENT PEOPLE AROUND THE TABLE WOULD HAVE DIFFERENT VIEWS ABOUT THAT.

VO

SOME REPUBLICAN LAWMAKERS AND GOVERNOR LEPAGE ARE ADAMANT--SAYING RAISING SALES TAXES WILL BE OF MOST BENEFIT TO COMMUNITIES AND TOWNS AROUND THE STATE.

LEPAGE STANDS BY HIS STATEMENT THAT SLASHING INCOME TAX WILL PAY FOR ITSELF.

Government 4-22-15

PATRICK

IT'S CALLED A BETTER DEAL FOR MAINE--AND IT'S IN DIRECT OPPOSITION TO GOVERNOR LEPAGE'S INCOME TAX ELIMINATION. DEMOCRATIC SPEAKER MARK EVES AND SENATE DEMOCRATIC LEADER JUSTIN ALFOND BOTH SAY--THE GOVERNOR'S PLAN IS FAILED TRICKLE DOWN ECONOMICS--AND THAT IT'S TIME TO STOP SQUEEZING OUT THE MIDDLE CLASS.

PKG

SOT SO WE ARE PUTTING FORTH A MIDDLE CLASS TAX PACKAGE THAT IS GOING TO HELP WORKING PEOPLE OF MAINE

SUPER:/JUSTIN ALFOND, SENATE DEMOCRATIC LEADER/

LOCALS GATHERED AT HAMMOND STREET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH--TO HEAR ABOUT TAX AGENDA, THAT DEMOCRAT SAY SLASHES PROPERTY TAXES AND GIVES 98 PERCENT OF INCOME TAX RELIEF TO 95 PERCENT OF ALL TAXPAYERS

SOT MAINE IS REALLY AT A CROSSROADS--OUR ECONOMY IS LAGGING BEHIND--OUR TAX SYSTEM IS RIGGED FOR THOSE AT THE VERY TOP--THE GOVERNOR HAS PROPOSED A BUDGET THAT WOULD MAKE THAT WORSE OUR PLAN MAKES BETTER

BUT HOW TO MAKE THAT HAPPEN IS WHERE THE TWO SIDES DIFFER-- DEMOCRATS EXPLAIN IT TAKES \$250 MILLION OUT OF MAINE'S PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM- THE GOVERNOR SAID TUESDAY HIS VISION PUTS ONE POINT TWO BILLION DOLLARS BACK IN THE POCKETS OF MAINERS--AND IS THE CORRECT TEMPLATE FOR THE FUTURE

SOT THE LEGISLATURE MAY NOT GET IT DONE THIS YEAR--BUT IT'S GOING TO GET EITHER BEFORE OR DURING THE 2016 ELECTION YEAR

AUDIENCE MEMBERS ASKED ABOUT REVENUE SHARING AND SALES TAX--LIBERAL LEADERS SAY SALES TAXES WOULD REMAIN AT FIVE AND A HALF PERCENT AND WOULD PUSH REVENUE SHARING UP TO \$80 MILLION--ALONG WITH \$120 MILLION DOLLARS IN PROPERTY TAX RELIEF

SOT OUR PLAN LOOK AT IT SOLVES IT--MAKING SURE THAT MAINERS GET A TAX CUT AND THAT PROPERTY TAX RELIEF IS FRONT AND CENTER IN THAT PLAN

PATRICK

GOVERNOR LEPAGE'S CONCEPT IS AGAINST A FEDERAL AMENDMENT--NOT SURE MUCH PARTIES OR PEOPLE..

BANGOR CITY OFFICIAL GIBRAN GRAHAM WAS IN ATTENDANCE TONIGHT AND SAID--THAT WHILE BOTH PARTIES ARE BEING HEARD--LEPAGE'S AGENDA SEEMS LESS BENEFICIAL TO THE QUEEN CITY'S FISCAL BUDGET.

Govt- 5-28-15

CRAIG

THE BANGOR CITY COUNCIL MET LAST NIGHT FOR A FINAL VOTE ON THE SCHOOL BUDGET. IT'S BEEN MONTHS IN THE MAKING.

-IT WAS PASSED SEVEN--TO --ONE--IN FAVOR OF KEEPING THE NEARLY FORTY THREE POINT NINE MILLION DOLLAR BUDGET AS IS--BEFORE GOING BEFORE VOTERS FOR FINAL APPROVAL ON JUNE 9TH.

PATRICK THOMAS HAS MORE.

PKG

SOT SEVEN YES---ONE NO--THE MOTION IS CARRIED

NATPOP (BANGS GAVEL)

EIGHT CITY COUNCILORS VOTED THEIR CONSCIENCE--BEN SPRAGUE AMONG THE MAJORITY.

SOT EDUCATION REALLY IS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. BUSINESSES WANNA BE IN PLACE---WHERE THERE IS A GOOD SCHOOL SYSTEM BUT ALSO FAMILIES WILL CHOOSE TO COME AND LIVE HERE

PAULINE CIVIELLO WAS THE ONLY COUNCILOR TO VOTE AGAINST THE BUDGET, SAYING THE BANGOR SCHOOL SYSTEM SHOULD LOOK AT USING VOLUNTEERS FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.

SOT BUT WE HAVE THE ABILITY TO USE SOME COLLEGE STUDENTS AND OR RETIRED FOLKS--VOLUNTEERS EVEN TO WORK WITH THE STUDENTS AFTER SCHOOL AND I BELIEVE THAT WOULD BE A WAY TO REDUCE THE BUDGET COSTS FOR THE TAXPAYER

WITH WEDNESDAY'S VOTE--ANY POSSIBLE TAX INCREASE WOULD BE AROUND EIGHT CENTS ON THE DOLLAR--UNLESS MORE STATE AID COMES--

SOT IF MORE MONEY IS PUT INTO GENERAL PURPOSE AID FOR EDUCATION, IN THE STATE BUDGET--THAT NUMBER COULD DECREASE AND THAT IS WHAT WE ARE HEARING FROM AUGUSTA

CRAIG

BANGOR RESIDENTS WILL VOTE ON THE BUDGET JUNE 9TH .

Government 6.2.2015

CRAIG

A BOND BEFORE THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE TODAY THAT WOULD INCREASE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FROM BANGOR TO SURROUNDING INDUSTRY AREAS.

VO/FILE/

REPRESENTATIVE STEPHEN STANLEY OF MEDWAY HAS A 3-MILLION DOLLAR BOND PACKAGE AIMING TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PUBLIC BUSES AROUND THE BANGOR AREA.

STANLEY SAYS HE TRAVELS ABOUT 60 TO 70 MILES FROM THE MILLINOCKET AREA TO GET TO BANGOR, WHICH CAN ADD UP.

AND WHILE BANGOR'S POPULATION IS AROUND 32-THOUSAND, THE QUEEN CITY HAS ABOUT 36-THOUSAND JOBS, WHICH MEANS MANY FOLKS COMMUTE TO WORK EVERYDAY.

SOT TIME CUE:/9/

WHAT I'M LOOKING AT IS SEEING WHAT WE CAN DO AS A STATE TO BRING, INSTEAD OF HAVING JOBS TO AN AREA, BRINGING PEOPLE TO THE JOBS THAT WE KNOW WE HAVE.

SUPER:/REP. STEPHEN STANLEY/(D) - MEDWAY/

VO/RESUME FILE/

STANLEY PRAISES BANGOR'S *BAT* SYSTEM AND SAYS HE'D LIKE TO USE THE BOND MONEY TO ESTABLISH A SIMILAR TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM.

FROM HERE THE BOND PACKAGE WILL GO TO A WORK SESSION.

SUPER:/BOND TO INCREASE GREATER BANGOR TRANSPORTATION/WOULD IMPROVE COMMUTE TO NEWPORT, MILLINOCKET/FILE/