



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
WOONSOCKET, RHODE ISLAND

**PRESS RELEASE**

June 15, 2015  
Contact: Mayor Lisa Baldelli-Hunt  
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**BALDELLI-HUNT SEEKS TO RESTORE FISCAL STABILITY  
IN FY 16 BUDGET**

**WOONSOCKET, RI:** Mayor Lisa-Baldelli Hunt has exercised her line item veto on two-items after the City Council made reductions in her proposed FY 2016 budget.

“While I appreciate all of the hard work of the City Council in reviewing my proposed FY 16 Budget, their reductions in the appropriation for health care and the City contingency account need to be re-examined and reversed,” she noted.

After a public hearing and two late nights of budget review on June 1 and June 2, the City Council made changes to the Mayor’s budget including a reduction of \$688,503.00 to a line item that funds City employee and retiree health care as well as a cut of \$125,000 to a City contingency account that the Administration pegged at \$500,000. These represented the largest items cut.

In her message of disapproval (attached), the Mayor warned that if these cuts were not actually realized, the City would be forced to take funds from an accumulated surplus which would then require greater tax increases and an unbalanced budget in the out-years.

“While everyone hopes to minimize the increase in our tax rate, these cuts will necessitate greater increases in the future which will only weaken the long-term financial stability of our City,” she noted.

Under the City's Charter, the City Council will now meet to consider overriding her disapproval of these two items at its regular meeting of June 15, 2015. The votes of five council members are necessary to override her veto and make the Council's reductions permanent. Otherwise, the Mayor's original appropriated amount for each of the items will be restored.

"I am hopeful that the City Council will reverse these cuts as we work together to bring predictability and stability to our City and its residents," she noted.

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