# GOVERNANCE, STRATEGY & CITY OPERATIONS COMMITTEE **OCTOBER 3, 2019** CITY OF PLATTSBURGH COMMON COUNCIL CHAMBERS **MINUTES** 4:30PM

Roll Call: Councilor Armstrong, Councilor McFarlin (arrived after Roll Call at 4:35pm), Mayor Read

**Others Present:** 

Councilors Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel and Moore

Absent:

# 1. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES AND DISCUSSION WITH **COUNCILORS:**

1. Council will hold 2020 Budget Sessions with Rec Complex.

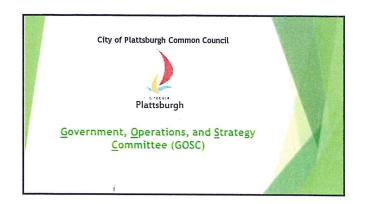
Councilor Armstrong presented a Power Point presentation and Recreation Complex Department Actual costs and revenues analysis which is made part of the minutes of this meeting.

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# 1. AGENDA ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM DEPARTMENTS TO BE APPROVED BY COMMITTEE AND RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:

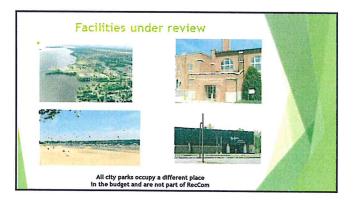
- 1. Request to hold a Holiday Parade on Saturday, December 7, 2019 at 5pm. The route will begin on Beekman Street, travel down Brinkerhoff Street, turn left onto Oak Street, right onto Court Street and then right onto Margaret Street. It will proceed to Pine Street ending behind Stafford Middle School. This is to coincide with the Strand Center for the Arts tree lighting.
- 2. Request from the North Country Mustang Club to hold their Annual All Ford Show at the US Oval on Sunday, July 26, 2020. They request electricity and tents will be erected. A utility fee of \$20 for electricity, a certificate of insurance for event and vendors, portopottys, dig safe permits, and health department requirements for vendors are required.
- 3. Request that the Mayor is authorized to sign an agreement with B.A.S.S., LLC and Adirondack Coast Visitors Bureau to host B.A.S.S. "2020 Bassmaster Elite Series fishing tournament" on July 30 – August 2, 2020.
- 4. Request from Environmental Manager Jon Ruff to accept the September 9, 2019 letter from the Clinton County Health Department and agrees to and authorizes entering into the corresponding Stipulated Agreement.
- 5. Request from Director of Community Development Matthew Miller that the Asbestos Abatement and Demolition of Plattsburgh Municipal Lighting Department (PMLD) Buildings project be awarded to low bidder Ormsby Trucking & Excavating, P.O. Box 795, Morrisonville, NY 12962 in

the amount of \$319,000. The City's initial intention was to complete asbestos abatement and/or demolition of all six PMLD structures located on Green Street. This was altered to accommodate potential redesign of one of the structures, known as Building 4, for the Plattsburgh Farmers' and Crafters' Market and no asbestos abatement or demolition work will be performed on that structure as part of this project. The low bid included the cost of asbestos abatement of Building 4 and will be adjusted accordingly in the agreement to be signed between the City and the low bidder.



# Recreation Complex Budget Report

This report reflects an investigation into Rec Complex conducted by GOS Committee members, Councilors Rachelle Armstrong and Patrick McFarlin, in collaboration with Finance Committee members, Councilors Mike Kelly and Jeff Moore.



# Background: why did GOSC conduct this investigation?

## Concerns about the Rec Complex:

- It has consistently been subsidized by the General Fund.
- Some of its facilities are deteriorating. Capital improvements and ADA compliance have been deferred.
- Members of the Livable Community Committee and other residents have expressed concern about our facilities.

# Purpose of GOSC Report

- Present the public with budgetary facts--short term and long term.
- Pose essential questions about the fiscal challenges, community benefit and future priorities for recreation services.

# Investigation Process

- Studied Rec Com
  - Public use data
  - Costs--personnel, operational, capital spending and debt service
  - Revenue
  - Toured sites and assessed infrastructural strengths and weakness. Spoke to Director Miller and staff concerning these matters.
  - Met with Finance Committee, Chamberlain Marks to discuss findings.

## Method: it's time to get real about true costs

- Historically, for accounting purposes, the city has tracked costs and revenue in the MUNIS accounting system. This is the information we see during any budget report. However, when data is displayed in this manner, it can be difficult to recognize the true costs and true revenues.
- > The budget analysis in this presentation will be laid out to express true costs, as if conducting a strategic analysis.
  - The data corresponds to budget accounting data, but is organized to show true costs.

# Hidden costs not typically represented in our budget analyses

- ▶ Typically, when Rec Com's shortfalls (or that of any department) are covered by Interfund Transfers from the General Fund. Historically these transfers are counted as revenue. Since IFTs are subsidies, they will not be counted as revenue for this analysis.
- > Though DPW supports many city operations, the cost of their labor has not been reflected in department budgets. These costs will be expressed in this analysis because it is important to evaluate whether DPWs work at Rec Com is a diversion from its central mission.

## City Beach

- 0.6 miles of beach front and incomparable view of Lake Champlain.
- Vendor building housing Cabana Beach Bar, Party Factory, Polish Corner.
- Windsurfing destination
- Watercross venue
- Beach volleyball
- Polar Plunge



# Usage Estimates

2018 visitor totals:

> 27, 587 (2/3 Canadian, 1/3 US residents)

2019 visitor totals

► 36,167 (13,660 City/Town residents, 20,000 Canadians,

2,504 others.

# Beach Budget Summary

2018 Actual Costs and Revenues

► Total Costs:

\$142,564

Total Revenue Net

\$ 68,110

\$ 74,453

# 2019 Projected Costs and Revenue

Fotal Costs:

\$140,295

Total Revenue

\$ 87,569

#### Marina

- ▶ Developed 2014-15
- ≥ 36 slips
- ▶ 25 moorings
- Navtours is the anchor tenant providing charter cruises.
- Marina building has office space and bathroom facilities.



#### Marina Usage

2018, 2019 slip occupants

- ▶ 100% slips were occupied duration of the season 2020. The majority of occupants were Canadian vessels.
- ▶ There is a long waiting list

Moorings are a mix of longer leases and transients. These are consistently booked to capacity.

# Marina Budget Summary

2018 Actual Costs and Revenues

▶ Total Costs: \$183,843

Revenue \$118,367

▶ Net Results \$ 65,476

2019 Projected Costs and Revenue

**▶** Costs

\$248,624

Revenue

\$102,731

Net

\$145,893



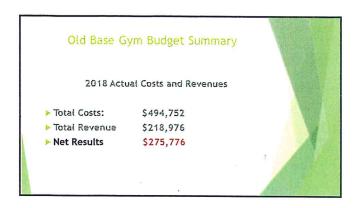
# Usage

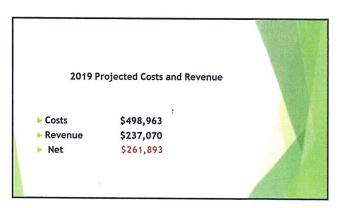
Estimates based on "check-in" data, that is, what is scanned. It doesn't account for events, tournaments, etc.

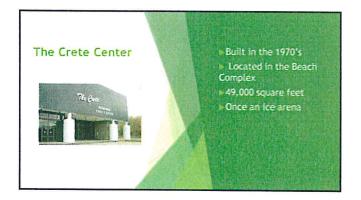
- >21,533 "check ins" 69% residents\*
- ▶9,836 "check ins" 31% non-residents

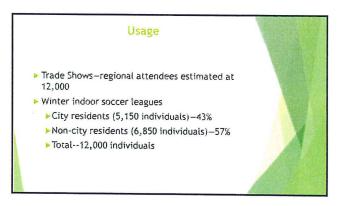
Membership fees

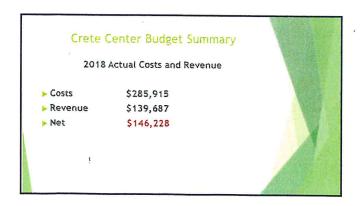
- > \$299, per year, or \$29 per month, resident
- \$359 per year, or \$35 per month, nonresident

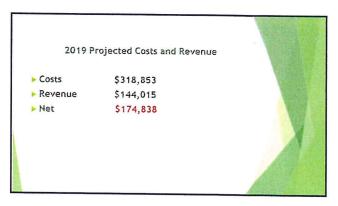












In unpacking budget numbers, hidden costs and expenses that have been deferred and not accounted for in previous analyses are uncovered

- Interfund transfers have subsidized the facilities.
- Investment in Rec Com facilities has been neglected for decades.
- Because of budgetary stress, some maintenance, and repair costs have been deferred.
  - This has resulted in annual repairs or bandaids being applied when an operation was necessary.
- ADA compliance has been deferred, though a 2015 study by the Spine Institute indicated a need.

#### Strategic, Long-term Planning

#### Facts and Assumptions

- The Rec Complex facilities offer recreational opportunities to city and regional patrons.
- Maintenance of recreational assets has been deferred, and funds are stretched thin.
- This year the General Fund will need to subsidize \$635,351 for Rec Com.
- When maintenance, repair, and renovation is deferred, facilities deteriorate, adding to more costs and decline in services.
- These facts and assumptions point to the need for strategic planning and consideration of long-term investments.

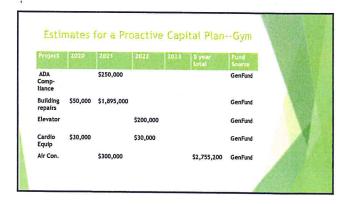
## Possible solutions

- Finally confronting the facts about the Recreation Complex and considering the long term financial and social impact of our decisions is difficult but necessary.
- Our mission is to evaluate what recreational services the city can offer and sustain to benefit the public.

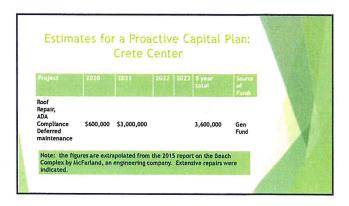
The City could choose to renovate aging facilities: "operate" to stem further decay

- What might a capital plan that rehovates the two structures that are in need of the most extensive repairs?
  - ▶The Old Base Gym
  - ▶The Crete Center

How would investing in the gym affect the budget? Consider projections expressed in the spreadsheet.



How would investing in
The Crete Center affect the budget?
Consider projections expressed in the spreadsheet.



What if . . .

The city decided to enter into a licensed management agreement for the marina? How would that affect the budget?

▶The Chamberlain has estimated that this would reduce losses to \$25-30,000 until debt is retired in 2026 which would save about \$115,000 per year based on projected 2019 figures.

## Essential Questions to Guide Budgeting Decisions

It is a given: recreation services enhance quality of life. But what can the city afford short and long term?

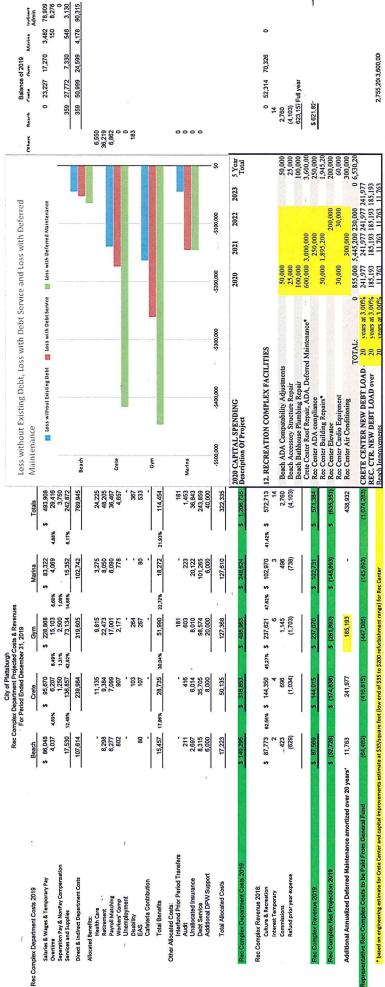
- Who do these facilities serve?
- How can the city best serve the greatest number of its residents?
- What values and facts should be considered in setting priorities?
- Should the city explore establishing public/private partnerships as it considers the future of some facilities?
- Is closure of some facilities a prudent solution?

# Process going forward

- Council must consider the information and all variables contained in this report. It will be important to consider the Rec Complex budget within the context of the entire 2020 budget.
- GOSC will confer, consider feedback, and make recommendations before its next meeting, November 7, 2019.

City of Plattsburgh Rec Complex Department Actual Costs & Revenues For Period Ended December 31, 2018

	100%	281409				27898	5315																		
	15%	33575				1594	263								2017	28,728									
	%09	82961				16403	2706									1,391									
	20%	152323				3050	503							ē	2011	2,700									
	15%	12550	172,234 Admin allocation		Pavroll allocation	6851	1843	All admin allocation		All admin allocation						8,881									
Indirect Admin	130,781 8,173	33,281	172,234	100 10	52.062	27,278	4,858			204	í	111,252		1,570	35,551	239,324		276,445			(99)	4,589	487,918	\$ 492,609	
Totals	\$ 351,072 11,113	20.42% 314,690	679,375	100 10	52.062	27,278	4,858	2,105	419	202		26.44% 111,253		1,570	35,551	239,324	40,000	316,445	\$ 1,107,073	63 83% \$ 540 449	(99)	4,589		\$ 545,140	\$ (561,933)
Marina	\$ 19,617 2.59% 1,226	18.75% 37,546	58,389	i	2.996	1,559	240	316	1	9/		28.79% 5,187		227	20,122	93,918	6,000	120,267	\$ 183,843	43 88% \$ 117.348	(14)	997		\$ 118,367	\$(65,476)
Gym	\$ 206,577		307,194	088	30,463	16,039	2,473	1,053	303	253		65.30% 59,472		675	7,633	622'66	20,000	128,086	\$ 494,752	48 44% \$ 217.092	(26)	1,844		\$ 218,976	\$(275,776)
Crete	\$ 38,200 3.31% 1,670	170,337	210,207	15 125	5.731	2,982	460	421	116	101		24.97% 24,947		449	5,223	37,089	8,000	50,761	\$ 285,915	47.36% \$ 138.485		1,176		\$ 139,687	\$ (146,228
Beach	\$ 86,678 2,873	14,035	103,585	,	12,872	6,698	1,684	316		92		21,647		220	2,574	8,538	9,000	17,332	18 \$ 142,564	\$ 67.524		573 21		\$ 68,110	\$(74,453)
Rec Complex Department Costs 2018	Salaries & Wages & Temporary Pay Overtime Senaration Pay & NonPay Compensation	Services and Supplies	Direct & Indirect Department Costs	Allocated Benefits:	Retirement	Payroll Matching	Workers' Comp	Unemployment	Disability	EAS	Cafeteria Contribution	Total Benefits	Other Allocated Costs:	Audit	Unallocated Insurance	Debt Service	Additional DPW Support	Total Allocated Costs	Rec Complex Department Costs 2018 \$ 142,564	Rec Complex Revenue 2018: Culture & Recreation	Interest Temporary	Commissions MediCare Reimbursements		Rec Complex Revenue 2018:	Rec Complex Net Results 2018



Seach C -\$44,411 -\$52,726 -\$64,489 Loss without Existing Debt Loss with Debt Service Loss with Deferred Maintenance

Crete 4139,134 \$163,319 \$44,628 \$174,838 \$2147,086 \$145,893 \$417,086 \$3145,893