

Finlayson/Kirby Budget Amendment

I propose we include in the FY2017 budget a 1% across the board increase in salary for all City employees.

Rationale:

City employees entered into IBB with the opener of a salary increase. While the team agreed to delay addressing the long term salary issue until the Comp and Class study is completed, City employees are very deserving of an increase. They provide the services that our residents request. If we don't take care of the needs of our employees, we cannot expect them to take good care of our residents.

I recently reviewed for you the give backs that employees willingly contributed to our long term liability problems. Our bond rating has increased as a result of their increased contributions. At the same time our employees are in need of an increase, Anne Arundel County is giving employees a 4% increase and other jurisdictions are taking care of their employees by offering increases. The IBB team sent a letter requesting 2%. In an effort to compromise, I propose we give a 1%.

A one percent increase will cost the city \$400,000. I propose that we would thus increase the proposed Property Tax Rate to 3 cents per hundred dollars of assessed value.