

Deficit Reduction Committee first meeting
July 20, 2026 6:30pm

CITY OF BEVERLY
RECEIVED AND RECORDED
CITY CLERKS OFFICE

First round of recommendations by early October
8 to 9 meetings before that time

2026 JUL 22 P 12:43

Intention to bring in citizen voices to discuss the priorities and the values of the city and then expand that to include more citizen voices, including community forums to

Madeline Lennox ward 2 SC rep

Kaarin Robinson ward 5 SC rep

Mark Munoz 20 years in Beverly, corporate world work that relates, Board of Beverly Bootstraps

John Mullady at large CC

Christine de Palma has not been involved much, wants to give back, project management

Dave Hughes manufacturing and finance

Lydia Ames BMS teacher, parent, looking to collaborate

Brian Ayles finance director, critical person for answering questions

Questions and initial thoughts on the information that was sent out

- Town of Dedham project was helpful and model
 - Will we do surveys of the population as they did
 - Potentially, but we as the committee will decide what to do
 - Surveys now pop up on facebook and social media
- What happened 3 years ago that made it so far off the mark as to what it is now
 - Union contracts, deficit wasn't as flushed out 2 years ago, 70 percent of our budget is personnel. Payroll, healthcare, pension. Out of district placements, Essex Tech Assessment. Cost drivers are key. Staff and FTEs
- Health Insurance is challenging 30 million dollars a year
 - Can people opt out of city healthcare and get a kickback, no
- Imagine 360 Insurance as a savings option
- What are the PILOT programs and how - if they are being administered
 - PILOTs do not have to pay taxes
 - Endicott might reengage connection with the city - yearly presentation with the city council
 - Endicott buys up property on the waterfront and holds it in their trusts
 - Beth Israel Lahey is now Beverly Hospital - do they have non profit status
- Consideration of lowering the contribution to the health insurance plan
- 2000 retirees on the city's health insurance
- Public Utilities - presentation for Beverly - municipal power
 - Savings to the homeowner - as a trade off to increased cost
- Early retirement incentives for employees
- Essex Tech increases - can we look into vocational grants
 - Can we cap how many students you send to Essex Tech
- Independent Efficiency Audit for the school system AND the city
 - School Committee would have to approve this and get the ball rolling
- Rather than discussing cuts, could we run those programs differently
 - Could we have parents pay for the parks program
 - Can we expand childcare offerings

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- In - kind contributions such as student teachers or staffed positions from Endicott or other surrounding communities
- Meters to the waterfront for non residents
- Parking fee increase
- Meals tax and lodging tax increase
- Our revenues grow about 4 percent year over year
- Chapter 70 monies - ask our state representatives to come into a meeting
- Charm Facility Commonly Hard to Recycle Materials - Newton has a monetized model
- Deferring the pension obligations
- Who are our comps in the state - Braintree, Arlington, Plymouth
- Census information