

**Ways & Means Committee
Special Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: October 18, 2023 – 5:00 PM
LOCATION: KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chair Gavaris
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Natalie Kelder, Legislative Financial Analyst
PRESENT: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Roberts
ABSENT: Legislator Ronk
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislators Erner, Greene & Litts, Legislative Counsel Gordon, County Executive Metzger, Deputy County Executive Kelly– UC Executive’s Office, Comptroller Gallagher & Deputy Comptroller DeMarco – UC Comptroller’s Office, Director Juras & Victoria Reid – UC Department of Budget, Tom Vouzakis – Capital Markets Advisors

Chair Gavaris called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM

Chair Gavaris explained the purpose of the meeting is to discuss the budget process with the budget consultants, Capital Markets Advisors, and would allow relevant questions or requests.

County Executive Metzger noted that the 2024 County Executive Recommended Budget is the product of many months of hard work from the budget team, elected officials and county department heads. County Executive Metzger expressed the importance of working with the budget consultants to provide all necessary access and documentation.

Tom Vouzakis, of Capital Markets Advisors (CMA), gave a brief introduction, informed the committee of a new portal for legislators to vocalize concerns or areas of interest. Mr. Vouzakis explained that the budget was received last week, a high-level review is currently underway and department head interviews will be conducted next week.

Chair Gavaris asked if there were any new areas of focus this year. Mr. Vouzakis stated that inflation, health care costs and sales tax will all be reviewed.

Legislator Criswell asked if new mandates would be reviewed. Mr. Vouzakis explained that mandates and shared services are always reviewed.

Legislator Cahill noted the large fund balance and requested a review on the use of reserve funds.

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Criswell
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0

TIME: 5:14 PM

Respectfully submitted: Natalie Kelder

Minutes Approved: November 8, 2023