

CITY OF BROOKFIELD
SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, October 13, 2008
Issues for Discussion

1. On the Library budget, consider a \$50,000 cut in new book funding. This is item 541-000 on the budget. The cut would bring the figure down to \$205,761. Based on some preliminary research, this would bring it more in line with what some of our neighboring communities spend. (Submitted by Alderman Reddin)
2. On overall gasoline costs (page 233), item #533-000, decrease the projected spending on gasoline by \$56,920 to an even \$400,000. This would still be slightly above the 2008 estimate for gasoline costs. I think it would be fair to argue that gasoline costs are going to be about the same as in 2008, and it would also be fair to argue that we are likely to use less gasoline this year (less harsh winter) so the slight increase in the budgeted cost should cover us, and provide at least a small amount of relief for taxpayers. If I understood the discussion last night, that listing on page 233 sort of combines the gasoline costs for all the various departments. I thought that would be easier than going thru department by department. If I am not correct about that, then we should go thru department by department with this proposal. (Submitted by Alderman Reddin)
3. All of the cost containment measures submitted by the mayor with the budget should be considered. (Submitted by Alderman Berg)
4. The mayor voluntary consults with the aldermen before filling ANY vacant position. Consultation may include the HRPS committee, the committee working with the department with the vacancy (e.g. BPW for a road crew member retirement), the council president, etc. The intent is to prompt discussion about the necessity of the position, the possibility of performing the duties in some other manner, consideration of a permanent elimination of the position, conservation of salary during the vacancy, etc. (Submitted by Alderman Berg)