

>> WE'RE RECONVENING THE WAYS
AND MEANS HEARING.

I'M MARK CIOMMO.

THURSDAY, MAY 4.

WE'RE HERE REGARDING THE
REVOLVING FUND TO THE BOSTON
CENTERS FOR YOUTH AND FAMILIES.
DOCKET 0554.

MESSAGE AND ORDER AUTHORIZING A
LIMIT FOR THE BOSTON CENTER FOR
YOUTH AND FAMILIES REVOLVING
FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018 TO PAY
SALARIES AND BENEFITS OF
EMPLOYEES AND TO PURCHASE
SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT NECESSARY
TO OPERATE CITY HALL CHILD CARE.
THIS REVOLVING FUND SHOULD BE
CREDITED FOR TUITION RECEIPTS.
RECEIPTS SHALL NOT EXCEED
\$750,000.

I WANT TO WELCOME MY COLLEAGUES
TO MY LEFT.

ANNISSA ESSAIBI-GEORGE,
COUNCILLOR AT LARGE.

TO MY RIGHT DISTRICT CITY
COUNCILLOR ANDREA CAMPBELL AND
COUNCILLOR MATT O'MALLEY.

THIS IS A PUBLIC HEAR BEING
BROADCAST ON RCN CHANNEL 82 AND
COMCAST CHANNEL 8.

WE WILL TAKE PUBLIC TESTIMONY AT
THE CONCLUSION OF THE
PRESENTATION AND QUESTION
PERIOD.

SIGN-IN SHEETS TO MY LEFT.

WE ASK FOLKS TO STATE THEIR NAME
AND AFFILIATION AND RESIDENCE.

AT THIS POINT, I'D LIKE TO
WELCOME COMMISSIONER MORALES AND
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MICHAEL
SUPPRIZZIO FOR OPENING
STATEMENTS.

>> THANK YOU.

I'M GOING TO GIVE TO MICHAEL WHO
HAS THE BEST KNOWLEDGE OF THE
PROGRAM.

>> SO THE REVOLVING FUND FOR
CHILD CARE ALLOWS US TO COLLECT
THE REVENUE THAT IS GENERATED
THROUGH THE FEES THE FAMILIES
PAY IN ORDER TO ATTEND THE
HEARING AT CITY HALL CHILD CAR.

ALLOWS US TO COVER THE SALARIES,
EQUIPMENT AND DIFFERENT THINGS
IN THE HEALTH BENEFITS THAT
RELATE TO THE COST OF THE CHILD
CARE PROGRAM.

WE DO RUN INTO A DEFICIT.
THIS PROGRAM USUALLY RUNS AT A
DEFICIT.

BUT WE -- IT'S IMPORTANT TO US
TO MAINTAIN THE AFFORD ABILITY
OF THE PROGRAM.

WE'VE RECENTLY GONE THROUGH FEE
INCREASES TO HELP CLOSE THE
DEFICIT BECAUSE THE PROGRAM IS
WELL-BELOW MARKET RATE FOR CHILD
CARE.

WE HAVE A FEE INCREASE COMING UP
THIS MONTH, 5% INCREASE, WHICH
IS SIMILAR TO WHAT WE DID LAST
YEAR THAT WILL RAISE THE WEEKLY
FEES SLIGHTLY TO ABOUT \$15 A
WEEK FOR THE FAMILIES.

AGAIN, JUST TRYING TO CLOSE THE
DEFICIT A WE'VE SEEN WITH THE
REVOLVING FUND BEING CAPPED AT
750,000.

GOES MOSTLY TOWARDS COVERING THE
STAFF SALARIES IS THE BIGGEST
EXPENSE AND WE MADE CHANGES WITH
REGARD TO THE WAIT LIST AND A
SMALL FEE TO ENROLLMENT WHEN
KIDS ARE ACCENTED, WHICH IS
COMMON IN THE CHILD CARE
INDUSTRY.

THOSE ARE SOME WAYS THAT WE'VE
TRIED TO HELP GENERATE
ADDITIONAL REVENUE TO HELP MAKE
THE PROGRAM SUSTAINABLE.

THE REVOLVING FUND DOES HELP US
OFFSET THE KILLED OF THE CHILD
CARE PROGRAM.

>> GREAT.

IS THIS A SELF-SUSTAINING
PROGRAM THOUGH?

EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE RUNNING A
DEFICIT, THE CASH FLOW ENABLES
YOU TO ADJUST WHERE YOU ARE, BUT
WHAT KIND OF SUPPLEMENT DOES THE
CITY OFFER?

>> SO ULTIMATELY WHAT THE CITY
OFFERS IS THE MONEY THAT THEY'LL
ALLOCATE AT THE END OF THE YEAR
TO COVER WHATEVER DEFICIT IS
GENERATED.

WE CONTINUE TO RUN WITH THE
REVOLVING FUND OF FEES COMING
IN.
AGAIN YEAR TO YEAR, WE WORK TO
MAKE THE GAP SMALLER AND SMALLER
WHILE MAINTAINING THE
AFFORDABILITY OF THE PROGRAM,
BUT WE STILL DO RUN A DEFICIT.
THE CITY FINDS THE RESOURCES
NECESSARY TO CLOSE THAT -- THE
DEFICIT AT THE END OF THE YEAR.
THAT COULD BE SEEN AS A CITY
INVESTMENT AT THAT POINT TO
COVER THE DEFINITE IT IS.
>> SO THE TUITION IS THE WEEKLY
FEE FOR A SLOT.
DO YOU TAKE ANY VOUCHERS OR
ANYTHING?
>> WE DO HAVE EEC VOUCHERS THAT
WE ACCEPT.
IT'S BETWEEN THE VOUCHER SLOTS
AND THE GENERAL SLOTS AVAILABLE
TO FOLKS.
>> AND OBVIOUSLY THEY DON'T HAVE
TO PAY ANY KIND OF LEASE
PAYMENTS, WHICH HELPS TO KEEP
THE COST LOW.
>> YEAH.
THERE'S OBVIOUSLY -- THE SPACE
IS WITHIN CITY HALL HERE.
SO THERE'S NO COST TO OPERATE
THE SPACE.
IT'S ALL COVERED AGAIN.
THAT COULD BE ANOTHER INVESTMENT
WHERE THE SPACE IS PROVIDED,
UTILITIES AND THINGS LIKE THAT
ARE COVERED.
GREAT.
MY COLLEAGUES HAVE QUESTIONS?
COUNCILLOR CAMPBELL.
>> WHAT IS ENROLLMENT FEE AND
WHAT IS THE WEEKLY FEE?
>> THE ENROLLMENT FEE IS NEWS.
IT'S AN ATTEMPT TO -- A SMALL
WAY AT TRYING TO CLOSE THE
DEFICIT.
AGAIN, IT'S STANDARD IF YOU DO
SOME RESEARCH AROUND DIFFERENT
CHILD CARE PROGRAMS ACROSS THE
CITY.
IT'S STANDARD TO HAVE AN
ENROLLMENT FEE.
SO WHEN KIDS ARE PROVIDED A
SLOT, IT'S A SMALL ONE-TIME FEE

THAT IS DUE.

I BELIEVE IT'S \$100.

THE FEE AS OF MAY 29th WHEN THE FEE INCREASE COMES INTO PLAY, AN INFANT IS \$315 A WEEK, A TODDLER \$280 AND A PRESCHOOLER 212.

IF YOU LOOK AT THE COSTS OF ALTERNATIVE DAY CARE PROGRAMS.

>> THAT'S VERY AFFORDABLE AND BELOW MARKET.

WE'RE TRYING TO MAINTAIN COLLECTIVE BARGAINING INCREASES AND BENEFITS TO THE EMPLOYEES WHILE TRYING TO KEEP IT AFFORDABLE.

IT'S A TOUGH BALANCING ACT. WITH THE FEE INCREASES AND THE SMALL FEES THAT WE TALKED ABOUT, WE'RE TRYING TO CLOSE THAT GAP AS MUCH AS WE CAN.

>> VERY HELPFUL.

THANK YOU.

>> COUNCILLOR O'MALLEY.

>> THANK YOU.

I JUST WANT TO SAY NOT ONLY IS IT AFFORDABLE, BUT IT'S THE HIGHEST QUALITY.

I HAVE FAMILY MEMBERS, DEAR FRIENDS THAT HAVE TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF IT.

HER NAME WAS MENTIONED EARLIER.

MRS. GRACE WHO RUNS THE CHILD CARE, DOES A PHENOMENAL JOB.

THANK YOU FOR THAT.

OBVIOUSLY THIS IS A NO-BRAINER AND LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING IT CONTINUED.

MY QUESTION WOULD BE, IS THERE ANY CONVERSATION ABOUT GROWING THE PROGRAM?

HIRING ADDITIONAL STAFF TO SERVICE MORE CHILDREN?

>> I GUESS -- COUNCILLOR, WE WOULD LOVE TO EXPAND THE PROGRAM.

BUT CURRENTLY, THERE'S A DEFICIT AND A LITTLE SPACE READMINISTRATION WITH REGARD TO THE SPACE.

IF WE EVER WANTED TO INCREASE IT, WE WOULD HAVE TO LOOK AT AN ALTERNATIVE SPACE.

I THINK BEING EEC LICENSED, THERE'S REQUIREMENTS AROUND THE

RATIOS AND SPACE.
WE'RE AT OUR CAPACITY NOW.
OUR STAFF DOES A GREAT JOB AND
WE ALWAYS HAVE GOOD FEEDBACK AND
PROUD OF OUR STAFF.
THEY DO AN EXCELLENT JOB
PROVIDING THE CARE.
I THINK FOLKS ESPECIALLY WITH
REGARD TO THE INFANT AND
TODDLER, WHICH WE'VE SEEN A NEED
THERE AND NOT SO MUCH WITH THE
PRESCHOOL THAT I SAID EARLIER
WITH THE MAYOR AND BPS WORKING
SO HARD TO OFFER MORE K-0 SLOTS.
PEOPLE ARE RELYING ON THE PUBLIC
SCHOOL SYSTEM TO PROVIDE THAT
PRESCHOOL EDUCATION, WHICH AS I
TALKED ABOUT EARLIER, WE COULD
POSSIBLY SEE AN INCREASE IN
INFANT AND TODDLER SLOTS TO HELP
ACCOMMODATE THE NEED TO
HOPEFULLY SHORTEN THE WAIT LIST
AND BE MORE OF A RESOURCE FOR
THE NEED THAT WE SEE.
WHEREAS IT'S SHIFTING AWAY OF
PRESCHOOL AND MORE TOWARDS THE
INFANT AND TODDLER.
INCREASING THE NUMBER OF KIDS WE
HAVE WOULD BE MORE OF A SPACE
CONVERSATION.
>> THANK YOU.
>> THANK YOU.
THANK YOU WILL AND MIKE FOR
TODAY'S TESTIMONY.
WE APPRECIATE ALL YOU GUYS DOWN
FOR OUR CITY WITH YOUTH AND
FAMILY IN PARTICULAR AND THE
ELDERLY OBVIOUSLY, WHICH MIGHT
HAVE TO GO IN THE TITLE SOME
DAY.
BUT ANYWAY, I JUST WANT TO THANK
YOU AGAIN.
THIS HEARING STANDS ADJOURNED.