

THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No.

Approved

WHEREAS, the cost of operation of City of Providence in almost all municipal departments has increased sharply, and

WHEREAS, the population of Providence has declined from over 250,000 to approximately 170,000 or about a 30 per cent decline, and

WHEREAS, THE City's tax rate has been increased \$14 per \$1,000 or from \$39 to \$54.00 per \$1,000 valuation and free reserves have been almost exhausted and new tax increases are likely unless costs and expenditures are controlled,

WHEREAS, the cost of City Government has been increasing sharply and faster than our tax base and cost of living increases, and

WHEREAS, an extensive and exhaustive study of the cost of operations of the various departments of the City should be undertaken without further delay and with a view toward reducing unnecessary cost and expenses of the City before determining the need for any such further increase in taxes,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the President of the City Council be and he is hereby authorized to appoint a Special Committee of the Council, to consist of five (5) members, one of whom shall be the Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Council, and not less than two of whom shall be from the opposite political party of the Mayor, to make a comprehensive study, investigation, and report of the financial structure of the City Government with a view to examining also the costs, expenditures and operations of the various departments of the City Government. The Committee will take into consideration but is not limited to:

1. The costs and operation of all phases of municipal government including the school department and various federally funded programs;

2. Possible consolidation, reduction and increased efficiency of departments and services;
3. The basis upon which personnel is selected, the activities of personnel and the performance upon a time basis of their work;
4. A study of existing statutes relating to the assessment and collection of taxes and the necessity and nature of a revision of the tax system;
5. Possible inter City compacts and combining and pooling of facilities to economize, and
6. Improvement of purchase and sale procedures and use of governmental purchasing procedure.

In the performance of its duties, the said Committee shall be authorized and empowered to undertake any studies, inquiries, surveys, analysis it may deem relevent, and is further authorized and empowered as are committees of the Council in such instances under the provisions of Sections 30 and 31 of Chapter II of the Charter of the City of Providence.

The Committee may engage and employ such government experts, accountants and qualified advisers as may be deemed necessary and may request such persons to attend its meetings as well as carry out surveys and other tasks of the Committee.

The Committee shall report on or before May 1, 1973, to the Mayor and the City Council with its recommendations, including those changes in law or procedure necessary to implement said recommendations and the members of said Committee shall receive no compensation for their services, but shall be allowed their actual and necessary expenses in the performance of their duties, including the cost of such clerical, expert aid, and other assistants as they may deem necessary, the funds to cover such expenses being hereby appropriated from the Reserve for Extraordinary Expenses Account upon approval of the Mayor of the City of Providence but shall not exceed \$15,000.00.

IN CITY
COUNCIL

JUN 22 1972

READ AND NOT PASSED

Vincent Zappia
CLERK

Councilman Pearlman
and Councilman Bradshaw