

MERLIN A. DeCONTI, JR., P.E.  
DIRECTOR



VINCENT A. CIANCI, JR.  
MAYOR

## DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTION AND STANDARDS

February 24, 1984

To: Providence City Council

From: Merlin A. DeConti, Jr., Director

Re: Resolution No. 104, Outlining Projected Techniques to Economize Department Spending

IN CITY COUNCIL  
MAR 1 1984  
READ  
WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT  
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.  
Clerk

I have reviewed the proposed budget for the Department of Inspection and Standards for all Divisions, except for the Zoning Board of Review, Building Board of Review, and Housing Board of Review Divisions, which are under the jurisdiction of Peter Carnevale, Secretary to the Boards.

The proposed budget for 1984-85 for these Divisions is \$1,388,290.00. This represents a 12.9% increase over the 1983-84 budget. This increase can be broken down as follows:

Item 0 - Personnel costs; total increase as proposed is 9.9%. This includes two new positions for which funds are being requested. By eliminating these two positions, the total increase is 7.1%, which is fixed by union contract. In order to bring the increase for Item 0 under 5%, two positions which are presently filled would have to be vacated.

Items 1, 2 and 5 - Services, materials, supplies, and capital outlay; have a total increase of 33%. The major portion of this increase is an additional \$39,000.00 for the leasing and electricity of new space in the old Journal Building on Eddy Street for the Department. This increase is totally out of my control and was approved by the Board of Contract and Supply.

The total increase of Items 1, 2 and 5 is \$52,650.00, which is \$13,650.00 in addition to the \$39,000.00 necessary for financing the new location for the Department. The 5% maximum increase in these items would only amount to \$7,943.00. This obviously cannot be achieved because of the cost of relocating the Department. It is possible to reduce some of the Item 1, 2 and 5 requests to a maximum of \$7,900.00, so that with the exception of relocating the Department, the overall increase in these items would be 5% or less.

As you can see, the possibility of keeping the budget of the Department of Inspection and Standards to a maximum of 5% increase, without effecting its relocation and reducing its personnel, is impossible. However, as in the past, I will do my best to control the budget for the Department of Inspection and Standards.

I would like to mention the fact that at no time has the budget for this Department ever been exceeded. This usually was accomplished by not filling personnel positions that became vacant due to retirement, in order to save money necessary to bring the budget within the proper limits.