

# Council's role in budgeting

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## Council's role

- ▶ Setting the policy
- ▶ Ask questions
- ▶ Don't go too deep - remember you are the policy makers
- ▶ Don't get bogged down in the small stuff
  - ▶ Parkinson's Law of Triviality - The time spent on any item of the agenda is inverse of its importance or dollar value.
  - ▶ Check out Breaking the Law of Triviality from GFOA.

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## Mayor & Staff role

- ▶ Provide good data and information.
  - ▶ Not just during the budget setting process - Also regular fiscal updates
- ▶ Don't go too deep - keep in mind the audience and tailor the information to what is important to them.
- ▶ Don't hide the bad news
- ▶ Provide options