MANAGER'S REPORT:

This ordinance will appropriate to the School District an FY21 operating budget of $87,337,400. This is an overall decrease in the budget of $1,601,700 from the FY20 Amended Budget. The School District's operating budget is:

- General Operations: $71,122,400
- Special Revenue (pupil transportation, food service, etc.): $16,215,000
- Total Budget: $87,337,400

The FY21 school budget is supported with a combination of funding sources including CBJ local funding of $28,518,600. The local funding consists of: $26,842,100 for general operations, and $1,676,500 for programs and activities outside of the state funding cap. These programs and activities include: $1,181,500 million for student activities, $50,000 for pupil transportation, $50,000 for food service, $95,000 for Community Schools and $300,000 for Kinder Ready. The general operations support is an increase of $64,800 over FY20 Amended. The other program and activities funding is flat to FY20 Amended, for a net funding increase of $64,800.

State statute requires the Assembly to determine the total amount of local educational funding support to be provided and provide notification of the support to the School Board within 30 days of the School District's budget submission. The district's budget was submitted March 27, 2020. To meet this timing provision, it is necessary for the Assembly to determine the amount of funding and provide notice in the month of April. This amount cannot subsequently be reduced, unless the amount exceeds the State funding CAP, but it can be increased. If the Assembly does not set the amount and furnish the School Board with notice within 30 days, the amount requested by the School District is automatically approved. By Charter, the Assembly is required to appropriate the School District's budget no later than May 31, 2020. On April 22, 2020, a meeting is scheduled for the Assembly to state, by motion, the amount of local funding to be provided to the School District.

RECOMMENDATION:

The City Manager recommends holding the charter required public hearing for this ordinance, followed by a motion to set the amount of local funding to be provided to the school district, and then referral of the ordinance back to the Assembly Finance Committee for additional review.