COMMITTEE TO RECOMMEND FUNDING
FOR THE PUBLIC ELECTION FUND
Wednesday, April 29, 2015 – 7:30 p.m.
5th Floor Conference Room
Council Office Building

Committee Members Present:
David Scull, Chair
Sharon Cohen, Vice Chair
Lee Annis, Jr.
Margaret Greene
Paul Schwartz

Staff:
Amanda Mihill, County Council

Committee Chair Scull welcomed everyone and all Committee members introduced
themselves by explaining relevant background information about themselves and their interest in
the Committee. Amanda Mihill discussed housekeeping issues and the role of staff.

Committee members discussed the Committee’s approach to the main task, which is to
recommend an amount that the County should fund for the Public Election Fund. Committee
members generally agreed to look at other jurisdictions that have some level of public financing
systems to determine what the cost and impact of those systems are and whether it has influenced
the number of candidates that have emerged. Chair Scull noted his view that the amount of
funding that the Committee should recommend should be based on the number of candidates that
are likely to want to use the Public Election Fund. Committee members agreed to each research
2 jurisdictions. Ms. Green agreed to research the systems in Connecticut and Minneapolis; Mr.
Annis agreed to research the systems in North Carolina and Florida; Ms. Cohen agreed to
research the systems in Arizona and South Carolina; and Mr. Schwartz agreed to research the
systems in New York and New Jersey.

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Editor’s note: After the meeting, Mr. Scull indicated his intent to research the systems in
Vermont and Maine. Mr. Scull asked Ms. Mihill to research the systems in Hawaii and Rhode
Island. Mr. Scull also asked Ms. Cohen to research Albuquerque, Arizona instead of South
Carolina, which Ms. Cohen agreed to do.