

Rhode Island's Future - Providence will sue state over excise tax payment

Written by Brian Hull

Friday, 05 February 2010 13:24 - Last Updated Friday, 05 February 2010 13:24

I wanted to follow up on [Matt's post](#) about the legal action being considered by the City of Providence to [recoup the third quarter excise tax payment that is being illegally held by Governor Carcieri](#), a situation that was uncovered by Rep. Scott Guthrie.

Speaking with Igliazzi, Hassett, and Luna, the lawsuit will move VERY quickly through the Providence City Council. The City Finance Committee will take up the issue on Monday night, February 8. They will quickly approve the hiring of a lawyer to file suit against state. Currently, the backgrounds of prospective lawyers are being considered. A special session of the full Council will be called shortly after Finance Committee approval, and the lawsuit will be filed immediately after that.

There is universal support on the council for the City of Providence to receive [what it is legally obligated to receive](#)

. Speaking about the "constant disingenuous approach to the state budget," Finance Chair John Igliazzi had some reproachful words for the General Assembly's irresponsibility.

"The City passed a balanced budget," said Igliazzi. "We took our medicine, we made hard decisions, and we passed a balanced budget; six months later, the state takes away the money again. You can't switch the rules in the middle of the game."

Agreed.