

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Standing Committee on Finance met on Monday, April 6, 2015 at 7:00 PM in the Council Chamber with Councilor Eaniri presiding.

1. ORDER: Kevin E. Hughes, 101 Hammond St., Brockton as a Constable in the City of Brockton for a term of three (3) years.
RECOMMENDED FAVORABLY
2. ORDER: Jonathan C. Cronshaw, 114 Lewiston St., Brockton as a Constable in the City of Brockton for a term of three (3) years.
RECOMMENDED FAVORABLY
3. ORDER: James C. Doucette, 260 Torrey St., Brockton as a Constable in the City of Brockton for a term of three (3) years.
RECOMMENDED FAVORABLY
4. ORDER:
Appropriation: \$2,000
From: The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MASSDEP)
Sustainable Materials Recovery Program Municipal Grant
To: Refuse Department-Recycling Containers Grant Fund.
RECOMMENDED FAVORABLY
5. ORDER:
Transfer: \$5,000
From: Treasurer's Department: Purchase of Services-Security/Fire Control
To: Treasurer's Department-Personal Services-Overtime
(in order to cover the expected overtime costs for the remainder of the fiscal year).
RECOMMENDED FAVORABLY
6. ORDER:
Transfer: \$15,000
From: Building Department-Personal Services Other than Overtime
To: Building Department-Overtime
due to unexpected expenses for emergency calls during the evenings and weekends due to aging City Buildings along with severe winter weather and emergency calls from Fire, Police and for after hour inspectional services.
RECOMMENDED FAVORABLY
7. ORDER:
Transfer: \$95,000
From: The Parking Meter Reserve Fees
To: Parking Authority-Ordinary Maintenance Services
(in order to fund a comprehensive parking study for the downtown area).
The study is needed to access the need for additional parking to accommodate planned development, and to arrive at a comprehensive parking management plan to develop the parking required.
RECOMMENDED FAVORABLY

8. ORDER:
Transfer: \$165,000
From: Parking Meter Reserve Fees
To: Parking Authority Snow Removal
(in order to cover the shortfall in Fiscal 2015 plowing, sanding and removal of snow for the Parking Authority).
RECOMMENDED FAVORABLY
9. ORDER:
Transfer: \$75,000
From: Personnel Dept.- Personnel Employee Benefits \$75,000
To: Election Commission-Personal Services \$55,000
and Election Commission-Purchased Services \$20,000
(in order to cover the anticipated costs of the special election on May 12, 2015 regarding casino gambling in the city. These costs in accordance with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts regulations will be reimbursed to the city by the casino developer, whether the referendum is successful or not. The funding source is unexpended funds in the Personnel Department, which will not be required this year.
RECOMMENDED FAVORABLY
10. ORDER:
Transfer: \$25,000
From: Personnel Department-Personnel Services Employee Benefits
To: Law Department- Purchased Services
(for purposes of paying costs to the city in connection with the special election).
RECOMMENDED FAVORABLY
11. ORDER:
Appropriation: \$150,000
From: The Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS)/Highway Safety Division FY2015 Traffic Enforcement Grant
To: City of Brockton Police Department-EOPSS FY15 Traffic Enforcement Grant (Grant funds in the amount of \$149,000 will be used to pay for police overtime to conduct high visibility traffic enforcement of intersections with high volume of accidents and injuries during peak hours, and \$1,000 is to be used for overtime for data entry purposes).
RECOMMENDED FAVORABLY
12. ORDER:
Appropriation: \$41,684.21
From: Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) Year Seven of the Local Action Research Grant
To: City of Brockton Police Department-EOPSS FY15 Local Action Research Grant Fund. (The purpose of this grant is to hire outside contractor assistance to evaluate the work being done with Shannon Grant Funds for reducing youth and gang violence). No grant match is required.
RECOMMENDED FAVORABLY

13. ORDER:
Appropriation: \$130,399.00
From: US Department of Justice/Justice Assistance Grant
To: City of Brockton Police Department Justice Assistance Grant Fund.
(These funds will be used to hire for research and evaluation services; hire social workers to assist in co-responding to family violence calls with the Brockton Police and clergy; police equipment, travel and training costs; overtime for police and grant fiscal management services).
RECOMMENDED FAVORABLY
14. ORDER:
Appropriation: \$162,974.62
From: Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security/State 911 Department Training Grant and EMD/Regulatory Compliance Grant
To: City of Brockton Police Department-State 911 Training Grant & EMD/Regulatory Compliance Grant Fund.
(These funds will be used to reimburse overtime for ETD, police officers and fire department EMD personnel to attend the mandatory 16 hours of E911 certification trainings as well as the cost to pay certified training vendors approved by the State 911 Department). There is no grant match required.
RECOMMENDED FAVORABLY
15. ORDER:
Appropriation: 315,586.00
From: Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security/State 911 Department/Answering Point and Regional Emergency Communication Center Support and Incentive Security/911 Department Grant
To: City of Brockton Police Department-Regional Emergency Communication Center Support and Incentive Grant Fund.
These funds will be used to backfill both ETD and police dispatcher wages incurred from 2/4/15-6/30/15 for any associated overtime costs to replace that same personnel as well as funds to install a new dispatch console for the Fire Department Dispatchers.
RECOMMENDED FAVORABLY
16. ORDERED: In compliance with the provisions of the Election Laws, notice is hereby given that the City Preliminary will be held on Tuesday, September 22, 2015 and that the City Election will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2015.
RECOMMENDED FAVORABLY
17. ORDER: That in accordance with Chapter 23, Section 30 (f) (6) of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Brockton, the City Council approves the Brockton Water Commission recommended a 30% increase, -a 15% water rate increase effective July 1, 2015 and another 15% increase effective July 1, 2016. The increase will address the current needs of the Water Division including but not limited to Capital Projects, EPA/DEP Mandates and Aquaria Contract Services as well as personal services.
POSTPONED TO THE NEXT FINANCE MEETING.

18. ORDER: That the City Council rescind order 76 as adopted by the council on March 9, 2015, for the purpose of accepting and expending a \$339,000 40 R Smart Growth Incentive Dividend for various planning purposes. Accordingly, requesting that the City Council establish a Revolving Fund for the intended purpose in accordance with M.G.L., Ch. 44 Section 53E ½.
POSTPONED TO THE NEXT FINANCE MEETING.
19. ORDER: That pursuant to the Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, Section 53E 1/2, the City Council authorizes the establishment of a 40R Smart Grant Incentive Revolving Fund for said receipts from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for purposes of engaging professional consulting services to prepare a city wide comprehensive plan, downtown redevelopment plan, downtown district improvement plan, Campello District Redevelopment Plan and to help fund the management by the Brockton Redevelopment Authority of the US Department of Housing and Urban Development Home Program. Expenditure from the revolving fund shall be under the direction of the Department of Planning and Economic Development and shall be limited to \$350,000 in FY15.
POSTPONED TO THE NEXT FINANCE MEETING.
20. ORDER: That the City Council Attorney is directed to explore and implement any and all legal strategies and filings to maintain and uphold the City Charter and City Ordinances as they relate to the effluent contract the Mayor signed without Council order or approval.
POSTPONED TO THE NEXT FINANCE MEETING.
21. RESOLVE: That the Mayor, Chief of Police, Chief Financial Officer and the City's Building Superintendent come before Finance Committee to discuss the position of Code Enforcement Office (in conjunction with the Police Department) and provide the Committee with an update on when this vital position will be reinstated and operational on a daily-basis.
POSTPONED TO THE NEXT FINANCE MEETING.
22. RESOLVE: that the Mayor be requested to appropriate money for a study of the Brockton Police Department Staffing Span of Control and to provide recommendations for reducing supervisory positions within the department and increasing patrol officers.
POSTPONED TO THE SECOND FINANCE MEETING TO BE HELD IN MA.