

A regular meeting of the City Council was held on Thursday, June 18 2020 via zoom with councilors accessing this remotely, President Asack presiding. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM with nine members present. Councillors Nicaastro and Rodrigues absent.

Out of respect for public health and in response to the Governor's declared state of emergency, this meeting will be closed to the public and interested parties can instead access the deliberations via a livestream

<https://www.youtube.com/user/TheBrocktonChannels/live>

This meeting is being held in accordance with Governor Charlie Baker's signed open meeting law order dated March 12, 2020 which relieves a public body from the requirement of section 20 of chapter 30A that it conduct its meetings in a public place that is open and physically accessible to the public, provided that the public body makes provision to ensure public access to the deliberations of the public body for interested members of the public through adequate, alternative means.

**AGENDA OF THE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2020 AT 7P.M., VIA ZOOM**

The Council President stated that the CFO, Troy Clarkson was present to answer any questions regarding the last item on the agenda.

- 293** Call of the meeting

Accepted and placed on file
- 294** Officer's Return of Notice

Accepted and placed on file
- 295** Communication from the Mayor in accordance with M.G.L., and the Ordinances of the city, recommending that the City Council adopt the Fiscal Year 2021 budget for the City in the amounts and form as recommended in the budget order. He recommends total appropriations in the amount of \$450,338,970. This budget is balanced, but the situation remains dire. The budget represents a reduction of \$373,103.00 from last year, reflecting uncertain times and precarious finances resulting from the current health pandemic.

Accepted and placed on file

Councillor Lally stepped in.
- 296** Communication from the CFO in accordance with Section 5 of Ch. 324 of the Acts of 1990, certifying the adoption of the Mayor's proposed budget for FY2021. However, this certification is made conditionally and with both caution and trepidation. The ongoing and still unknown impacts of COVID-19 will not be fully known for some time, well past the conclusion of FY2021. However, this submission is balanced, maintains city services in critical areas and leaves sufficient funds in reserve to assist in weathering the next set of fiscal challenges in FY2022.

Accepted and placed on file
- 297** Budget for FY2021

Accepted and Referred to Finance
- 298** Communication from the Superintendent of Schools requesting that the City Council return to the General Fund \$2,000,000 that he is anticipating will be a surplus in the FY20 Non-Net School Spending line item. At the School

80.

COMMUNICATIONS (CONT'D)

Committee meeting of May 19, 2020 the School Committee voted to return \$2,000,000 to the City. They do not intend to fully pay for services not rendered by the transportation vendors and they discussed the estimated surplus of the Net School Spending appropriation should be returned to the city prior to yearend.

Accepted and placed on file

- 299** Communication from the Mayor recommending that the City Council provide authorization to transfer monies from Non Net School Spending to the City's Stabilization Fund in the amount of \$2,000,000.

Accepted and placed on file

- 300** Communication from the CFO in accordance with Section 5 of Ch. 324 of the Act of 1990, certifying the proposed appropriation of \$2,000,000 from Non Net School Spending to Stabilization fund. This is an important component of their plan to balance the FY2021 budget. He and the Mayor will request that these funds be transferred back to fund the school Department for next year as part of the FY2021 Budget Order.

Accepted and placed on file

- 301** Ordered: Transfer of \$2,000,000 from Non Net School Spending to Stabilization fund.

Councillor Lally motioned to take this under suspension of the rules and act on it tonight and was properly seconded. Councillor Cardoso questioned the CFO, as far as how will this affect the school's transportation budget for next year?

Councillor Cruise stated as far as Parliamentary Procedure, they need to vote on taking the item under suspension of the rules before discussing the item.

The Council President clarified that Councillor Cardoso wasn't objecting to the order being taken under suspension of the rules, but that she had questions concerning item **301**.

Councillor Cardoso stated that was correct.

The roll was called to take under suspension of the rules with nine members present and all voting in the affirmative. Councillors Nicastro and Rodrigues absent.

Councillor Cardoso asked why is the money coming back to the City instead of going to the School Budget, given the layoffs, etc?

The CFO stated that the short answer is, it is. This is money that the schools haven't used in this fiscal year in the school transportation line. Their discussions with them, in order to mitigate the loss of state aid they all agreed to take the money in this year's budget and this request is asking the council to put it into Stabilization Fund. At the deliberations of next year's budget hearings, you will see a transfer \$3.5 million dollars back from the Stabilization Fund to balance next year's budget. The \$3.5 million includes this \$2 million and a \$1 mil and a half was transferred from Stabilization from snow and ice. This money is actually helping to mitigate the impacts of the loss of school aid. The impact would've been much more significant.

81.

Councillor Cruise questioned to the CFO, this is non net school spending so you can't just move it anywhere, is this correct? Just moving money for next week Correct? The school contract reads, that the city doesn't intend to fully pay for services not rendered. There is no chance the bus company is going to say that we owe them all that money, is there?

The CFO states that both Aldo Petronio and Mike Thomas, the School Superintendent left a fairly significant amount of money in that line, because likely they will be paying something to the bus companies, but this an amount that they were comfortable transferring, because they certainly won't be obligated to pay all of it, because the busses haven't been running. Mike Thomas and Aldo Petronio were comfortable with his amount, because it left them enough to make some partial payments if necessary.

Councillor Cruise motioned to approve and was properly seconded. Adopted by a roll call vote taken by "yeas" and "nays"; eight members present and all voting in the affirmative. Councillors Lally, Nicastro and Rodrigues absent. Councillor Cruise motioned to file for reconsideration with the wish that it not prevail and was properly seconded. Reconsideration failed by a hand vote.

The next City Council meeting will be held Monday, June 22, 2020 at 7pm VIA ZOOM

All other Council related matters

Adjourned 7:16pm