

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Standing Committee on Finance met on *Tuesday, September 8th, 2020 at 7:00 PM* in the *Council Chambers, Brockton City Hall, 45 School Street*, to consider the following with President Asack presiding, 9 Councilors present with Councilor Monahan and Councilor Cruise absent.

*Council President Asack asks for a moment of silence in honor of Sgt. Elder Fernandez. Also stated that Councilor Cruise and Councilor Monahan will not be in attendance tonight.

Public Hearing

1. Ordered: That the common necessity and convenience of the inhabitants of the City of Brockton require the laying out and acceptance of Endicott Street, extending from Court Street, northerly, to Leahy Road, a distance of about 598 feet, more or less, and for that purpose it is necessary to take an easement for Highway Purposes and lay out as a public street or way of said City of Brockton.

Invited: Lawrence Rowley, Commissioner of D.P.W.

2. Ordered: That the common necessity and convenience of the inhabitants of the City of Brockton require the laying out and acceptance of Royal Road, extending from Endicott Street, to east of Alibi Road, a distance of about 2,533 feet, more or less, and for that purpose it is necessary to take an easement for Highway Purposes and lay out as a public street or way of said City of Brockton.

Invited: Lawrence Rowley, Commissioner of D.P.W.

*Motion made by Councilor Lally to take Items 1&2 collectively. Motion carried by a hand vote.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Lally to report FAVORABLE, 2nd by Councilor Rodrigues. Motion carried by a hand vote.

3. Ordered: Transfer of \$808,250
From: DPW – Sewer Division – Sewer Connection Fee for \$250,000 and DPW – Water Division – Water Connection Fee for \$558,250
To: DPW – Sewer Division – Capital Projects for \$250,000 and DPW – Water Division – Capital Projects for \$558,250.

Invited: Honorable Mayor Robert Sullivan
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer
Lawrence Rowley, Commissioner of D.P.W.

*Commissioner Rowley states this money is to be used to rebuild the culvert on West Elm Street, an easement that runs through Manning Towers on West Elm Street.

*Councilor Thompson asks if the \$808,250 will cover the total cost of the repair?
Commissioner Rowley states yes.

*Councilor Eaniri asks if this is the work that is being done now on West Elm Street.
Commissioner Rowley states there are two different projects being worked on right now. Right now, they are working on the street project, taking the sewer main out of the culvert where the truck went into the hole. The street will be another two weeks and then

go into the parking lot. Once in the parking lot the traffic will flow on West Chestnut with a few minor detours a bit in the gutter line but traffic will be flowing.

*Councilor Nicastro asks what are the water connection fees? Commissioner Rowley states that is the premium assessment of \$1,500.00 for a 1-inch service. Councilor Nicastro asks what is the balance of the water connect fee account? Troy Clarkson stated net of the two transfers if favorable there will be a balance of \$246,524 in the sewer account and \$526,196 in the water account. Councilor Nicastro asks what is the Capital Projects fund? Troy explains that it is an accounting tool and by putting the money in a Capital fund, should the project not be complete by June 30th, it allows the money to stay in the fund and not go to free cash.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Lally to report FAVORABLE, 2nd by Councilor Eaniri. Motion carried by a hand vote.

4. Ordered: Transfer of \$32,000

From: Metropolitan Area Planning Council

To: City of Brockton – Emergency Management Area Planning Council

Invited: Honorable Mayor Robert Sullivan

Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

Stephan Hooke, Director, Brockton Emergency Management Agency

*Troy Clarkson states he brings greetings from the Mayor as he is Chairing the School Committee Meeting tonight. Grant from the Metropolitan Area Council to enhance cooling activities throughout the city.

*Troy Clarkson stated that as the orders came out of the Clerk's office that several of these grant acceptances were listed on the agenda as transfers. We provided language suggesting making an amendment this evening so the language would reflect that it is a grant.

*Councilor Lally makes a motion to amend the order to state: That the following named sum be and the same is hereby acceptance & expenditure of the grant award in the amount of \$32,000; 2nd by Councilor Thompson. Motion carried by a hand vote.

Having considered the same, motion to report FAVORABLE as amended back to the City Council. Motion carried by a hand vote.

5. Ordered: Transfer of \$6,000

From: Old Colony Elder Services

To: Brockton Council on Aging

Invited: Honorable Mayor Robert Sullivan

Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

Janice Fitzgerald, Director, Council on Aging

* Janice Fitzgerald states this is a grant coming from Old Colony Elder Services funds from the CARES ACT. To be used for services to help older adults to promote healthy community living, help with senior center costs and there is no match.

Councilor Rodrigues makes a motion to amend the order to state: the following named sum be and the same is hereby acceptance & expenditure of the grant award in the amount of \$6,000; 2nd by Councilor Eaniri. Motion carried by a hand vote.

Having considered the same, motion to report FAVORABLE as amended back to the City Council. Motion carried by a hand vote.

6. Ordered: Transfer of \$269,712.04
From: Executive Office of Public Safety and Security/State 911-FY20 State 911 Training grant
To: Brockton Police Department – FY20 State 911 Training Grant fund
Invited: Honorable Mayor Robert Sullivan
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer
Emanuel Gomes, Chief of Police

Councilor Farwell makes a motion to amend the order to state: That the following named sum be and the same is hereby acceptance & expenditure of the grant award in the amount of \$269,712.04; 2nd by Councilor Eaniri. Motion carried by a hand vote.

Having considered the same, motion to report FAVORABLE as amended back to the City Council. Motion carried by a hand vote.

7. Ordered: Transfer of \$5,000
From: Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS)/ Office of Grants and Research/ Highway Safety Division-FFY2020 Traffic Enforcement Grant Program Summer Impaired Driving grant
To: Brockton Police Department-FFY2020 Traffic Enforcement Grant Program Summer Impaired Driving Grant fund.
Invited: Honorable Mayor Robert Sullivan
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer
Emanuel Gomes, Chief of Police
Captain John Hallisey, Traffic Commission

* Councilor Rodrigues asks if these funds have already been used as the summer is almost over. Michelle St. James (BPD Grant Coordinator) states this is additional funds that were granted in January.

Councilor Farwell makes a motion to amend the order to state: That the following named sum be and the same is hereby acceptance & expenditure of the grant award in the amount of \$5,000; 2nd by Councilor Eaniri. Motion carried by a hand vote.

Having considered the same, motion to report FAVORABLE as amended back to the City Council. Motion carried by a hand vote.

8. Ordered: Total transfer of \$164,376.18
From: Executive Office of Health and Human Services- FY21 Safe & Successful Youth Initiative Grant to Police Department –
To: Brockton Police Department- FY21 Safe & Successful Youth Initiative Grant fund.
Invited: Honorable Mayor Robert Sullivan
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer
Emanuel Gomes, Chief of Police

Councilor Farwell makes a motion to amend the order to state: That the following named sum be and the same is hereby acceptance & expenditure of the grant award in the amount of \$164,376.18; 2nd by Councilor Eaniri. Motion carried by a hand vote.

Having considered the same, motion to report FAVORABLE as amended back to the City Council. Motion carried by a hand vote.

9. Ordered: Transfer of \$600,000
From: Federal Emergency Agency (FEMA) – FY2019 Assistance to Firefighters grant for \$545,454.55
To: Fire Department – FY2019 Assistance to Firefighters Grant fund.
The required ten percent (\$54,545.45) match to be appropriated
From: Fire Department – Ambulance Receipts
To: Fire Department – Capital Projects.
Invited: Honorable Mayor Robert Sullivan
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer
Michael Williams, Chief of Fire

*Chief Williams states this money was applied to replace the tactical support unit that is a supplemental vehicle that runs with Squad A. This company requires a lot more equipment due to covering the downtown area.

Councilor Rodrigues makes a motion to amend the order to state: That the following named sum be and the same is hereby acceptance & expenditure of the grant award in the amount of \$600,000; 2nd by Councilor Eaniri. Motion carried by a hand vote.

Having considered the same, motion to report FAVORABLE as amended back to the City Council. Motion carried by a hand vote.

10. Ordered: That the City of Brockton opt into the PACE Massachusetts program. The PACE program is an economic development tool for cities and towns across the Commonwealth that focuses on financing energy improvements in commercial buildings.
Invited: Honorable Mayor Robert Sullivan
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer
Robert May, Director of Planning and Economic Development

*Council President Asack states Mr. May is unable to join the meeting tonight.

Motion by Councilor Nicastro to POSTPONE to the next Finance Committee Meeting on September 21st, 2nd by Councilor Farwell. Motion carried by a hand vote.

11. Ordered: That the City Council of the City of Brockton finds that there is a clear need for an Urban Renewal Plan. In order to achieve the approved objectives on the Brockton Comprehensive Plan, A Blueprint for Brockton., that the Downtown / Trout Brook Urban Revitalization Plan, as described in Exhibit A, prepared by Harriman and RKG Associates, dated June 2020 is an Urban Renewal Plan prepared in accordance with MGL Chapter 121B and 760 CMR 12.00, that the City Council approves the boundaries of the Downtown / Trout Brook Urban Revitalization Plan. Plan located in City Clerk's Office for review.

Invited: Honorable Mayor Robert Sullivan

Robert Jenkins, Executive Director of Brockton Redevelopment

Motion by Councilor Thompson to POSTPONE to the next the November 16th Finance Committee Meeting, 2nd by Councilor Eanri. Motion carried by a hand vote.

12. Resolve: The Mayor, the Chief of Police, and the appropriate member of the Law Department be invited to a committee of the City Council to discuss the lawful options and strategies to address the continuing problem and the complaints from residents.

Invited: Honorable Mayor Robert Sullivan

Emanuel Gomes, Chief of Police

Megan Bridges, Assistant City Solicitor or her designee

13. Resolve: That the Mayor and a representative of the Law Department be invited to a committee of the City Council to discuss potential funding of a consultant to work with the City Clerk, Legislative Counsel to the City Council, and the Law Department, to update and modernize the city ordinances.

Invited: Honorable Mayor Robert Sullivan

Megan Bridges, Assistant City Solicitor or her designee

Councilor Farwell motions to take items #12 & 13 collectively, 2nd by Councilor Eaniri. Motion carried by a hand vote.

Motion by Councilor Farwell to POSTPONE to the next Finance Committee Meeting on September 21st, 2nd by Councilor Lally. Motion carried by a hand vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM