

***City Council meetings are held in accordance with Covid-19 State guidelines**

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Standing Committee on Finance met on *Monday, October 19th, 2020 at 7:00 PM* in the *Council Chambers, Brockton City Hall, 45 School Street*, with Councilor Asack presiding, 9 members present with Councilor Rodrigues and Councilor Mendes absent, to consider the following:

1. Of Kenol Helas, 13 Enterprise St., #1, Brockton, MA 02301 as a Constable in the City of Brockton for a term of three (3) years.

Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan

Kenol Helas

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

2. Of William Wells of 116 Richmond St., Brockton, MA 02301 to the Diversity Commission for a three-year term ending September 2023 in place of Jacob Tagger of 122 Intervale St. Brockton, MA 02302.

Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan

William Wells

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

3. Of Emiliano LeGrand Chery of 98 Southfield Drive Brockton, MA 02301 as a Constable in the City of Brockton for a term of three years.

Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan

Emiliano LeGrand Chery

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

4. Ordered: that sum of \$2,000,000 is appropriated to pay costs of replacing water transmission main piping and valves, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, ss 8 (5) or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor. All or any portion of this borrowing may be obtained through the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust (the "Trust"). Any premium received by the City upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this order, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this order in accordance with M.G.L. c. 44, ss 20, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount. Further Ordered: That the City Treasurer is authorized to file an application with

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Municipal Finance Oversight Board to qualify under M.G.L. c. 44A any and all bonds or notes of the City authorized by this vote, and to provide such information and execute such documents as the Municipal Finance Oversight Board of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts may require.

Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan

Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

Martin Brophy, Treasurer

Lawrence Rowley, Commissioner of DPW

*Council President Asack states that Mayor Sullivan and Troy Clarkson are not able to be present this evening; stating that we have Marty Brophy, Karen Preval (Budget Director) and Paul Umamo (Financial Analyst) as well as Lawrence Rowley to answer questions.

*Councilor Thompson asks Mr. Rowley if this is phase (2) of the gate valve replacements for the transmission lines for the water plant? Mr. Rowley states this is a continuation from phase (1), went from Silver Lake to Rte. 18, Peaceful Meadows; now we are going from Peaceful Meadows to Brockton. Councilor Thompson asks how many gate valves require a placement? Mr. Rowley states 13; 6 in Whitman, 2 in East Bridgewater and 5 in Brockton. Councilor Thompson asks if we know what we will do with the \$2,000,000 from the Capital Fund as we are now borrowing this money? Mr. Rowley states most of it is already spent. Thomas Street and Thomas Circle, Morse Avenue, could be some other streets, full water main replacements and reconstructions of the roads.

*Councilor Farwell makes a statement/question on the money that was appropriated.

*Councilor Lally states that he would have no problem if the Mayor and the Council would like to set up a Resolve to talk about moving or keeping the money in the DPW. He would like to see the money stay.

*Karen Preval states we did appropriate \$2,000,000 into the Enterprise Fund for valves, with the opportunity to receive this loan at 1% interest looking at a payment of \$116 approximately between principal interest for the year, we do have a savings in that fund. For all of our enterprise funds, if we do not spend the entire amount that has been appropriated at the end of the year it does roll into retained earnings which then becomes part of the next years fiscal budget, which then is entitled to the council to vote what we spend the money on for the next fiscal year.

*Councilor Cruise states we will have to re-appropriate the \$2,000,000. We have appropriated that money for a certain project.

*Karen Preval states that the money was appropriated with in a capital line item, the line item, the statutory category in which this was appropriated was under capital. With this being a capital project, money can be spent from that \$2,000,000; you would have a balance remaining. Anything unspent, based on the decision of the department head would then rollback into retained earnings, which would then be used for the following fiscal year, at which point would come before the council to discuss within the budget.

*Councilor Cruise -We are only appropriating it as capital money and we no longer have the right so say where it is spent.

*Karen Preval states no. The money that was appropriated in FY21 is in capital outlay which can be used toward a capital project. The money that was used in the previous council meeting was for FY 20 funds. Then we closed out FY19 original appropriations.

*Councilor Cruise- We are no longer approving specific projects, we are approving just the capital line item and the department head can use it any way they want?

*Karen Preval- When the budget is appropriated the appropriation is based on the statutory category which is either personal services, over-time, goods and supplies, items purchased in capital outlay.

*Councilor Cruise- Concerned about the changes in our appropriating powers.

*Councilor Nicastro- No problem with the terms of the borrowing. Since we did appropriate the money, concerned about setting the precedent of sliding that money onto another line for this department. Would like the Mayor to weigh in on this as well as Mr. Clarkson.

*Councilor Farwell- Move to postpone to the next Finance Committee Meeting so that the Mayor and Mr. Clarkson can weigh in on this.

*Councilor Cruise- On the motion- asks Mr. Brophy if this is time sensitive. Mr. Brophy states no. Councilor Cruise asks Mr. Rowley if postponing will set this project back. Mr. Rowley states no.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Farwell to report to POSTPONE until the November 2nd Finance Committee Meeting, 2nd by Councilor Eaniri. Motion carried by a hand vote.

5. Ordered: Appropriation of \$150,000

From: Taxation and Estimated Receipts \$120,000 and
Unappropriated Estimated Receipts \$30,000

To: Parks Department-Other Contract Services.

Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan

Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

Timothy Carpenter, Superintendent of Parks

*Mr. Carpenter states this is due to the unanticipated tremendous success this year at the golf course. Due to the success, we have a shortfall on the line item that we use to pay the contracted services for the operation of the pro shop.

*Councilor Cruise states that the course is in great condition. We are short in the line item to pay the pro that runs the course, these dollars are in line with what is paid to private golf and public golf pros in the area. The golf course pays for much of what happens in our parks.

*Councilor Farwell- Does this mean the pro shop keeper will make close to \$330,000? Why not hire city employee on a salary?

*Mr. Carpenter states that this money also goes to pay all of his employees. A Ranger needs to be there from 8am till close. He pays for the rangers, as well as other employees. He is the head of a company that pays out his employees.

*Councilor Farwell states he would like to see a Brockton resident paid a lower sum of money and make any modifications needed. Who audits the books?

*Mr. Carpenter- our POS system produces a daily report which is reviewed daily.

*Councilor Nicastro states she would like to see more backup with the order going forward.

*Councilor Cruise- Glad Mr. Carpenter cleared that up. This is a business that probably has 7 or 8 full and part time employees that are being paid out of this, and help run the course. People will come to a course if they know certain people are running the course.

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

6. Ordered: Appropriation of \$80,000
From: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services-FY20 COPS Office Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act (LEMHWA) Program grant
To: Police Department-FY20 COPS Office Law Enforcement Mental health and Wellness Act (LEMHWA) Program fund. No match required.
Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer
Emanuel Gomes, Chief of Police

*Councilor Cardoso asks how many officers will benefit from this program and is it open to all. Chief Gomes states the benefit will be for department wide including Massasoit and the School Department.

*Councilor Nicastro- this is great, I know you will do a great job with it.

*Council President Asack to Chief Gomes- Constituents have asked with schools being closed if school police were being dispersed through out the city? Chief Gomes stated that school police are helping out with the drive through testing also with the lunch distribution program as well as checking alarms and buildings at the schools.

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

7. Ordered: Appropriation of \$8,628
From: Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Addiction Services (BSAS)- FY2021 First Responders Naloxone Grant
To: Police Department – FY2021 First Responders Naloxone Grant fund. No match required.
Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer
Emanuel Gomes, Chief of Police

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

8. Ordered: Appropriation of \$1,000
From: Southern New England Brotherhood Ride Inc.
To: Police Department
No match required.
Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan

Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer
Emanuel Gomes, Chief of Police

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

9. Ordered: Appropriation of \$4,700,000
From: Department of Housing and Urban Development-Lead Hazard Reduction Grant
To: Mayor's Office- Lead Hazard Reduction Grant Fund. There is a required match of \$400,000 that will be used from the CDBG funding.
Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer
Robert Jenkins, Brockton Redevelopment Authority

*Councilor Cruise asks if we have had this grant before? Mr. Jenkins states yes.

*Councilor Cardoso asks if there is an educational component here? Mr. Jenkins states this year there will be an emphasis on education.

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

10. From the Mayor, in accordance with the requirements set forth in 963 CMR 2.00, appointing the following members to comprise the School Building Committee for the Huntington School Roof Replacement project: Aldo Petronio, CFO, Brockton Public Schools (Chair and Non-Voting Member), Robert F. Sullivan, Mayor (Non-Voting Member), Mark D'Agostino, Ward 3 School Committee Member (Voting Member), Michael Thomas, Superintendent of Schools (Non-Voting Member), James Plouffe, Interim Superintendent of Buildings (Voting Member), Ossie Jordan, community member with construction experience (Voting Member), Dennis Eaniri, Ward 3 City Councilor (Voting Member), John Lander, Principal of the Huntington School (Non-Voting Member) and Matt Stanton, community member (Voting Member). Pursuant to Section 60 of the City Charter, these appointments are submitted to the City Council for confirmation.

Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan
Michael Thomas, Superintendent of Brockton Public Schools
Aldo Petronio, Chief Financial Officer Brockton Public Schools
Mark D'Agostino, Ward 3 School Committee Member

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM