

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Standing Committee on Finance met on *Monday, December 21st, 2020 at 7:00 PM, Via Zoom*, with Councilor Asack presiding, 10 members present, Councilor Cardoso absent, to consider the following:

* Councilor Cruise makes a motion to take items 2-8 collectively and out of order, 2nd by Councilor Lally. No objections.

2. Appointment of Retired Sergeant Michael V. Damiano as a Special Police Officer.
Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan
Michael V. Damiano
3. Reappointment of Robert Graham of 6 Alphonse Rd. Brockton, MA to the Council on Aging Board of Directors for a three-year term ending December 2023.
Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan
Robert Graham
4. Reappointment of Irene R. Clague of 179 Bellevue Avenue Brockton, MA to the Council on Aging Board of Directors for a three-year term ending December 2023.
Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan
Irene R. Clague
5. Reappointment of Daniel S. Clague of 179 Bellevue Avenue Brockton, MA to the Council on Aging Board of Directors for a three-year term ending December 2023.
Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan
Daniel S. Clague
6. Reappointment of Clayton A. Reichenberg Jr. of 115 Darren Drive Brockton, MA to the Council on Aging Board of Directors for a three-year term ending December 2023.
Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan
Clayton A. Reichenberg Jr.
7. Reappointment of Joan Madden of 96-A Earle St. Brockton, MA to the Council on Aging Board of Directors for a three-year term ending December 2023.
Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan
Joan Madden
8. Reappointment of Carol DeLorey of 19 North Bassett Road. Brockton, MA to the Council on Aging Board of Directors for a three-year term ending December 2023.
Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan
Carol DeLorey

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Cruise to report FAVORABLE, 2nd by Councilor Monahan. Motion carried by a roll call vote, 10 in the affirmative.

Public Hearing- Item # 1

1. 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: Mayor Robert Sullivan

Robert May, Director of Planning and Economic Development

Robert Jenkins, Executive Director of Brockton Redevelopment Authority

*Robert Jenkins speaks of the updated appendix that was sent to the Councilors.

* Councilor Thompson inquires about a \$7 million increase in assessed value.

* Robert Jenkins states it is an accumulation of all the property values going up.

*Public hearing- no one speaks in favor.

*Public hearing- Peter Bessette of 21 Bell Drive, Whitman, MA speaks on behalf of the Club National in opposition. Would like to know where they would go?

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Thompson to report FAVORABLE, 2nd by Councilor Lally. Motion carried by a roll call vote, 9 in the affirmative.

9. Ordered: Transfer of \$1,500

From: Veteran's Services-Humanistic Supplies and Costs

To: Veteran's Services-Departmental Equipment Rent/Lease.

Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan

Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

David Farrell, Director of Veteran's Services

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Cruise to report FAVORABLE, 2nd by Councilor Monahan. Motion carried by a roll call vote, 10 in the affirmative.

10. Ordered: Appropriation of \$136,000

From: Executive Office of Administration and Finance (EOAF)-Community Compact grant

To: Mayor's Office-Community Compact Grant fund.

No match is required.

Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan

Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

* Mayor Sullivan states he is excited about this. Thanks Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito, a collaboration with Kerry Richards, Danielle Littmann, Bill Santos, Jim Plouffe and Troy Clarkson to be able to modernize an online permitting process, no need to come to city hall.

* Troy Clarkson states that there may be additional costs related to this purchase of permitting software.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Monahan to report FAVORABLE, 2nd by Councilor Farwell. Motion carried by a roll call vote, 10 in the affirmative.

* Councilor Cruise makes a motion to take items 11 & 12 collectively. Motion carried by a roll call vote, 10 in the affirmative.

11. Ordered: That the City of Brockton appropriate the amount of Ninety-Eight Million Dollars (\$98,000,000) for the purpose of paying costs of designing, constructing and equipping a public safety complex to house the Police, Fire, and Information Technology departments, as well as the Brockton Emergency Management Agency, including the payment of costs of designing and improving roadways and utilities in the vicinity of the public safety complex, making improvements to enhance traffic flow, and for the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto. To meet this appropriation, the City Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow said amount under G.L.c.44, ss7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor. Any premium received upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, 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 vote in accordance with G.L. c.44, ss20, 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 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

12. Resolve: That the Mayor, Chief Financial Officer, and such other individuals as the Mayor may determine to be appropriate, be invited to a Finance Committee meeting on December 21, 2020, to provide information to the City Council on the status of the public safety facilities project.

Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan

Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

Emanuel Gomes, Chief of Police

Michael Williams, Chief of Fire

Robert May, Director of Planning and Economic Development

Stephan Hooke, Director of Brockton Emergency Management Agency

William Santos, Director of Information Technology

Sean Schmigle, KBA Architects

Richard Marks, CHA

Joseph Sullivan, CHA

*Council President Asack states Todd Costa from KBA is also on the call tonight.

* Mayor Sullivan states this is the authorization that hopefully the City Council will allow to bond the new public safety building. Will include Police and Fire, but will also include BEMA and IT. The \$98 Million is the max, the goal is to go under that amount.

* Troy Clarkson states the payments for this project will be within the operating budget and we will not seek a debt exclusion for this project. All of the payments will be out of our annually budgeted funds and will not be at the expense of other programmatic needs and other departments.

*Councilor Cruise asks- \$98 Million bonded over how many years?

* Troy Clarkson states that this is being worked on now, but because of the sheer size of the borrowing we will go out 30 years.

* Councilor Thompson -what fiscal year does this come on to the books to begin payback for?

* Troy Clarkson states generally payments begin the year after you borrow. The exact funding strategy will be determined at the time that we need to access the cash; it will be based on market conditions and interest rates. We will keep you informed as the process proceeds. What is before you is the authorization to borrow up the \$98 Million.

* Councilor Rodrigues states that the public has to have a say about a building that they are going to be using, the community has been left out of the conversation of how to design this facility to serve the folks in this community.

* Mayor Sullivan states no one is being prohibited from participating. We have been meeting week after week, we welcome input from all aspects of our community; we are all in this together. I hear you, I agree with you and support it. We have not shunned anybody we've just been taking steps in terms of Police, Fire and IT. We only get one shot at this and it is a lot of money.

* Richard Marks speaks regarding the project/feasibility study. States they have been working with 4 departments not about design more so about how the departments will fit in the space and make it as efficient as possible. Costs, site plans and overall sense of what the building will look like.

* Sean Schmigle and Todd Costa present a slide show of a brief summary of the Brockton Public Safety Facility.

* Councilor Farwell states how much thought and analysis has gone into this, nothing but praise for everyone on this project.

* Councilor Thompson is it anticipated that we change the one way on Warren Ave?

* Sean Schmigle states yes, this has been reviewed and discussed.

* Rob May states that the Mayor and the management team are looking at multiple locations. It will be the Mayor that will inform of the actual location. Wherever located there will need to be some traffic and utility improvements to serve this new building.

* Mayor Sullivan states that he supports the Warren Ave location, but need to work with the Solicitor and the Assessors office.

* Councilor Thompson asks Rob if we go with the Warren Ave location is this zoned for this type of use?

* We would need a zoning variance to construct in that district; it is R1C, residential.

* Councilor Cruise asks if the cost of the traffic improvements are included in this or separate?

* Troy Clarkson states that the contingency that we have in there, part of it is to provide accommodations from making some of those improvements to the traffic and the infrastructure. We do anticipate that any infrastructure improvements that need to be made will be in that \$98 Million budget; there will not be additional funds requested or required to accomplish that. The only difference would be that it is possible that at the same time or around the same time this is being constructed there may be some water/ sewer infrastructure work that will be funded through a different appropriation.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Cruise to report FAVORABLE, 2nd by Councilor Monahan. Motion carried by a roll call vote, 10 in the affirmative.

13. Ordered: That the City Council hereby declare the City owned parcel at West Elm Street, Brockton, MA (known as Keith Field), Assessor Map 58, Route 71-1, Plot 56, being the same premises shown on "Plan of Land in Brockton, June 12, 1920, Hayward & Hayward, Surveyors, 28 Main Street, Brockton, filed with Plymouth County Land Court Records, as surplus and available for disposition.

* Councilor Cruise states this is his mistake, he made a motion to postpone two weeks when this was back at Council and instead I must have made a motion to send it to finance.

* Councilor Nicastro states she is surprised no one is hear to speak on this so that we know where the city's negotiations are at on this.

* Council President Asack states that the reason we didn't have any invited guests for this is because it was accidently referred to Finance and it was heard already in Real Estate and has been before us in City Council.

* Councilor Eaniri states he spoke to a School Committee member and they will be providing a synopsis to the Clerk's office for the record and will be here before Monday night's Council meeting.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Cruise to report FAVORABLE, 2nd by Councilor Lally. Motion carried by a roll call vote, 10 in the affirmative.

14. Resolve: To invite Ms. Joanne Zygmunt of Brockton, as she serves as Chair of the Central Plymouth County Water District Commission, to come before a committee of this Council to discuss current work and projects of the Commission, including without limitation, a proposed water monitoring program for Silver Lake.

Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan

Joanne Zygmunt

* Councilor Nicastro speaks regarding Joanne Zygmunt who serves as the Chair of the Central Plymouth County Water District Commission.

* Joanne Zygmunt gives an overview on the Central Plymouth County Water District Commission.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Cruise to report FAVORABLE, 2nd by Councilor Nicastro. Motion carried by a roll call vote, 10 in the affirmative.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM