

## FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Standing Committee on Finance met on *Monday, May 1, 2023 at 7:03 PM* in the *Council Chambers, Brockton City Hall, 45 School Street*, with Councilor Nicastro presiding, Councilors Tavares and Teixeira absent, to consider the following:

- 1 Appointment of Matthew Stanton of 160 Tribou Street Brockton, MA 02301 to the Beautification Committee as a member for a one (1) year term, ending April 2024.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Lally to report FAVORABLE, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilor Thompson. Motion carried by a hand vote.

- 2 Ordered: In accordance with the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 44 recommending that the City Council authorize the acceptance of the grant award in the amount of \$16,470.00 from the Mass Housing Partnership's MGL 40A 3A MBTA Communities Technical Assistance program. Mass Housing Partnership shall hire and pay the consultant directly. No funds will be passed through the City of Brockton.

Invited: Rob May, Director of Planning and Economic Development  
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

\*Mr. May explained the grant award to the committee.

\*Councilors Asack, Thompson, Rodrigues, Lally and Farwell commented on the issue.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Asack to report FAVORABLE, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilor Lally. Motion carried by a hand vote.

- 3 Ordered: In accordance with the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 44 recommending that the City Council authorize the acceptance of the grant award in the amount of \$125,000.00 from the Mass Broadband Institute's Technical Assistance program. Mass Broadband Institute shall hire and pay the consultant directly. No funds will be passed through the City of Brockton.

Invited: Rob May, Director of Planning and Economic Development  
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

\*Mr. May explained the grant award to the committee.

\*Councilors Nicastro commented on the issue.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Asack to report FAVORABLE, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilor Lally. Motion carried by a hand vote.

- 4 Ordered: In accordance with the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 44 recommending that the City Council authorize the acceptance of the grant award in the amount of \$150,000.00 from the Mass Housing Partnership's Technical Assistance program. Mass Housing Partnership shall hire and pay the consultant directly. No funds will be passed through the City of Brockton.

Invited: Rob May, Director of Planning and Economic Development  
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

\*Mr. May explained the grant award to the committee.

\*Councilors D'Agostino and Nicastro commented on the issue.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Asack to report FAVORABLE, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilor Lally. Motion carried by a hand vote.

- 5 Ordered: That the City Council re-authorize the Vacant and Abandoned Buildings Revolving Fund for the purpose of maintaining the Abandoned Building Registry, as well as the closing, boarding up and care of vacant and abandoned buildings. The Vacant and Abandoned Building Revolving Fund shall receive the receipts of payments of fines and fees for the registration of vacant and abandoned buildings. Expenditures from the Vacant and Abandoned Buildings Revolving Fund shall be made on the authority and direction of the Building Superintendent, provided that no more than two hundred and fifty thousand (\$250,000) may be so expended without further appropriation from the Vacant and Abandoned Buildings Revolving Fund during the FY24. The Building Superintendent shall comply with the reporting requirements of M.G.L., Ch 44. Section 53E ½.

Invited: James Plouffe, Commissioner of Buildings  
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

\*CFO Clarkson and Commissioner Plouffe explained the revolving fund to the committee.

\*Councilor Farwell commented.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Farwell to report FAVORABLE, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilor Thompson. Motion carried by a hand vote.

- 6 Ordered: That the City Council re-authorize the Roadway Design and Construction Revolving Fund for the Fiscal Year 2024 for the sole purposes of funding the creation and maintenance of The Roadway Design and Construction Revolving Fund. The fund shall receive the receipts of payments of fines and fees for the engineering, design, construction and paving of projects. Expenditures from the Roadway Design and Construction Revolving Fund shall be made on the authority and direction of the Brockton Department of Public Works Commissioner, provided that no more than \$1,000,000 may be so expended from the Roadway Design and Construction Revolving Fund during fiscal year 2024. The Brockton Department of Public Works Commissioner shall comply with the reporting requirements of M.G.L., Ch. 44, Section 53E1/2.

Invited: Patrick Hill, Commissioner of DPW  
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

\*CFO Clarkson and Commissioner Hill explained the revolving fund to the committee.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Lally to report FAVORABLE, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilor D'Agostino. Motion carried by a hand vote.

- 7 Ordered: That the City Council re-authorize the Demolition Revolving Fund for the FY2024 for the sole purpose of helping to fund cost in connection with demolition of buildings in the City of Brockton. The Demolition Revolving Fund shall receive the receipt of payments of all demolition charges of the City of Brockton. Expenditures from the Demolition Revolving Fund shall be made at the direction of the Building Superintendent, with the written approval of the Mayor, provided that not more than \$110,000 may be so expended from the Demolition Revolving Fund during FY2024. The Building Superintendent shall comply with the reporting requirement of M.G.L., Chapter 44, Section 53E ½.

Invited: James Plouffe, Commissioner of Buildings  
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

\*CFO Clarkson and Commissioner Plouffe explained the revolving fund to the committee.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Lally to report FAVORABLE, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilor D'Agostino. Motion carried by a hand vote.

- 8 Ordered: That the City Council re-authorize the Comcast Revolving Fund for FY2024, from all cash receipts from Comcast franchise fees, in excess of \$675,000, pursuant to the cable license contract, and that further, that the expenditure from this fund shall not exceed \$750,000 without further appropriation, during Fiscal Year 2024.

Invited: Joseph Miranda, Brockton Community Access, President  
Scott Mercer, Brockton Community Access, Executive Director  
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

\*CFO Clarkson explained the revolving fund to the committee. Mr. Mercer and Mr. Miranda commented on the fund, and were available to answer any questions.

\*Councilors Asack and Farwell commented.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Asack to report FAVORABLE, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilor Lally. Motion carried by a hand vote.

- 9 Ordered: That the following named sum be and the same is hereby transferred as the same was submitted by the Mayor as follows:

Transfer of: \$300,000

From: Fire Department- Personal Services Other Than Overtime To:  
Fire Department- Personal Services Overtime

Invited: Brian Nardelli, Fire Chief  
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

\*Chief Nardelli explained the transfer to the committee.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor D'Agostino to report FAVORABLE, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilor Farwell. Motion carried by a hand vote.

- 10 Ordered: That in accordance with G.L.c. 44, §53A, the City hereby accepts, as a gift from Mr. Arthur Byers and submitted to the City Council by Mayor Robert F. Sullivan, subject under the said statute for approval by the City Council of Brockton as follows:  
The donation of a tree to be planted in DW Field Park as a Mother's Day gift for his wife. All costs associated for this planting will be incurred by Mr. Byers.

Invited: Robert Sullivan, Mayor  
Arthur Byers

\*Mayor Sullivan was unable to attend. Timothy Carpenter, Superintendent of Parks and Cemeteries spoke on the order on his behalf, no councilors had any objections to him speaking.

\*Councilor Nicastro commented.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Asack to report FAVORABLE, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilor Thompson. Motion carried by a hand vote.

- 11 Resolve: Be it resolved by the Brockton City Council to invite Tim Carpenter, Superintendent of Parks and Cemeteries, and Erik Duquette, General Foreman of Cemeteries for the City of Brockton, and area Funeral Directors, to come before the Council to provide an update on the Cemeteries' rules and regulations; and discuss the rules affecting their businesses as they operate in the City of Brockton.

Invited: Timothy Carpenter, Superintendent of Parks and Cemeteries  
Erik Duquette, General Foreman of Cemeteries  
George Lopes, Lopes Funeral Home  
George F. Fiske III, Funerarias Multi Culturel  
David Russell, Russell & Pica Funeral Home  
Anne Conley Roan, Conley Funeral & Cremation  
Lisa and Gregory Belcher, Waitt Funeral Home

\*Superintendent Carpenter, George F. Fiske III, Gregory Belcher, Anne Conley Roan and Erik Duquette all spoke on the issue and answered any questions that arose.

\*Councilors Rodrigues, Farwell and Thompson commented.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Asack to report FAVORABLE, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilor Thompson. Motion carried by a hand vote.

- 12 Resolve: WHEREAS, The Brockton Board of Health is charged with oversight of the health department; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

The three (3) appointed members of the City of Brockton, Board of Health be requested to appear before a committee of the city council to discuss the policies, oversight and operations of the department.

Invited: Dr. Mary T. Brophy  
Dr. Craig Andrade  
George F. Fiske III

\*Councilor Farwell commented.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Farwell to report TABLED, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilor Lally. Motion carried by a hand vote.

- 13 Resolve: WHEREAS, Land use and management through zoning ordinances have a direct effect on economic development and neighborhood preservation, and, WHEREAS, The city hired the Collins Center and Barrett Consulting Group to conduct an overview of zoning issues within the city, and, WHEREAS, All councilors and their constituents have an interest in the review, update and application of zoning ordinances; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: Representatives from the Collins Center and Barrett Consulting Group be invited to a meeting of a committee of the council in January, 2023, to discuss the scope and focus of the zoning review for which they were retained. A January, 2023, meeting should allow sufficient time for the invitees to schedule an appearance and provide any materials to be reviewed by councilors.

Invited: Rob May, Director of Planning & Economic Development  
Morgan Clark, The Collins Center

\*Mr. May introduced Ms. Clark and her team. Anthony Wilson, Project Associate, presented a PowerPoint presentation to the committee detailing their report.

\*Councilors Asack, Farwell, Thompson, D'Agostino, Nicastro, Rodrigues, and Lally commented.

\*Mr. May, Ms. Clark and Mr. Wilson answered questions and comments as they arose from the committee.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Lally to report FAVORABLE, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilor Thompson. Motion carried by a hand vote.

## **COUNCILOR'S RECOGNITION**

\*Councilor Mendes stated that the Massachusetts House of Representatives is doing listening tours across the state. On Monday, May 8, 2023, from 6-8PM at West Middle School, they will be meeting to discuss gun safety. She urges the public to join and ask questions.

\*Councilor Asack stated that the Montello Business Association has been working hard to maintain and restore the Snow Clock area. On Saturday, April 22, 2023, Earth Day,

they had a clean up day in the area. She thanks the Montello Business Association for all they do in the community.

\*Councilor Asack stated that Brockton High School's Drama Club is presenting this years Spring musical, Mamma Mia, May 12-14, 2023. Visit the Brockton Public Schools website for more information.

\*Councilor Thompson reminds the public that Saturday, May 6, 2023, is Keep Brockton Beautiful Day. Registration begins at 7:30 AM at Heights Crossing. Clean up begins at 9 AM. At 12 PM there will be a cook-out held at Heights Crossing. He states that the public is urged to join the clean up efforts and hopes to have a good turnout.

Adjourned: 9:40pm