

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the standing committee on Finance was held on Monday evening October 16, 2023 at 7:00PM in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 45 School St., Brockton, MA. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM with seven members present. With Councilor Nicastro presiding, Councilors Asack, Mendes, Minichiello and Tavares absent.

1. Acceptance of the minutes of the October 2, 2023 Finance Committee Meeting.

*Accepted and placed on file.

2. Appointment of Jack D. Colombo of 22 Hazard Street, Brockton, MA 02301 to the City of Brockton Cultural Council as a member for a three (3) year term, September 2026.

Invited: Jack D. Colombo

*Jack D. Colombo addressed the Council and thanked them for this opportunity.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Rodrigues to report FAVORABLE and was properly seconded. Motion carried by a hand vote.

3. Appointment of Scott Uhlman of PO Box 4010 Brockton, MA 02303 to the License Commission as a Commissioner for a three (3) year term, ending October 2026.

Invited: Scott Uhlman

*Scott Uhlman addressed the Council and thanked them for this opportunity.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Lally to report FAVORABLE and was properly seconded. Motion carried by a hand vote.

4. Ordered: That the City Council authorizes the acceptance and expenditure of the total grant funds in the amount of \$648,038.00.

From: The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

To: The Police Department

This grant will be used towards the salary and overtime of certified enhanced 911 telecommunicators and dispatchers.

Invited: Lugenia Lopes, Grant Coordinator, BPD

Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

*Councilor Nicastro stated that CFO Clarkson is away and Budget Director, Tiffani Ciasullo, will answer questions in his place.

*Grant Coordinator, Lugenia Lopes introduced and explained the grant to the Council.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Farwell to report FAVORABLE and was properly seconded. Motion carried by a hand vote.

5. Ordered: That the City Council authorizes the acceptance and expenditure of the total grant funds in the amount of \$304,766.48.
This grant will be used to reimburse overtime for ETDs, police officers and fire department Emergency Medical Dispatch personnel to attend sixteen hours of mandatory E911 continuing education training for annual certification.
From: The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
To: The Police Department
Invited: Lugenia Lopes, Grant Coordinator, BPD
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

*Grant Coordinator, Lugenia Lopes introduced and explained the grant to the Council.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Lally to report FAVORABLE and was properly seconded. Motion carried by a hand vote.

6. Ordered: That the City Council authorizes the acceptance and expenditure of the total grant funds in the amount of \$6,500.
From: The Commonwealth of Massachusetts- Sex Offender Registry Board
To: The Police Department
Invited: Lugenia Lopes, Grant Coordinator, BPD
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

*Grant Coordinator, Lugenia Lopes introduced and explained the grant to the Council.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Lally to report FAVORABLE and was properly seconded. Motion carried by a hand vote.

*Councilor Minichiello stepped in.

7. Ordered: That the City Council authorizes the acceptance and expenditure of the total grant funds in the amount of \$187,500.
From: The Department of Public Health- Bureau of Substance Addiction Services
To: Mayor's Office- FY24 Prevention in Early Childhood SOR Grant Fund
This grant will be funded in two sections \$150,000 July 1,2023 through July 1,2024.
\$37,500 July 1,2024 through September 29,2024 to cover a full year FY24 contract and a 3-month contract extension
Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan or Designee
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

*Councilor Nicastro stated that if there are no objections, Director of Social Services, Jazmine Bradsher, will speak for the Mayor as he was unable to attend the meeting. There were no objections by any Councilor.

*Jazmine Bradsher introduced and explained the grant to the Council.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Farwell to report FAVORABLE and was properly seconded. Motion carried by a hand vote.

8. Ordered: That the City Council authorizes and approves the Tax Increment Financing Agreement between the City and Air Energy Group LLC. This agreement will contribute to the ongoing economic vitality of the city, and will commit to job creation and increased revenue.

Invited: John O'Donnell, Chairman Board of Assessors

Mayor Robert Sullivan

Rob May, Director of Planning and Economic Development

Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

Scott Ripatrazzone, Vice President, Air Energy Group

Chris Lemnah, Director of Facilities, Flow Control Group

Lynn Tokarczyk, Government Tax Incentives Consultant

*Councilor Nicastro stated that Rob May is under the weather and unable to attend the meeting.

Motion by Councilor D'Agostino to amend the order to add "Brockton Industrial Property Owner LLC" and to add the words "regarding 105 Industrial Boulevard Brockton, Massachusetts" and was properly seconded. Motion carried by a hand vote.

*John O'Donnell introduced Lynn Tokarczyk who made introductory remarks about the presentation about to be given.

*Councilor Mendes stepped in.

*Scott Ripatrazzone made a presentation in regard to the order.

*Councilor Asack stepped in.

*Ms. Tokarczyk continued and concluded the presentation.

*Questions and comments from Councilor Asack answered by Ms. Ciasullo.

*Questions and comments from Councilor Minichiello answered by Mr. O'Donnell.

*Questions and comments from Councilor Thompson answered by Mr. Ripatrazzone.

*Questions and comments from Councilors Rodrigues, Farwell, D'Agostino and Nicastro.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Asack to report FAVORABLE AS AMENDED and was properly seconded. Motion carried by a hand vote.

9. Ordered: In accordance with the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 44, recommending that the City Council approve the expenditure of \$176,328.0 from Finance- Electricity to Nugen Capital.

Invited: Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

*Ms. Ciasullo introduced and explained the order to the Council and was there to answer any questions they may have had.

*Questions and comments from Councilors Farwell and Rodrigues.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Asack to report FAVORABLE and was properly seconded. Motion carried by a hand vote.

10. Ordered: In accordance with the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 44, recommending that the City Council approve the expenditure of \$2,920.60 from Auditing to Domenick J. Coppola, CPA.

Invited: Irene Giannopoulos, Interim City Auditor
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

*Ms. Giannopoulos introduced and explained the order to the Council and was there to answer any questions they may have had.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Farwell to report FAVORABLE and was properly seconded. Motion carried by a hand vote.

Motion by Councilor Farwell to waive the reading of each individual department's appropriation and was properly seconded. Motion carried by a hand vote.

11. Ordered: That the City Council confirms the previously approved FY23 appropriation of \$207,570.68 for purposes of funding the Brockton City Employees Union's (B.C.E.U) contract. This provides funding for the first year of a three (3) year contract (July 1, 2022- June 30, 2025).

FROM: HUMAN RESOURCES- EMPLOYEE BENEFITS-
\$207,570.68
CONTRACTUAL UNION COSTS

TO: ANIMAL CONTROL- PERSONAL SERVICES OTHER THAN
OVERTIME

\$21,189.02

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE- PERSONAL SERVICES OTHER THAN
OVERTIME

\$4,993.16

AUDITOR'S OFFICE-PERSONAL SERVICES OTHER THAN
OVERTIME

\$3,783.59

BOARD OF HEALTH-PERSONAL SERVICES OTHER THAN
OVERTIME

\$3,232.16

COUNCIL ON AGING- PERSONAL SERVICES OTHER THAN
OVERTIME

\$2,988.97

DPW-ADMINISTRATION-PERSONAL SERVICES OTHER THAN
OVERTIME

\$3,030.29

DPW-REFUSE DIVISION- PERSONAL SERVICES OTHER THAN

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| OVERTIME | \$3,731.01 |
| ELECTIONS COMMISSION- PERSONAL SERVICES OTHER THAN OVERTIME | \$3,769.46 |
| INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CENTER- PERSONAL SERVICES OTHER THAN OVERTIME | \$38,285.50 |
| LAW OFFICE- PERSONAL SERVICES OTHER THAN OVERTIME | \$3,950.23 |
| LICENSE COMMISSION- PERSONAL SERVICES OTHER THAN OVERTIME | \$3,457.46 |
| PARKING AUTHORITY- PERSONAL SERVICES OTHER THAN OVERTIME | \$3,441.62 |
| PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT- PERSONAL SERVICES OTHER THAN OVERTIME | \$5,407.76 |
| POLICE DEPARTMENT- PERSONAL SERVICES OTHER THAN OVERTIME | \$92,879.56 |
| PUBLIC PROPERTY DEPARTMENT- PERSONAL SERVICES OTHER THAN OVERTIME | \$4,806.02 |
| VETERANS OFFICE- PERSONAL SERVICES OTHER THAN OVERTIME | \$1,187.85 |
| WEIGHTS & MEASURES DEPARTMENT- PERSONAL SERVICES OTHER THAN OVERTIME | \$7,437.02 |

Invited: Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

Motion by Councilor Lally to amend the order to strike the words “confirms the previously approved FY23” and insert in it’s place the words “authorizes the” so that the first sentence of the order reads: “that the City Council authorizes the appropriation of \$207,570.68 for the purposes of funding the Brockton City Employees Union’s (B.C.E.U) contract” and was properly seconded. Motion carried by a hand vote.

*Ms. Ciasullo introduced and explained the order to the Council and was there to answer any questions they may have had.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Lally to report FAVORABLE AS AMENDED and was properly seconded. Motion carried by a hand vote.

12. Resolve: WHEREAS, Many Brockton Public School students walk to, and from school, and,

WHEREAS, Pedestrians use sidewalks and roadways for travel, and,

WHEREAS, Councilors receive periodic inquiries and complaints from residents regarding intersection, pedestrian and student safety, and,

WHEREAS, It is critically important to update and renew goals and objectives for the safety of residents through the efforts of our Traffic Commission and Department of Public Works (DPW);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

The Traffic Commissioner and the DPW Commissioner be invited to a meeting of the council to discuss the feasibility and implementation of a city-wide study to update regulatory signage, crosswalk markings, areas lacking sidewalks, and such other issues as may relate to the safety of school children and pedestrians.

Invited: Capt. Mark Porcaro, Brockton Police Department
Patrick Hill, DPW Commissioner

*Comments from Councilor Farwell explaining what he hopes to get out of this resolve from the Traffic Commissioner and the DPW Commissioner collectively.

*Captain Porcaro and Commissioner Hill explained the resolve and were there to answer any questions that he Council may have had.

*Questions and comments from Councilors Farwell, Lally, Mendes and Minichiello.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Farwell to report FAVORABLE and was properly seconded. Motion carried by a hand vote.

13. Resolve: Be it resolved by the Brockton City Council to invite to Jazmine Bradsher, Director of Social Services, and designees of organizations that partner with the City and offer services to the City's unhoused population to appear before the Finance Committee of the Brockton City Council to discuss resources and social services in the City of Brockton.

Invited: Jazmine Bradsher, Director of Social Services
Josh Brown, Father Bill's and Mainspring
Jon Lanham, Father Bill's and Mainspring
Mary Corlin, BAMSI COPE Center
Pastor Roberto Silveira, Homeless Improvement Project
Judy Gustafson, Homeless Improvement Project
Lt. William Schlieman, Brockton Police Department
Officer Donald Macmillan, Brockton Police Department
Peg Tiberio, Champion Plan / The Gandara Center
Indira Andrade, Champion Plan / The Gandara Center

*Councilor Nicastro stated that if there are no objections, Allyson Pinkhover from the Brockton Neighborhood Health Center would like to speak about the resolve despite not being an invited guest. The Councilors had no objections.

*Jazmine Bradsher introduced the designees of organizations that partner with the City and offer services to the City's unhoused population.

*Presentations about their respective organizations from Mary Corlin, John Yazwinski, CEO for Father Bill's & MainSpring, Judy Gustafson, Pastor Roberto Silveira, Peg Tiberio and Allyson Pinkhover. All invited guests were there to respond to any comments and answer any questions that the Council may have.

*Questions and comments from Councilors Asack, Thompson, Farwell, Rodrigues, D'Agostino and Teixeira. Responses from Ms. Bradsher, Mr. Yazwinski, Ms. Corlin, Ms. Pinkhover, and Pastor Silveira.

*All councilors thanked the designees for coming in front of the committee to express their concerns and for all that their organizations do.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Asack to report FAVORABLE and was properly seconded. Motion carried by a hand vote.

14. Resolve: WHEREAS, there are continuing efforts to improve the business development opportunities in the city, and,
WHEREAS, in many areas, including the Downtown District, the issues of safety and security, and challenges presented by homeless persons are present;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:
Legislative Counsel Shannon Resnick, City Solicitor Megan Bridges or designee, Director of Social Services Jazmine Bradsher, and Police Chief Brenda Perez be invited to a meeting of the council to address ongoing programs and services related to these issues, as well as federal court decisions affecting the city's efforts.

Invited: Shannon Resnick, Legislative Counsel
Megan Bridges, City Solicitor
Jazmine Bradsher, Director of Social Services
Brenda Perez, Chief of Police

*Councilor Nicastro stated that Solicitor Bridges and Attorney Resnick could not be in attendance.

*Comments from Chief Perez.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Farwell to report FAVORABLE and was properly seconded. Motion carried by a hand vote.

Councilor's Recognition

*Councilor D'Agostino states that there will be an Accounts Committee meeting on Wednesday, October 18, 2023 at 6:00PM in the City Council chambers.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:53PM