

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the standing committee on Finance was held on Monday February 5, 2024 at 7:00PM in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 45 School St., Brockton, MA. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM with nine members present. With Councilor Rodrigues presiding, Councilors Derenoncourt, Minichiello and Tavares absent.

1. Acceptance of the minutes of the January 16, 2024 Finance Committee Meeting.

*Accepted and placed on file.

2. Appointment of Paul Beckner, of 92 Quincy Street, Brockton, MA 02302 to the Council on Aging as a member for a three (3) year term ending January 2027.

Invited: Paul Beckner

*Comments of support from Mayor Sullivan for items 2-4.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Asack to report FAVORABLE and was properly seconded.

*On the motion, comments with Councilor Thompson. Mr. Beckner is not in attendance to address the Council.

Motion carried by a hand vote.

3. Appointment of Gerald D. Koelsch, of 35 Taft Avenue, Brockton, MA 02301 to the Council on Aging as a member for a three (3) year term ending January 2027.

Invited: Gerald D. Koelsch

*Mr. Koelsch addressed the Council and thanked them for this opportunity to serve.

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

*Councilor Derenoncourt stepped in.

4. Appointment of Anne McCormack, of 25 Mayotte Circle, Brockton, MA 02301 to the Council on Aging as a member for a three (3) year term ending January 2027.

Invited: Anne McCormack

*Ms. McCormack addressed the Council and thanked them for this opportunity to serve.

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

5. 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: \$5,000

FROM: AUDITORS – POSTAGE \$5,000

TO: AUDITORS- OVERTIME \$5,000

In order to cover unanticipated expenses for the remainder of the Fiscal Year.

Invited: Karen Preval, City Auditor

Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

*Ms. Preval introduced and explained the order and was available to answer any questions that anyone may have had.

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

*Questions and comments from Councilor Derenoncourt to Ms. Preval following the favorable hand vote.

6. 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: \$360,000

FROM: POLICE DEPARTMENT – FULL TIME SALARIES \$360,000

TO: POLICE DEPARTMENT – DEPARTMENTAL EQUIPMENT \$360,000

This transfer will be used for the purchase of six police cruisers.

Invited: Brenda Perez, Chief of Police or Designee

Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

*CFO Clarkson introduced and explained the order and noted that he and Chief Perez were available to answer any questions that anyone may have had.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Lally to report FAVORABLE and was properly seconded.

*On the motion, questions and comments from Councilor Derenoncourt to CFO Clarkson.

Motion carried by a hand vote.

7. Ordered: That the following named sum be and the same is hereby transferred as the same was submitted by the Mayor as follows:
appropriation of \$293,850

FROM: THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY & SECURITY \$293,850

SFY2024 MASSACHUSETTS MUNICIPAL PUBLIC SAFETY STAFFING PROGRAM

TO: THE POLICE DEPARTMENT \$293,850

Invited: Brenda Perez, Chief of Police or Designee

Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

*Lugenia Lopes, Grant Coordinator, BPD, introduced and explained the order and was available to answer any questions that anyone may have had.

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

8. Ordered: That the following named sum be and the same is hereby transferred as the same was submitted by the Mayor as follows:
appropriation of \$50,000

FROM: THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY & SECURITY -\$50,000

FY24 EDWARD BRYNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT

TO: THE POLICE DEPARTMENT \$50,000

Invited: Lugenia Lopes, Grant Coordinator, BPD

Captain Steven Williamson, BPD

Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

*Captain Williamson introduced and explained the order and was available to answer any questions that anyone may have had.

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

9. Ordered: That the City of Brockton appropriates the amount of Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000.00) to pay costs of a feasibility study related to options for reconstructing the existing Brockton High School, and/or construction of a new Brockton High School, at 470 Forest Avenue, in Brockton, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, and for which the City may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of School Building Committee. To meet this appropriation the City Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow said amount

under and pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, or pursuant to any other enabling authority. The City acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the City incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the City, and that the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this order shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Feasibility Study Agreement that may be executed between the City and the MSBA. 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
Martin Brophy, City Treasurer
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

*Mayor Sullivan and CFO Clarkson introduced and explained the order and was available to answer any questions that anyone may have had. Mr. Brophy was also in attendance.

*Councilor Minichiello stepped in.

*Councilors Farwell, Griffin, Asack, Nicasastro, Minichiello, Derenoncourt, Thompson, Lally, and Teixeira shared their concerns and directed questions to both Mayor Sullivan and CFO Clarkson.

*In a second round of comments from the Committee, Councilor Asack questioned and commented on the order.

*Motion by Councilor Asack to table, seconded by Councilor Nicasastro. Clerk Cruise stated that there would be no more deliberation with a motion to table on the table.

*Councilor Asack withdrew her motion and Councilor Nicasastro withdrew her second with knowledge that the committee wanted to continue conversations.

*Continuing on, questions and comments from Councilor Thompson. Through the Chair, comments from Councilor Asack to Councilor Thompson. Comments from Councilor Derenoncourt answered by CFO Clarkson, Mayor Sullivan and Clerk Cruise.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Derenoncourt to report POSTPONED TO THE LAST FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING IN MARCH and was properly seconded.

*On the motion, questions and comments from Councilors Farwell, Rodrigues and Minichiello with answers from Mayor Sullivan.

Motion carried by a hand vote.

10. Resolve: Be it resolved by the Brockton City Council to invite Mayor Robert Sullivan, CHA Consulting, Inc. (City's consultant), Kaestle Boos Associates, Inc. (KBA) (project

architects) and designated City officials to appear before the Finance Committee of the Brockton City Council to provide information and update the City Council on the Public Safety Building Development project.

Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan

James Plouffe, Superintendent of Buildings

Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

Rob May, Director of Planning and Economic Development

Patrick Hill, DPW Commissioner

Kevin Sullivan, CHA Consulting, INC. Representative

Joe Sullivan, CHA Consulting, INC. Representative

Sean Schmigle, KBA Representative

Motion by Councilor Farwell to take item #11 out of order and hear it before #10 and was properly seconded. Motion carried by a hand vote.

11. Resolve: WHEREAS, American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding allows for critical capital projects to be completed;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The chief financial officer, ARPA consultant and building commissioner be invited to a meeting of the city council to provide a progress report on ARPA funded projects and continuation of city services during project work.

Invited: Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

Dan Pallotta, ARPA Consultant

James Plouffe, Building Commissioner

*CFO Clarkson introduced and explained the resolve and introduced Mr. Pallotta to give his presentation. With approval from the Chair, Mayor Sullivan commented on the resolve. Commissioner Plouffe was also in attendance to answer questions.

*Mr. Pallotta explained the PowerPoint presentation which is on file in the City Clerk's Office. He went on to present the first piece of slate from the new roof to be put on City Hall to City Council President Moises Rodrigues.

*Questions and comments from Councilors Farwell, Lally, Thompson, Asack, Minichiello, Nicastro and Derenoncourt.

Having considered the same, motion by Councilor Asack to report FAVORABLE and was properly seconded.

12. Resolve: WHEREAS, The city council has responsibility for approving annual appropriations for the operation of city departments as submitted by the mayor, and,

WHEREAS, The appropriations for the Brockton Public Schools are the largest amounts to be reviewed, and,

WHEREAS, For the current Fiscal Year 2024, the following amounts were approved: Net School Spending \$219,868,010; Non-Net School Spending \$11,245,147, or more than \$230 million, and,

WHEREAS, It is critically important the city provides sufficient funding for classroom teachers, educational programs, and related services for our students at all grade levels.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

The mayor and chief financial officer be invited to a meeting of the council to discuss the feasibility of an independent, objective review of the entire administrative structure of the Brockton Public Schools. Provided further, if funding is approved for this study, the data generated would provide the city council with valuable information when annual budget reviews for school appropriations are conducted in June, 2024.

Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

Motion by Councilor Asack to postpone to the next Finance Committee meeting and was properly seconded.

*On the motion, comments from Councilor Lally.

*Mayor Sullivan informs the Council that the next Finance Committee meeting will be during February vacation and he will not be available to attend.

*Councilor Asack amends her motion to postpone the item to the next Finance Committee meeting in March.

Motion carried by a hand vote.

10. Resolve: Be it resolved by the Brockton City Council to invite Mayor Robert Sullivan, CHA Consulting, Inc. (City's consultant), Kaestle Boos Associates, Inc. (KBA) (project architects) and designated City officials to appear before the Finance Committee of the Brockton City Council to provide information and update the City Council on the Public Safety Building Development project.

Invited: Mayor Robert Sullivan
James Plouffe, Superintendent of Buildings
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer
Rob May, Director of Planning and Economic Development
Patrick Hill, DPW Commissioner
Kevin Sullivan, CHA Consulting, INC. Representative
Joe Sullivan, CHA Consulting, INC. Representative
Sean Schmigle, KBA Representative

*Mayor Sullivan introduced the resolve and the representatives from CHA who were going to give a PowerPoint presentation, which is on file at the City Clerk's Office. He noted that all invited guests were in attendance, as well as Suffolk Construction representatives and all four department heads who would be moving their departments

into the new Public Safety Building including Fire Chief Brian Nardelli, Chief of Police Brenda Perez, Acting Director of ITC Ted Medeiros and Director of Brockton Emergency Management Stephan Hooke.

*Joe Sullivan and Kevin Sullivan from CHA Consulting, Inc. gave a presentation to provide information about the Public Safety Development Project.

*Questions and comments from Councilors Asack, Farwell, Thompson, Derenoncourt, Minichiello, Rodrigues and Farwell.

*Closing comments from Mayor Sullivan.

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

Brief Recess: 10:36PM

Back in Session: 10:37PM

13. Resolve: WHEREAS, The safety and security of city residents is a moral and legal imperative; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The police chief and such members of the command staff as may be determined appropriate be invited to a meeting of the city council, such meeting to be held in executive session for the following purpose, as specifically permitted by MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21 (a) (4): "To discuss the deployment of security personnel or devices, or strategies with respect thereto."

Invited: Brenda Perez, Chief of Police or Designees

*Council President Rodrigues stated that the reason for going into executive session is to discuss with the Brockton Police Department about the deployment of security personnel, devices, or strategies in the City of Brockton. He announced that the body will not reconvene in open session at the end of the Executive Session.

*Council President Rodrigues calls for the clerk to call the role to vote for the body to enter Executive Session.

Roll call to enter executive session was had; ten members present and all voting in the affirmative. Councilor Tavares absent.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:16AM Tuesday, February 16, 2024