

## FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the standing committee on Finance was held on Tuesday April 16, 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 ten members present. With Councilor Rodrigues presiding, Councilor Thompson absent.

1. Acceptance of the minutes of the April 1, 2024 Finance Committee Meeting.

\*Accepted and placed on file.

2. Appointment of Mr. Nicholas Palantzas, of 80 Weston Street, Brockton, MA 02301, to serve as a member of the Brockton Parking Authority for a five (5) year term, March 2029.

Invited: Mr. Nicholas Palantzas

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

\*Questions and comments from Councilors Minichiello.

\* Questions and comments from Councilor Derenoncourt on the motion.

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

3. 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: \$100,000

FROM: PARKING AUTHORITY – RETAINED EARNINGS	\$100,000
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TO: PARKING AUTHORITY – CAPITAL PROJECT FUND	\$100,000
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These funds will be used for the purchase of a new vehicle for the department as well as new parking meters that have been damaged over the past year.

Invited: Eric Akesson, Executive Director of Parking Authority  
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

\* President Rodrigues stated that Mr. Akesson wasn't able to make it tonight but Paula Tsitsopoulos from Parking authority was here.

\*CFO Troy Clarkson and Ms. Tsitsopoulos introduced and explained the order and was available to answer any questions that anyone may have had.

\* Questions and comments from Councilors Nicastro, Asack, and Minichiello.

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

Transfer of: \$20,000

FROM: HUMAN RESOURCES- EMPLOYEE BENEFITS- CONTRACTUAL UNION COSTS	\$20,000
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TO: ANIMAL CONTROL – PERSONAL SERVICES NON-OT	\$20,000
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This transfer will be used to cover union contractual agreements.

Invited: Sandi Charton, Hr Director  
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

\* President Rodrigues stated that Ms. Charton wasn't able to make it tonight.

\*CFO Troy Clarkson 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.

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: \$50,000

FROM: PUBLIC PROPERTY- NET SCHOOL SPENDING \$50,000

TO: PUBLIC PROPERTY- OTHER CONTRACT SERVICES  
\$50,000

This transfer will be to cover anticipated expenses for the Campanelli Stadium.

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

\* President Rodrigues stated that Mr. James Plouffe wasn't able to make it tonight but William Forte Deputy Commissioner of Buildings was here.

\*CFO Troy Clarkson and Mr.Forte introduced and explained the order and was available to answer any questions that anyone may have had.

\* Questions and comments from Councilors Nicastro, Farwell, Asack, and Minichiello.

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

Transfer of: \$1,000,000

FROM: POLICE DEPARTMENT – PERSONAL SERVICES NON-OT	\$200,000
FIRE DEPARTMENT – PERSONAL SERVICES NON-OT	\$200,000
DPW HIGHWAY- PURCHASE OF SERVICE	\$200,000
MAYOR- PURCHASE OF SERVICE	\$200,000
CITY CLERK- PERSONAL SERVICE NON-OT	\$100,000
DPW MAINTENANCE – GOODS AND SUPPLIES	\$100,000

TO: LAW DEPARTMENT - PURCHASE OF SERVICE	\$400,000
LAW DEPARTMENT - PROPERTY INSURANCE	\$225,000
LAW DEPARTMENT - COURT JUDGEMENTS	\$375,000

Invited: City Solicitor Megan Bridges or designee(s)  
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

\*CFO Troy Clarkson and City Solicitor Megan Bridges introduced and explained the order and was available to answer any questions that anyone may have had.

\* Questions and comments from Councilors Teixeira and Rodrigues on the motion.

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

7. Ordered: WHEREAS, Chapter 324 of the Acts of 1990 was specifically enacted by the Legislature relative to the finances of the City of Brockton; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 324 of the Acts of 1990 provides in part “The city council by majority vote may request such assessment, analysis or other financial information, without otherwise limiting its authority to request such, at any time it receives formal or informal notice of: (i) an expenditure which is or may be in excess of an appropriation; (ii) a condition where an allotment is or may be exceeded;”.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED:

(A) The city council affirms that provisions of Chapter 324 of the Acts of 1990 apply to the city and its departments, including the school department.

(B) Pursuant to Section 5 (d) of the Act, the chief financial officer be invited to a meeting of the council in March, 2024, to provide a detailed report on the current Fiscal Year 2024 expenditures and remaining balances in accounts for all city departments.

(C) Pursuant to Section 7 of the Act, all city departments shall immediately comply with the provisions requiring periodic reports on the allotments provided to departments for their operation as enumerated in the following language from the Act:

***“...the amounts to be expended by such department or unit for such purposes during each of the five following allotment periods: July first through September thirtieth, October first through December thirty-first, January first through the last day of February, March first through April thirtieth, and May first through June thirtieth.”***

(D) Notwithstanding the provisions of section “C” above, the chief financial officer shall provide a monthly report of allotments provided for the operation of the public schools and the remaining balances in all accounts, including funds received through grants.

(E) Reports generated pursuant to Section 7 of the Act shall be filed with the City Clerk for dissemination to the members of the city council.

(F) The provisions of Section 7 relative to the joint responsibility of the city auditor and the chief financial officer shall be followed, as contained in the following provision of the Act:

***“Whenever the chief financial officer or the city auditor determines that any department, board, commission, agency or other unit of city government, including the school department, will exhaust or has exhausted its time period allotment and any amounts unexpended in previous periods before the end of such time period, he shall give notice in writing to such effect to the department head or officer in charge thereof, the mayor, the city solicitor, the chief financial officer or the city auditor as appropriate, and to the city clerk who shall forthwith transmit the same to the city council and finance control board, if such board remains in existence at the time. Upon such a determination and notice thereof, the chief financial officer shall provide the foregoing officials additional reports on at least a monthly basis indicating the status of each of such accounts.”***

(G) This Order shall remain in full force and effect until amended or rescinded by vote of the city council.

Invited: City Solicitor Megan Bridges or designee(s)  
Irene Giannopoulos, Interim Auditor  
Troy Clarkson, Chief Financial Officer

\*CFO Troy Clarkson, City Solicitor Megan Bridges, and Ms. Giannopoulos introduced and explained the order and was available to answer any questions that anyone may have had.

\* Questions and comments from Councilors Farwell, Lally, Minichiello, Derenoncourt, Tavares, Nicastro, and Rodrigues.

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

\*Councilor Lally motioned to take items # 8 & 9 collectively and was properly seconded. The motion carried by a hand vote.

8. Resolve: To invite Ms. Jazmine Bradsher, MSW, with any designees she may choose to accompany her, to appear at a meeting of the Finance Committee to discuss trauma in city youth that arises from being unhoused, mental health issues, substance abuse, family disfunction, sex trafficking and other related reasons, and existing opportunities for addressing such underlying issues.

Invited: Jazmine Bradsher, Director of Social Services

9. Resolve: WHEREAS, There have been news media accounts of upcoming initiatives to provide restrooms and other services to unhoused populations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The director of human services and/or other appropriate staff in the Office of the Mayor appear before a committee of the council to provide updated information on future services and the anticipated costs to the city.

Invited: Jazmine Bradsher, Director of Social Services

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

\*Questions and comments from Councilors Nicastro, Griffin, Tavares, Teixeira, and Derenoncourt.

\*Questions and comments from Councilor Farwell on the motion.

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

Councilor Recognition: Councilor Nicastro stated that Keep Brockton Beautiful is Saturday May 18, at 7:30 AM at Heights Crossing there will be a cookout and a raffle and prizes after the clean-up. Councilor Griffin encouraged all residents to attend a meeting about Father Bills over on 460 Belmont Street Tuesday April 30, 2024. Councilor Teixeira stated that On Tuesday April 23 at 6PM the Accounts meeting will be held in the City Council Chambers. Councilor Farwell had a moment of silence for Thomas Frizzell who was a former baseball coach in Brockton.

Adjourned: 9:55PM