

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the standing committee on Finance was held on Monday January 6th, 2025 at 7:00PM in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 45 School St., Brockton, MA. The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM with nine members present and Councilor Rodrigues presiding. Councilors Asack, and Minichiello absent.

President Rodrigues asked for a moment of silence for fire fighter Captain Steve Monteiro

1. Re-appointment of Mr. John O'Donnell, of 30 Rock Meadow Drive, Brockton MA, 02301, as Chairman to the Brockton Board of Assessors for a three (3) year term, ending in December 2027.

Invited: John O'Donnell

Mayor Robert Sullivan began by showing his support for Mr. O'Donnell's re-appointment explaining how much work he has done for the City.

Mr. O'Donnell then spoke stating his appreciation and enjoyment for serving on the Board of Assessors for 11 years and that he would love another 3.

Councilor Farwell motioned to recommend favorably. Motion was properly seconded and carried by a hand vote.

President Rodrigues then stated that he received word from Councilor Minichiello that he had a prior engagement and could not attend tonight's meeting.

2. Appointment of Ms. Wadezah McCullough, DrPH(c), MPH, CPH, of 47 West Elm Street, Brockton, MA, 02301, to serve on the Brockton Board of Health for a three (3) year term, or until the Health and Human Services Commissioner position is filled.

Invited: Ms. Wadezah McCullough

Mayor Sullivan began by showing his support for this appointment by stating his praise for Ms. McCullough as well as stating the vacancies that are within the Board of Health currently.

Ms. McCullough briefly spoke by thanking the Council for her time and then provided some brief background about herself including her working for the Neighborhood Health Center and is also a resident of Brockton who views the City as her home.

Councilor Derenoncourt motioned to recommend favorably. Motion was properly seconded and carried by a hand vote.

3. Ordered: In accordance with Section 2-110 of the Ordinances of the City of Brockton, requesting a waiver of the City's residency requirement for Grant Writer Ms. Jane McNulty.

Invited: Ms. Jane McNulty
Mayor Robert F. Sullivan
CFO Troy Clarkson

Mayor Sullivan began speaking in support of this waiver for Ms. McNulty and explained that she was born in Brockton as well as explaining that her father works for the City and her mother works at the School Department. Mayor Sullivan also wanted to point out that she lives right over the boarder and is still close.

Councilor Asack stepped in.

Councilor Lally motioned to recommend favorably. Motion was properly seconded.

On the motion, Councilor Nicasastro asked for Ms. McNulty to step forward and if she had anything to say to the Council.

Ms. McNulty began by thanking the Council for her time and explained some of her background while also highlighting the reason for her waiver request is due to financial reasonings as she is a recent college graduate looking to save her money to be able to afford her own house and further her education. Ms. McNulty then stated some numbers regarding the grant funds she has been able to receive for the City.

On the motion, Councilor Nicasastro stated she will be in support of this.

On the motion, Mayor Sullivan stated briefly that Jane & Erin are always on the ball and ahead of the game with grants.

On the motion, Councilor Tavares stated that the City needs more people like Ms. McNulty and that she is in support of this.

On the motion, Councilor Derenoncourt stated that he is in favor of this but felt the need to share a statement regarding a gentleman who worked in the Planning Department and wasn't able to keep his job due to not receiving a residency waiver. Councilor Derenoncourt stated he believes some positions warrant a residency waiver, and some do not.

On the motion, Councilor Asack stated her support in this and hopes that Ms. McNulty is able to continue to bring money into the City.

Councilor Lally's motion to recommend favorably that was properly seconded was also properly 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 \$6,500.00.

FROM: EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY \$6,500.00

TO: BROCKTON POLICE DEPARTMENT \$6,500.00

Invited: Police Chief Brenda Perez and/or designee(s)
CFO Troy Clarkson

Chief of Police Brenda Perez began by briefly explaining that this provides funding for verification of sex offenders and that this award is for the Sex Offender Registry Coordinator to conduct their work.

Councilor Farwell motioned to recommend favorably. Motion was properly seconded and 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: \$100,000.00

FROM: CERTIFIED FREE CASH \$100,000.00

TO: COMMUNITY COMPACT GRANT FUND \$100,000.00

Invited: Honorable Mayor Robert F. Sullivan
CFO Troy Clarkson

Mayor Sullivan explained that this grant would not just help the City and the Schools but will also help with Collective Bargaining Analysis. Mayor Sullivan then deferred to CFO Clarkson regarding the amount of the grant.

CFO Troy Clarkson began by thanking the City Council and then by mentioning he had emailed the Councilors in advance to discuss some of the things the Mayor had already stated.

CFO Clarkson highlighted how although the \$100,000 that is being requested is a significant number, there is still plenty of reserve money left in certified free cash to help balance next years budget and other necessities.

Councilor Farwell asked if community compact grant fund is in Munis and if the money is wanted to be transferred to that grant fund, and which office is going to administer this to which CFO Clarkson stated it would be his finance office.

Councilor Lally asked if the Council could receive a routine update with anything that the CFO deems necessary to be relayed. CFO Clarkson stated that he believes this is a great idea.

Councilor Thompson asked if this is a consultant that comes in and gives recommendations or if it is a training that is offered to employees to bring them up to speed on best practices to which CFO Clarkson stated that both as consultants would be hired as well as employees would then receive those practice ideas on both the City and School side.

Councilor Thompson then asked once approved what the time frame would be for the consultants to be hired to which CFO Troy Clarkson responded as soon as possible.

Councilor Lally motioned to recommend favorably. Motion was properly seconded and carried by a hand vote.

Councilor Farwell wanted to take a brief moment to announce the Ordinance Committee Meeting that will be held on January 8th at 6pm.

President Rodrigues stated that next meeting will have new seats and asked for the councilors to please clean their spaces.

Meeting adjourned 7:28pm.