



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS

CLERK OF COMMITTEES

June 22, 2011

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Maryann M. Heuston	Chair	Present	
William A. White Jr.	Vice Chair	Present	
John M Connolly	Alderman At Large	Present	
Rebekah Gewirtz	Ward Six Alderman	Present	
Thomas F. Taylor	Ward Three Alderman	Present	
William M. Roche	Ward One Alderman	Present	
Walter F. Pero	Ward Four Alderman	Present	
Sean T. O'Donovan	Ward Five Alderman	Absent	
Robert C. Trane	Ward Seven Alderman	Present	
Dennis M. Sullivan	Alderman At Large	Present	
Bruce M. Desmond	Alderman At Large	Present	
Joseph Curtatone	Mayor	Present	
Ed Bean	CFO	Present	
Doug Willardson	Budget Analyst	Present	
Matt Buckley	Director, Personnel	Present	
Candace Cooper	Asst. Director, Personnel	Present	
Kevin Kelleher	Chief Fire Engineer	Present	
Patrick Sullivan III	Deputy Fire Chief	Present	
Karthik Viswanathan	CIO	Present	
Nicolas Salerno	Election Commissioner	Present	
Frank Senesi	Director, Veterans Services	Present	
Elizabeth Craveiro	Treasurer	Present	
Angela Allen	Director, Purchasing	Present	
Marc Levy	Chief Assessor	Present	
Kate Ashton	Grants	Present	
Frank Wright	City Solicitor	Present	
Phillip Ercolini	OSPCD, Exec. Director	Present	
Michael Lambert	OSPCD, Transportation & Infrastructure	Present	
Dana LeWinter	OSPCD, Housing	Present	
Michael Cabral	Deputy Police Chief	Present	
Paul Upton	Deputy Police Chief	Present	
John Long	City Clerk	Present	
Michael Meehan	Director, Communications	Present	
Robert May	OSPCD, Planning	Present	
Eddie Nuzzo	Supt., ISD	Present	
Matthew Dias	Director, Traffic & Parking	Present	
Paulette Renault-Caragianes	Director of Health	Present	
Nancy Milnor	Library Director	Present	

James Halloran	Supt., Recreation & Youth	Present	
Stan Koty	DPW Commissioner	Present	
Ginger Barrett	Supt., Water & Sewer	Present	

- Public Hearing for public input on the proposed FY 2012 budget
No speakers for nor against.

- FY-12 Budget

The following Aldermen were recused from the discussions and votes taken, as noted:

Alderman Desmond - Information Technology; Alderman Heuston - DPW Administration; Alderman O'Donovan - DPW Administration and Fire; Alderman Pero - SomerStat and Retirement Services; Alderman Roche - DPW Highway and Police; Alderman Sullivan - Traffic and Parking; Alderman Taylor - Animal Control

The committee reviewed each department's budget request and made cuts where appropriate, essentially reducing various salary and wage lines where particular positions would be vacant for a determined period of time.

Alderman White *requested documentation to support the projected revenue estimate resulting from passage of the ordinance dealing with expired vehicle registrations and inspection stickers* and Alderman Gewirtz *requested that a plan for informing residents of that ordinance be provided to the committee.*

Alderman Gewirtz requested information showing the cost savings that would be realized by the DPW taking control of the city's street lights. Mr. Koty stated that approximately \$30,000 could be realized in the first year and that savings could possibly reach \$100,000 when the entire program is set up properly.

Alderman White's motion *that the FY-12 budget be corrected to reflect changes to various departmental appropriation requests, as provided during the course of the FY-12 budget deliberations.* was approved.

The following Resolutions and Orders were approved:

Resolution by Aldermen Trane, Sullivan, Connolly, Desmond, White, Pero, Heuston and Taylor: *That the Administration consider changing the Junior Detail Clerk position from ½ time to full time, due to the workload required to meet the needs of those requesting Police details.*

Resolution by Alderman Trane: *That the Administration consider changing the Part Time Animal Control position to a Full Time position, in order to provide coverage during the weekends.*

Resolution by Alderman Taylor: *That the Administration make every effort to add an additional building inspector in the Inspectional Services Department.*

Resolution by Alderman Desmond: *That the Administration review the description of each line item in the city's budget to ensure that all costs are assigned to the appropriate line items in all future budgets.*

Order by Alderman Desmond: *That the Commissioner of Public Works develop a backup plan for ensuring that the high quality of maintaining the Weights and Measures in the city will continue, should the current Sealer of Weights and Measures retire or become incapacitated and not able to perform his duties.*

Resolution by Alderman Desmond: *That the Administration use funding cut from the FY-12 budget to hire an Assistant Sealer of Weights and Measures, so that person may begin learning the functions of the Sealer and begin to attain the certifications needed to perform the functions of that position.*

The committee made the following reductions to the proposed FY-12 budget:

<u>By</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Org. #</u>	<u>Acct. #</u>	<u>Reduction</u>
White	Debt Service		592500	\$60,000.00
Gewirtz	DPW Buildings & Grounds	407	511300	\$5,830.00
Gewirtz	DPW Highway	405	511300	\$2,915.00
Roche	Elections	162	511000	\$645.00
Roche	Finance - Internal Auditing	139	511000	\$5,007.00
Connolly	Fire	220	511000	\$16,328.00
Trane	Health & Wellness	512	511000	\$13,191.00
Trane	Health & Wellness	512	511002	\$500.00
Desmond	Libraries	610	511000	\$1,823.00
White	Traffic & Parking	293	511000	\$2,611.00
Gewirtz	Enterprise Fund - Water	6000	511000	\$4,176.00
Gewirtz	Enterprise Fund - Water	6000	524013	\$22,500.00

Total: \$135,526.00 (Including Enterprise Funds)

191591 - Requesting an appropriation of \$21,940 from the Assembly Square Stabilization Fund to pay debt service related to the reconstruction of certain parks.:

RESULT: APPROVED

191592 - Requesting an appropriation of \$700,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the DPW Snow Removal Account to eliminate the FY2011 Snow Removal Deficit.:

RESULT: APPROVED

191593 - Requesting an appropriation of \$45,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Police Overtime Acct. to eliminate a year-end deficit.:

RESULT: APPROVED

191594 - Requesting an appropriation of \$17,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Auditing Division Accounting & Auditing Professional Services Acct. to pay for forensic auditing services in connection with the investigation of the Council on Aging.:

RESULT: APPROVED

191595 - Requesting an appropriation of \$3,900 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Clerk of Committees Salaries Monthly Account to eliminate a year end deficit.:

RESULT: APPROVED

191596 - Requesting transfers from various DPW Accts. to offset the projected DPW snow deficit of \$207,934.31.:

RESULT: APPROVED

191597 - Requesting the transfer of \$75,000 from the Fire Dept. Salary Acct. to the Fire Alarm Overtime Acct.:

RESULT: APPROVED

191598 - Requesting the transfer of \$3,254 from the Sewer Capital Improvements Acct. to the MWRA Assessments Acct.:

RESULT: APPROVED

191599 - Requesting the transfer of \$811 from the DPW's Recycling Acct. to its School Custodian Overtime Acct.:

Chairman Heuston's amendment to change the receiving department from Custodian Overtime to Professional & Technical Services, was approved.

RESULT: APPROVED AS AMENDED

191600 - Requesting approval to pay a prior fiscal year invoice of \$795 for wheelchair ramp repairs made at the Water Dept.:

RESULT: APPROVED

191624 - Requesting approval to transfer \$375 in the Veterans Services Dept., from the Printing and Stationary Acct. to the Personal Services Longevity Acct.:

RESULT: APPROVED

191625 - Requesting authorization to pay a \$69.22 prior year invoice from New England Office Supply using FY11 funding in the Mayor's office.:

RESULT: APPROVED

191626 - Requesting authorization to seek a PARC grant of \$500,000 for North Street Veterans Playground renovation costs.:

Mr. Lambert informed the members that there is CDBG funding that could be used to cover the city's matching funds portion.

RESULT: APPROVED

191627 - Requesting authorization to submit a PARC grant application for \$500,000 for construction costs for a new Harris Park at 15-25 Cross Street East.:

Mr. Lambert informed the members that there is CDBG funding that could be used to cover the city's matching funds portion.

RESULT: APPROVED

191640 - Requesting acceptance of the provisions of MGL c44, s53F1/2 establishing an Enterprise Fund for Dilboy Stadium and Dilboy Field Recreational areas.:

Mr. Halloran explained that the money in the existing Revolving Fund account would be transferred to this new Enterprise Fund.

RESULT: APPROVED

191641 - Requesting approval of the FY 2012 Dilboy Enterprise Budget in the amount of \$110,000.:

RESULT: APPROVED

191642 - Requesting acceptance of the provisions of MGL c44, s53F1/2 establishing an Enterprise Fund for the Veterans Memorial Ice Skating Rink and an outdoor ice skating rink adjacent to the facility.:

RESULT: APPROVED

191643 - Requesting approval of the FY 2012 Veterans Memorial Ice Skating Rink Enterprise Budget in the amount of \$479,208.:

RESULT: APPROVED

191644 - Requesting approval to appropriate \$3,500,000 in Free Cash to reduce the FY2012 Tax Levy.:

RESULT: APPROVED

191647 - Requesting the re-authorization of certain Departmental Revolving Funds for FY2012.:

The committee voted on the Cable Telecommunications Revolving Fund only. (All other revolving funds in this item were approved by the committee on June 15th.)

RESULT: APPROVED

191648 - Requesting an appropriation of \$2,435,355 and authorization to borrow \$2,435,355 in a bond for the construction of a new outdoor skating rink.:

RESULT: APPROVED

191650 - City Clerk submitting recommendations for adjustments to certain fees charged by the City Clerk's Office, effective July 1, 2011.:

Mr. Long discussed the proposed increases for Marriage and Dog Licenses and for some business licenses that occupy more of the Board of Aldermen's and City Clerk's time.

Alderman White's motion *that the fee for spayed and neuter dogs not be increased*, failed on a roll call vote.

Alderman White's motion *that the fee for marriage licenses not be increased*, failed on a roll call vote.

Alderman Trane requested that information regarding the fee structures from other communities be provided for comparison and Chairman Heuston requested that an indication of the effort expended by other communities to approve and monitor various licenses be provided.

RESULT: APPROVED

191651 - Requesting an appropriation of \$1,000,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund.:

RESULT: APPROVED

191652 - Requesting an appropriation of \$800,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Rainy Day Stabilization Fund.:

RESULT: APPROVED

191653 - Requesting appropriation of \$127,513 from the Capital Stabilization Fund for renovations to the Veterans Memorial Skating Rink.:

RESULT: APPROVED

191655 - Requesting approval of a home rule petition authorizing the City to incur debt to repair or maintain property under the control of the City through an agreement with the Commonwealth.:

Mr. Wright explained that this item pertains to the skating rink but that it is written so that it could be applied to any other city owned public buildings. Mayor Curtatone referenced some of the other assets that could fall under this umbrella, e.g., Drawer 7 and the boat house. Once the Home Rule Petition is passed, renovations can move forward.

RESULT: APPROVED