



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS  
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

March 21, 2012

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	
Robert C. Trane	Ward Seven Alderman	Present	
Thomas F. Taylor	Ward Three Alderman	Present	
Joseph Curtatone	Mayor	Present	
Peter Forcellese, Jr.	City Treasurer	Present	
Anne Thomas	Special Counsel	Present	
Dave Shapiro	Asst. City Solicitor	Present	
Frank Wright	City Solicitor	Present	
Cindy Hickey	Director, Council on Aging	Present	
Michael Glavin	Exec. Director, OSPCD	Present	
Sarah Kloos	Director of Personnel	Present	
Candace Cooper	Asst. Director of Personnel	Present	
Doug Willardson	Budget Analyst	Present	
Ed Bean	CFO	Present	
Steve MacEachern	Supt. of Lines and Lights	Present	
Stan Koty	Commissioner of Public Works	Present	

**192261 - Requesting the authorization of a Consolidated Gift Account for the Council on Aging.:**

Mr. Bean and Ms. Hickey stated that due to additional programming for the city's seniors, the revolving fund needs to be increased from \$90,000 to \$130,000. (See item 192670)

**RESULT: APPROVED**

**192604 - Requesting the creation of a Bicycle Stabilization Fund and the acceptance of a mitigation payment of \$2,178 from Mudflat Studios, to purchase a bicycle corral.:**

**RESULT: APPROVED**

**192622 - Requesting the approval of the release of an obsolete drain easement in Assembly Square.:**

Ms. Thomas explained that this item is needed to clear a defect.

**RESULT:        APPROVED**

**192627 - Requesting a transfer of \$55,000 from the Salary Contingency Acct. to fund a non-union wage study.:**

Ms. Kloos told the members that the goal of this study is to evaluate the salary ranges for non-union positions to make them equitable, since affected employees have not received any wage nor cost of living increases since 2006. The study will also incorporate non-union employees in the School Department. Since the previous study was conducted, 50 new job descriptions have been added. Ms. Kloos stated that no positions would be eliminated, however, outdated positions might be merged into other positions.

**RESULT:        APPROVED**

**192666 - Requesting an appropriation of \$375,000 from the Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Acct. to the Algonquin Gas Loop Project Stabilization Fund.:**

Mr. Wright and Mr. Koty explained that the city received a check for \$375,000, however, its acceptance was never brought before the Finance Committee. To correct that error, approval of this item will reflect acceptance of the \$375,000 by the Board of Aldermen for appropriation to the Algonquin Gas Loop Project Stabilization Fund.

Alderman Trane's motion, *that the Chief Financial Officer provide the Committee on Finance with further clarification of how the City receives appropriations of funds for acceptance into the City's General fund*, was approved.

**RESULT:        APPROVED**

**192667 - Requesting the appropriation of \$375,000 from the Algonquin Gas Loop Project Stabilization Fund to reconstruct roads and sidewalks.:**

See item 192666 (above)

**RESULT:        APPROVED**

**192670 - Requesting authorization to increase the Council on Aging's Revolving Fund Cap for FY2012 from \$90,000 to \$130,000.:**

Mr. Bean and Ms. Hickey stated that due to additional programming for the city's seniors, the revolving fund needs to be increased from \$90,000 to \$130,000. (See item 192261)

**RESULT: APPROVED**

**192672 - Requesting the use of FY12 funds in the Personnel Dept. to pay Arbitrator Richard Higgins for Arbitration Services on an Fiscal Year 2011 invoice totaling \$600.:**

**RESULT: APPROVED**

**192695 - Requesting acceptance of a donation from Christos Poutahidis in the amount of \$10,000, for youth programming.:**

**RESULT: APPROVED**

**192696 - Requesting acceptance of a donation of \$10,000 from D&R General Contracting, for community initiatives.:**

**RESULT: APPROVED**

**192697 - Requesting acceptance of a donation of \$10,000 from MetroPCS for youth programming and other community events.:**

**RESULT: APPROVED**

**192698 - Requesting acceptance of a donation of \$1,000 from Robert B. King, local McDonalds owner-operator, for youth activities and community events.:**

**RESULT: APPROVED**

**192713 - Requesting approval to amend the contract with Waste Management of MA Inc. regarding the Transfer Station.:**

Mayor Curtatone told the members that a provision was found in the contract between the City and Waste Management, that consequently allowed the City to notify Waste Management that they would have to vacate the city owned site presently rented by them for \$20,000 per month. Notice was given to Waste Management in October of 2011, with the City giving Waste Management one year to find another transfer station location. There are plans to develop the

area where the present transfer station is located, as part of the Green Line expansion. The amendment before the committee clarifies (in paragraph 3) the responsibilities of the contractor.

Alderman White requested information on the amount of fees paid last year and what will be paid in FY-14 by Waste Management. Alderman White requested that a provision be explored with Waste Management that would provide the City with an advantageous rate if the going rate for tonnage were to fall below the rate agreed to in the amended contract. Alderman Heuston inquired as to whether the additional distance in hauling waste to Saugus would affect existing or future contracts with Russell Disposal and Alderman White requested that the Law Department examine the City's contract with Russell Disposal to determine if they may collect additional fees to truck the city's trash to Saugus.

<b>RESULT:</b> <b>KEPT IN COMMITTEE</b>
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