



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

March 4, 2015
REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Tony Lafuente	Chair	Present	
Maryann M. Heuston	Vice Chair	Absent	
Katjana Ballantyne	Ward Seven Alderman	Absent	
John M. Connolly	Alderman At Large	Present	
William A. White Jr.	Alderman At Large	Present	

Others present: Michael Glavin, Amanda Mayer, Marc Levy, Ed Bean, Ed O'Donnell, Rob King, Eileen McGettigan, Omar Boukili

1. Approval of the February 24, 2015 Minutes

RESULT: ACCEPTED

196288: Requesting the transfer of a parcel of land at 163 Glen Street to the Redevelopment Authority for neighborhood development.

Ms. McGettigan stated that the property is prime land for a design competition involving family, affordable and sustainable housing with the new Sustainable Neighborhood Program. Aldermen Connolly and White would like the Board of Aldermen to have control of the parcel, rather than the SRA.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

197339: Requesting that the City-owned portion of 163 Glen Street be declared available for disposition.

The item was approved subject to Board of Aldermen review and approval of the RFP prior to it being sent.

RESULT: APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

197349: That the Commissioner of Public Works provide this Board with the invoices for electric light poles as they are purchased in FY15.

Mr. Boukili spoke on the item.

RESULT:	WORK COMPLETED
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197611: Communicating information regarding the needed relocation of the Public Safety Building.

Mr. O'Donnell will provide a detailed cost estimate. Alderman White asked about the location and service area of the proposed fire station and expressed his desire for a public hearing on the matter.

RESULT:	WORK COMPLETED
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197850: That the Director of Finance and/or the City Treasurer report to this Board on what categories of grants, gifts, payments, donations, etc. and by what type of entities need to be formally accepted by a vote of this Board and which do not require official acceptance.

Mr. Bean stated that the these funds go into a gift account rather than the general fund.

RESULT:	WORK COMPLETED
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197881: That the Chief Assessor report the addresses of all commercial properties that have decreased in land or building value.

Mr. Levy reported that the requested information was submitted in 2014.

RESULT:	WORK COMPLETED
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197922: That the Director of SPCD provide administrative support and funding for a Main Streets initiative for the Beacon Street corridor.

Mr. Boukili stated that funding is needed.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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197988: That the Administration work with this Board to reschedule the community meetings currently set for November 19 and 20.

RESULT:	WORK COMPLETED
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197989: That the Administration hold off from advertising the proposed community meetings on #196116, re: commercial and residential property tax valuations, and immediately direct the Communication Department to cease advertising as well.

RESULT:	WORK COMPLETED
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197990: That the Director of Finance create a database to track developers' contributions

to stabilization funds and how those funds are utilized.

Alderman White requested that the information be made available in a document form.

RESULT:	WORK COMPLETED
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198091: That the Director of the SPCD (ISD) and the Director of Personnel appear before this Board to explain why health inspectors earn the same amount, or more than, building inspectors when they do not need to be licensed and building inspectors do.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
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198093: That the Director of SPCD (ISD) and the Director of Personnel appear before this Board to explain how gained sick time is dealt with and how employees can take that time off.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
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198160: Requesting an appropriation of \$500,000 and authorization to borrow that amount in a bond for a comprehensive planning effort for Assembly Square.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
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198520: Requesting approval to extend a lease with Zipcar through 12/31/15 for 7 spaces in municipal lots.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
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198522: Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$400,000 from the EPA for SPCD's use in assessing brownfields sites throughout the city.

Ms. Mayer spoke on the item and explained that the funds would be used for public and private petroleum sites in the Inner Belt and Brick Bottom areas. The committee requested that a list of involved properties be provided.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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198523: Requesting the acceptance of a \$17,924 grant from the DPH First Responder Naloxone (Narcan) Grant Program for the Police Dept.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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198545: Requesting a contract extension for CDR Maguire through May 29, 2015, for engineering services for the East Somerville Community School.

Mr. King spoke on the item

RESULT:

APPROVED

198547: Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$64,423 from the MA Office of Public Safety and Security for police staffing for the Police Dept.

Mr. Boukili stated that this is a recurring grant used for staffing.

RESULT:

APPROVED

198552: Conveying information about the construction of the Gilman Square Green Line station.

Ms. McGettigan spoke about the city retaining air rights over the building.

RESULT:

WORK COMPLETED