



City of Somerville, Massachusetts

Finance Committee

Meeting Minutes Dispositions

Tuesday, March 11, 2025

6:00 PM

Virtual

This meeting was held via Zoom and was called to order by Chair Wilson at 6:00pm and adjourned at 10:14pm on a roll call vote of 5 in favor (Councilors Mbah, Burnley, Clingan, Scott, and Wilson), 0 opposed, and 0 absent.

Councilor Scott joined the meeting at 6:14pm.

The committee went into recess at 8:17pm and returned to regular session at 8:24pm with a roll call vote of 4 in favor (Councilors Mbah, Clingan, Scott, and Wilson), 0 opposed and 1 absent (Councilor Burnley). Councilor Burnley joined the meeting at 8:27pm.

Others present: Dave Goodridge - Director of Information Technology, Neha Singh - Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Ed Bean - Director of Finance, Michael Mastrobuoni - Budget Director, Emily Wisdom - Finance Manager for Police, Michael Richards - Director of Finance for DPW Infrastructure and Asset Management, Lammis Vargas - Chief Administrator Officer, Shumeane Benford - Chief of Police, Kellie Hebert - Director of Finance and Administration DPW Water, Nick Salerno - Elections Commissioner, Jay Piques - Assistant City Solicitor, Cindy Amara - City Solicitor, Anne Gill - Director of Human Resources, Ellen Schneider Collins - Deputy Director of Human Resources, Cathy Lester Salchert - Special Counsel, Madalyn Letellier - Legislative Services Manager.

Roll Call

Present: City Councilor At Large Jake Wilson, Ward Four City Councilor Jesse Clingan, City Councilor At Large Willie Burnley Jr. and City Councilor At Large Wilfred N. Mbah

Absent: Ward Two City Councilor Jefferson Thomas (J.T.) Scott

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting of February 25, 2025.

[25-0373](#)

Accepted

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr. and City Councilor At Large Mbah

Appropriations

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2. Requesting the appropriation of \$137,288 from the Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Information Technology (IT) Department Professional & Technical Account for an independent assessment of security and network infrastructure and an organizational review of all IT groups within the city. [25-0274](#)

Recommended to be approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr. and City Councilor At Large Mbah

Bonding

3. Requesting authorization to borrow \$7,600,000 in a bond, and to appropriate the same amount for the FY 2025 Water Main Rehabilitation program as part of the Massachusetts Water Resource Authority's Local Water System Assistance Program. [25-0279](#)

Recommended to be approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr. and City Councilor At Large Mbah

Grant and Gift Acceptances

4. Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$100,000 grant with no new match required, from the City of Boston Office of Emergency Management to the Elections Department for security of elections vault. [25-0299](#)

Recommended to be approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr. and City Councilor At Large Mbah

5. Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$335,635 grant with no new match required, from the Department of Mental Health to the Police Department for the Crisis Intervention Training and Technical Assistance Center. [25-0281](#)

Recommended to be approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr. and City Councilor At Large Mbah

6. Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$15,000 grant with no new match required, as a sub-award through the Fenway Community Health Center to the Police Department for the Post-Overdose Support Team (POST). [25-0282](#)

Recommended to be approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr. and City Councilor At Large Mbah

7. Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$23,105 grant that requires a match, from the Metropolitan Area Planning Council to the Police Department for the Metro Mayors Community Safety Initiative. [25-0283](#)

Recommended to be approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan and City Councilor At Large Mbah

Nay: Ward Two City Councilor Scott and City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr.

8. Requesting approval to accept and expend an \$87,450 grant with no new match required, from the Executive Office of Public Safety & Security to the Police Department for staffing. [25-0284](#)

Recommended to be approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr. and City Councilor At Large Mbah

Prior Year Invoices

9. Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$93.61 using available funds in the Police Department Out-of-State Travel account for food expenses during an investigation. [25-0333](#)

Recommended to be approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr. and City Councilor At Large Mbah

10. Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$32.06 to Market Basket/Demoulas using available funds in the Parks & Recreation Food Supplies & Refreshments and Office Supplies accounts. [25-0268](#)

Recommended to be approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr. and City Councilor At Large Mbah

Personnel Requests

11. Requesting the use of available funds in the Water Enterprise Fund Wages account in the amount of \$14,798.95 to fund a Utility Billing Manager position. [25-0258](#)

Recommended to be not approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr. and City Councilor At Large Mbah

12. Requesting the use of available funds in the Water Enterprise Fund Wages account in the amount of \$13,928.44 to fund a new Service Operations Manager position. [25-0260](#)

Recommended to be not approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr. and City Councilor At Large Mbah

13. Requesting the use of available funds in the Water Enterprise Fund Wages account in the amount of \$1,569.10 to fund a Billing Analyst position. [25-0262](#)

Recommended to be not approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr. and City Councilor At Large Mbah

Contracts and Easements

14. Requesting approval of easements from JMC/STM/TGCI Union Square, LLC for 346 Somerville Avenue. [25-0349](#)

Recommended to be approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr. and City Councilor At Large Mbah

15. Requesting approval of a contract extension for two years until 2/28/2026 for TSA Consulting Group, Inc., for the administration of 457(b) plans. [25-0334](#)

Recommended to be approved

Aye: City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr. and City Councilor At Large Mbah

Ordinances

16. Amending the Code of Ordinances by adding Section 2-325 to Chapter 2, Article VI, Division 3 related to compensation for elected officials. [25-0375](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Ewen-Campen

Kept in committee

17. Requesting ordainment of an amendment to Sections 2-322 and 2-323 of the Code of Ordinances, to update categories and associated salaries for non-union positions. [25-0370](#)

Kept in committee

Communications and Discussions

18. Conveying an update on the next steps for recommendations on compensation for Elected Officials. [25-0369](#)

Recommended to be marked work completed

19. Conveying a forthcoming appropriation request from the Salary Contingency account to various city departments to fund an update to the non-union salary ordinance. [25-0368](#)

Recommended to be marked work completed

20. Finance Director conveying FY 2025 Mid-Year Financial Report in accordance with Section 2-48 of the Code of Ordinances. [25-0371](#)

Recommended to be marked work completed

Orders and Resolutions

21. That the Director of Racial and Social Justice provide an update on the citywide disparity study, including when the report will be made available to the public. [25-0251](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Burnley Jr.

Kept in committee

Referenced Documents:

- Finance - 2025-03-11 Memo Parks and Rec PYI (with 25-0268)
- Finance - 2025-03-11 NU Appropriation Memo March 2025 (with 25-0368)
- Finance - 2025-03-11 FinCom Memo - Human Resources (with 25-0370)
- Finance - 2025-03-11 Work Better Task Force Report 09-29-2022 (with 25-0370)
- Finance - 2025-03-11 Proposed Characteristic Chart for Non Union Classification Plan 2025 (with 25-0370)
- Finance - 2025-03-11 Water & Sewer-NU10-Billing Analyst (with 25-0262)
- Finance - 2025-03-11 Water and Sewer-NU07-Utility Billing Manager (with 25-0258)
- Finance - 2025-03-11 Water and Sewer-NU08-Service Operations Manager (with 25-0260)
- Finance - 2025-03-11 FY25 Mid-Year Presentation (with 25-0371)