



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS CLERK OF COMMITTEES

September 21, 2016
REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

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

Stan Koty - DPW, Marc Levye - Assessing, Michael Mastrobuoni - SomerStat, Patrick Sullivan - SFD, David Fallon - SPD, Michael Glavin - OSPCD, Oliver Sellers-Garcia - OSE, Greg Jenkins - Arts, Doug Kress - HHS, Frank Wright - Law, Alan Inacio - OSPCD, Brad Rawson - OSPCD, Eileen McGettigan - Law, Tim Snyder - Mayor's Office Jim Walker - Ameresco, Paul Scapicchio - Novus Group, Peter Forcellese - Legislative Clerk.

The meeting took place in the Committee Room and was called to order at 6:00 PM by Alderman Lafuente and adjourned at 7:32 PM. (The meeting was chaired by Alderman Heuston from 6:30 until adjournment.)

Approval of the July 6, 2016 Minutes

RESULT:	ACCEPTED
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201915: Requesting an appropriation of \$200,000 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund for the purchase of Big Belly trash and recycling units.

Mr. Koty said that this will pay for 17 double units and 15 single units and will complete the installation of big belly barrels.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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201917: Requesting an appropriation of \$100,000 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund for the purchase of decorative benches and barrels.

Mr. Koty said that this is an ongoing program. Eighty four combo barrels will be purchased with the funds.

RESULT:

APPROVED

201919: Requesting an appropriation of \$45,000 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund for the purchase and installation of a Pymal Vent System for DPW Mechanic's Fleet Maintenance Garage.

Mr. Koty stated that the current system hasn't been working for several months.

RESULT:

APPROVED

201921: Requesting an appropriation of \$12,000 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund for the renovation of the DPW's Fleet Maintenance Garage.

Mr. Koty explained that the funds will be used to create an additional service bay, now that all garage operations are performed by the DPW.

RESULT:

APPROVED

201920: Requesting an appropriation of \$14,000 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund for the renovation of the call center facility.

Mr. Koty said that the funds will be used to create an additional workspace for a new employee.

RESULT:

APPROVED

201918: Requesting an appropriation of \$47,000 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund for a five-year Elgin Sweeper lease for the DPW.

Mr. Koty said that it's better for the city to lease the sweeper and that it will replace one that isn't working.

RESULT:

APPROVED

201641: City Assessor presenting for approval a proposed Solar PILOT Agreement for a solar electric generating facility at the Partner's Health Care site.

Mr. Levye explained that MA General Law allows a solar company to enter into a PILOT agreement with a city/town. Ameresco will be installing a solar array atop the Partners Healthcare building in Assembly Square and has agreed to pay the city \$20,000/year for 20 years, for a total payment of \$400,000. The agreement provides certainty for both parties for 20 years. If the equipment were assessed conventionally, there would be a larger front end payment and a smaller back end payment, with the total being essentially the same, (\$400,000).

The committee discussed the possibility of structuring the PILOT agreement to provide larger payments in the beginning. The benefit to Partners will be reduced energy costs. There was also

a discussion about adjusting payments to the city in the event equipment is replaced. Representatives from Ameresco made a very brief presentation and stated that the amount Ameresco is paying to the city is larger than what they hoped to pay.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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201813: Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$9,248 from FEMA for the Fire Department's purchase of new highrise firefighting equipment.

Chief Sullivan said that the funds would be used to update/modernize high rise firefighting equipment.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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201926: Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$37,315 from the Department of Mental Health, for the Police Department's Jail Diversion Program.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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201812: Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$248,922 from the MA Department of Energy Resources, for the Office of Sustainability and Environment's installation of energy efficient indoor lighting.

Mr. Sellars-Garcia said that the projected cost savings would be \$77,000.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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201929: Requesting the acceptance of a \$12,581.25 grant from the Metro Mayors Community Safety Initiative, for the Police Department's Shannon Grant for youth violence prevention.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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201924: Requesting the acceptance of a \$89,000 grant from the MA DMH Police Based Jail Diversion Program for the Police Department's Crisis Intervention Team Training.

Chief Fallon said that the funds would be paid over 3 consecutive years.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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201930: Requesting the acceptance of a \$8,676 grant from the DPH First Responder Naloxone (Narcan) Grant Program for the Police Department.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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201931: Requesting the acceptance of 30 concrete planters from Ames Business Park, for

the Arts Council's ArtFarm site.

Greg Jenkins spoke on the item.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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201925: Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$87,831 from the MA Office of Elder Affairs for Council on Aging staffing, transportation and services for elder residents.

Mr. Kress said that the funds would be used to cover some of the staff and service expenses for the transportation van. Alderman Ballantyne requested a breakdown of the costs.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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201928: Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$20,004 from the Office of Justice Programs (2015) Byrne JAG Grant for Police Department mental health programs.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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202001: Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$4,560.09 from the Mayor's Office of Emergency Management, for the City's target hardening project.

Mr. Koty stated that the request was made by the Police Department and that the vendor payments are channeled through the DPW.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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201927: Requesting the acceptance of a \$29,685 grant from the MA Urban Area Security Initiative for Critical Infrastructure Investment Area for target hardening at City Hall.

Mr. Koty stated that the request was made by the Police Department and that the vendor payments are channeled through the DPW.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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202077: Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$6,500 from the MA Cultural Council for the Arts Council's general operational support.

Greg Jenkins spoke on the item.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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202076: Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$34,200 from the MA Cultural Council for the Arts Council's Local Cultural Council grant program.

Greg Jenkins spoke on the item.

RESULT:

APPROVED

201937: City Solicitor requesting approval to hire outside legal counsel in the matter of Lopez v. City of Somerville et al.

Mr. Wright explained that the city wants to hire outside counsel to litigate a case involving members of the high school soccer team. Mr. Wright could not provide an estimate of the cost of the case, saying that it depends on several factors.

RESULT:

APPROVED

201923: Requesting approval to pay prior fiscal year invoices in the Department of Public Works totaling \$33,283.92.

Mr. Koty provided copies of the invoices.

RESULT:

APPROVED

202075: Requesting approval to expend FY17 funds totaling \$221.88 to pay a prior year invoice in the Police Dept.

Chairman Lafuente requested that a copy of the invoice be forwarded to the committee via the Clerk of Committees.

RESULT:

APPROVED

202000: Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$1,566.61 using available funds in the City Clerk's Office's Office Supplies Account to pay WB Mason for office supplies purchased in FY16.

RESULT:

APPROVED

201338: Requesting approval to rescind the acceptance of a mitigation payment of \$47,770 from Berkeley Investments Inc. (#199464), and authorize the refund of that amount to that entity.

Alan Inacio explained that the payment was a condition imposed by the ZBA. The developer paid into a fund to construct a new sidewalk, however, the city's DPW wasn't able to do the work, so the company requested a refund and will do the work themselves. Once the work is completed and approved, the city will refund the money to the developer.

RESULT:

APPROVED

201532: Requesting the creation of the 197 Washington Street Stabilization Fund and the acceptance of a mitigation payment to the Fund of \$8,322 from A&M Realty Trust for

striping and sidewalk improvements.

Mr. Rawson spoke on the item.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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201998: Requesting the acceptance and appropriation of an additional deposit of \$49,750 from US2 into the Union Square Stabilization and Revitalization Account.

Ms. McGettigan explained that US2 has agreed to pay for some legal work. Alderman White requested information on the counsel's hourly rate.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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201999: Requesting an appropriation of \$49,750 from the Union Square Stabilization and Revitalization Fund for services in connection with the redevelopment of Union Square.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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201916: Requesting an appropriation of \$150,000 from the Capital Stabilization Fund for Tree Planting.

Mr. Koty stated that the requested amount was reduced due there being a shortage of trees available for purchase. Mr. Rawson explained how tree planting sites are selected.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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201922: Requesting a transfer of \$150,565 from certain Police Department Salary and Ordinary Maintenance Accounts to certain DPW Highway Accounts to fund mechanic salaries and maintenance costs now managed within the Fleet Department.

Mr. Koty said that this amount is to cover costs associated with SPD vehicle maintenance now being performed by the DPW.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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Handouts:

- AMERESCO (with 201641)
- Bio - L. Kesten (with 201937)