



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

July 2, 2014

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	Absent	
John M. Connolly	Alderman At Large	Absent	
William A. White Jr.	Alderman At Large	Present	

Others present: Ald. Niedergang, Steve McEachern, Ron Bonney, Charles Femino, Stan Koty, Ed Bean, Greg Jenkins, Hayes Morrison, Frank Wright, Suzanne Rinfret, Omar Boukili, Michael Glavin

1. Thursday, May 29, 2014

196919 - That the City Solicitor advise whether this Board has the authority to pass an ordinance that requires the approval of this Board for any agreement for payment in lieu of taxes.:

Frank Wright presented a copy of his written response of June 2, 2014 and spoke about his findings relative to other communities policies. Mr. Wright based his opinion on Somerville's City Charter.

RESULT:

WORK COMPLETED

196952 - Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$22,125.85 from the Mayor's Office of Emergency Management, for the Police Department's target hardening project.:

Chief Femino spoke about how the funds would be used.

RESULT:

APPROVED

197050 - Requesting the acceptance of a mitigation payment of 5 Electronic parking meters:

Suzanne Rinfret spoke about the item.

RESULT:**APPROVED**

197083 - Requesting the acceptance of a gift of a piano valued at \$500 to be used in the new Sound Studio for young musicians.:

Mr. Bean read the letter from the donor.

RESULT:**APPROVED**

197174 - Requesting an appropriation of \$750,000 for the cost of replacing DPW equipment and authorization to borrow \$750,000 in a bond to meet the appropriation.:

Ron Bonney and Steve McEachern spoke on the item and provided a list of equipment to be replaced and/or purchased.

RESULT:**APPROVED**

197186 - Requesting acceptance of a mitigation payment of \$94,744.75 to establish the Open Space Improvements Stabilization Fund.:

Ed Bean explained the reason this payment is being made. It pertains to 339 Medford Street. Mr. Glavin spoke on this item, as well, and explained that it was a negotiated settlement. The committee discussed ways to ensure that these funds be earmarked for the area in question, (in Ward 2), and Mr. Bean informed that a new request would have to be submitted to the BOA. Mr. Bean also advised that the wording of this item is flawed.

RESULT:**KEPT IN COMMITTEE**

197188 - Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$35,000 from the Metropolitan Area Planning Council for the Police Department's Bicycle-Pedestrian Traffic Enforcement Program.:

Chief Femino spoke on the item. Ald. Niedergang requested a copy of the grant document.

RESULT:**APPROVED**

197239 - Requesting an appropriation and authorization to borrow \$171,000 in a bond to install lighting for the turf field at the Capuano School.:

Hayes Morrison explained that the field receives extensive use and that the lighting would allow it to be used later in the day. There is an associated grant that would reimburse the city up to \$50,000.

RESULT:**APPROVED**

197240 - Requesting an appropriation of \$64,300 and authorization to borrow that amount in a bond for additional final phase work pertaining to the design and engineering contract for the Davis Square streetscape improvements.:

Hayes Morrison presented a sketch of a proposed plaza in Davis Square.

RESULT:

APPROVED

197308 - Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$415,000 from ArtPlace, for the Arts Council's use to creative uses of the former waste transfer site.:

Greg Jenkins presented a draft proposal and gave some background on the item and Hayes Morrison spoke about evaluation of the site for possible contaminants.

RESULT:

APPROVED

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

Mr. Boukili requested that this item be kept in committee.

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE

197350 - That the Retirement Board increase the cost of living base from \$12,000 to \$13,000.:

Mr. Wright distributed his opinion on the matter and explained how members would be effected, based on their individual vesting in the retirement system. Essentially, any alderman who is vested in the system would not be able to vote on the item.

RESULT:

WORK COMPLETED