



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS CLERK OF COMMITTEES

September 25, 2018
REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
William A. White Jr.	Chair	Present	
Mary Jo Rossetti	Vice Chair	Present	
Ben Ewen-Campen	Ward Three Alderman	Present	
Matthew McLaughlin	Ward One Alderman	Present	
Katjana Ballantyne	Ward Seven Alderman	Present	
Jefferson Thomas ("J.T.") Scott	Ward Two Alderman	Absent	
Jesse Clingan	Ward Four Alderman	Absent	
Mark Niedergang	Ward Five Alderman	Present	
Lance L. Davis	Ward Six Alderman	Present	
Wilfred N. Mbah	Alderman at Large	Present	
Stephanie Hirsch	Alderman At Large	Present	

Others present: Eileen McGettigan, Greg Jenkins - Arts Council, Alan Inacio - OSPCD, Brad Rawson - OSPCD, Chief David Fallon - SPD, Chief Charles Breen - SFD, Bruce Desmond - IT, Denise Taylor - Communications, Ed Bean - Finance, Rositha Durham - Clerk of Committees.

The meeting took place in the Aldermen's Chamber and was called to order at 6:08 PM by Chairman White and adjourned at 9:00 PM.

206446: Requesting acceptance of a \$298,280 grant with no new match required, from the MA Department of Mental Health to the Police Department, for Crisis Intervention Team training.

Chief Fallon answered questions for the board. Ald. Rossetti moved that the administration to provide the Board of Aldermen with a total list of all grants awarded to the City for the last four years which was amended by Alderman White to make it a running total every time a grant is received and approved by the Board. The Motion as amended passed. Pres. Ballantyne asked that the file be put on the shared drive.

RESULT:	APPROVED
----------------	-----------------

206448: Requesting acceptance of a \$37,315 grant with no new match required, from the MA Department of Mental Health to the Police Department, for the Jail Diversion

Program.

Chief Fallon told the committee that the Police Department has been receiving this grant since FY-13.

RESULT:	APPROVED
----------------	-----------------

206449: Requesting acceptance of a \$12,000 grant with no new match required, from the MA Office of Public Safety and Security to the Police Department for the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over and Click It or Ticket Mobilization Programs.

Chief Fallon addressed this item.

RESULT:	APPROVED
----------------	-----------------

206450: Requesting acceptance of a \$3,750 grant with no new match required, from the MA Office of Public Safety and Security to the Police Department for pedestrian and bicycle safety enforcement.

Chief Fallon stated the funds would be used for bicycle safety.

RESULT:	APPROVED
----------------	-----------------

206451: Requesting acceptance of a \$3,100 grant with no new match required, from the MA Attorney General to the Health and Human Services Department, for summer youth jobs.

Personnel from Health and Human Services were not present to discuss this item.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
----------------	--------------------------

206452: Requesting acceptance of a \$2,000 grant with no new match required, from the Mount Auburn Hospital to the Health & Human Services Department for health equity training.

Personnel from Health and Human Services were not present to discuss this item.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
----------------	--------------------------

206597: Requesting acceptance of a \$37,500 grant with no new match required, from the MA Cultural Council to the Arts Council for the Local Cultural Council regrant program.

Mr. Jenkins stated this is an annual grant with a pass-through to the Local Cultural Council. The deadline is 10/15/18 and all grants are peer reviewed.

RESULT:	APPROVED
----------------	-----------------

206598: Requesting acceptance of an \$8,500 grant with no new match required, from the MA Cultural Council to the Arts Council for unrestricted operational support.

Mr. Jenkins stated this is a general operations support grant that has been received annually for many years.

RESULT:

APPROVED

206443: Requesting approval of a transfer of \$15,000 in the Police Department, from the Detention Attendants Account to the Salary and Wages Temporary Account, to fund Matron Salaries.

Chief Fallon reported that currently, the Detention Attendants are paid as contractors. They should be recognized as temporary employees and have payroll taxes deducted. Attendants do not work more than 19 hours a week.

RESULT:

APPROVED

206444: Requesting approval to pay two prior year invoices totaling \$3,550 using available funds in the FY2019 Communications Department Professional Services and Employee Training Courses Accounts.

Ald. Rossetti recused herself from this item. Ms. Taylor appeared before the BOA And stated that the invoices should have been paid in the last fiscal year. Ald. White questioned her on using funds from the Employee Training Courses Account and Ms. Taylor stated that she would have preferred to use those funds for training, but the invoices had to be paid and that was a source that was available.

RESULT:

APPROVED

206324: Requesting approval to appropriate \$250,000 from the Capital Stabilization Fund for the purchase of IT computer equipment.

The administration was questioned about why the funds were not included as part of the operating budget for this year since every year the IT Dept. purchases computer equipment and it has been part of the operating budget. Mr. Bean responded that because of budgetary constraints with regard to the proposition 21/2 limit, for this year the administration decided to fund it from the Capital Stabilization Fund. Mr. Bean stated that going forward, it would be the administration's intent to fund these items as part of the operations budget. These funds will be used to refresh the PC's, 125 work stations, 10 data switches and 342 telephones. See document distributed by Mr. Desmond to the BOA for details.

RESULT:

APPROVED

206325: Requesting approval to appropriate \$200,000 from the Capital Stabilization Fund for the purchase of Firefighter Protective Bunker Gear.

Chief Breen spoke about replacing 2/3 of the second set of bunker gear, explaining that, over time, the gear gets contaminated. Some firefighters have second set bunker gear beyond 10 years old. The city auditor stated that on occasion, the Fire Department receives grants for these types of requests.

RESULT:

APPROVED

206595: Requesting approval to appropriate \$1,007,566 from the Parks Stabilization Fund for the renovation and restoration of Prospect Hill Park.

Mr. Rawson spoke about last spring's bid coming in at \$2.5 million, which was \$1.2 million higher than the \$1.3 million dollar anticipated amount. OSPCD staff is continuing to pursue additional grants and Mr. Rawson stated that there could be additional funding sources from CPA and CDBG. Mr. Rawson was asked if OSPCD would be coming back to the Board for more funding. Chairman White asked about the consultant who spec'd the estimated price. A statement was made that no future work should be given to the designer on this project.

RESULT:

APPROVED

206596: Requesting approval to appropriate \$17,805.91 from the Union Square Stabilization Fund for legal services.

These funds were received from US2 pursuant to their agreement with the Redevelopment Authority and will be used to pay legal counsel representing the City in connection with the eminent domain proceedings in Union Square.

RESULT:

APPROVED

206003: Requesting approval of an Order of Taking for 90 Washington Street.

Eileen McGettigan, special counsel stated that she wanted to review a new appraisal for the property with the Board of Aldermen and also discuss the appraisal submitted by the owner with the committee as well as other items pertaining to valuation and litigation strategy. She stated that these items should be discussed in executive session. As a result, the Chair made a motion to go into executive session and a roll call vote was taken which was unanimously approved. The Chair stated that the Committee would reconvene after executive session. An executive session was held. At the conclusion of the executive session, the Committee reassembled in open session and the Chair announced that no votes were taken in executive session except to adjourn. At that point, the meeting ended.

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE

206004: Requesting an appropriation and authorization to borrow \$8,745,000 in a bond to purchase land by eminent domain.

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE

206005: Requesting an appropriation and authorization to borrow \$1,860,000 in a bond for new Public Safety Building design, architectural, engineering, and owner's and contractual project management services.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
----------------	--------------------------

206286: Director of Capital Projects and Planning submitting the Public Safety Feasibility Study/Programming and Site Evaluation Report (related to #s 206003, #206004, and #206005).

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
----------------	--------------------------

205950: Requesting approval of a reciprocal easement over portions of Block 6 in Assembly Row.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
----------------	--------------------------

206242: Requesting the acceptance of certain Assembly Row streets as Public Ways, including portions of Great River Road, Revolution Drive and Grand Union Boulevard.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
----------------	--------------------------

206243: Requesting acceptance of the fee interest in portions of Great River Road, Revolution Drive and Grand Union Boulevard.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
----------------	--------------------------

Handout:

- Equipment Info (with 206324)