



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

October 8, 2014

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

Others present: Alderman Mark Niedergang, Alderman Mary Jo Rossetti, Candace Cooper - Personnel, Jennifer Comero - Personnel, William Roche - Personnel, Treasurer Peter Forcellese, Jr., Finance Director Ed Bean, Bruce Desmond - IT, Dave Slonina - IT, Health Director Paulette Renault-Caragianes, Michael Glavin - OSPCD, Eileen McGettigan - OSPCD, Ed O'Donnell - OSPCD, Hayes Morrison - OSPCD, Greg Jenkins - Arts Council, Omar Boukili - Mayor's Office, Phyllis Shea - Payroll, Michael Bucher - FRIT, David Webster - FRIT, Phillip Guida - FRIT

Approval of the Minutes of September 03, 2014

RESULT:

APPROVED

Approval of the Minutes of September 22, 2014

RESULT:

APPROVED

196164 - Requesting an appropriation of \$490,000, and authorization to borrow \$490,000 in a bond, for a new HR and Payroll system.:

The term of the bond would be 10 years and the project assigned professional services for accounting and design services. Benefits to the city include being able to connect with the general ledger, billing and reconciliation, employee self services to allow employees to look at benefits on line and to allow for a paperless processing system. The savings over a 10 year span would be just \$300,000. In year 11, there would be a savings of \$80,000.

RESULT:

APPROVED

197516 - Requesting approval of the second amendment to the Assembly Row Economic Development Proposal as it pertains to I-Cubed financing for Assembly Row infrastructure.:

The committee received documents describing the I-Cube process and an overview of the Infrastructure Investment Incentive.

The committee requested the following information:

- the assessed value of Assembly Row,
- a breakdown of all of the surplus properties,
- the projected payroll from the Commonwealth,
- the amount of new revenue,
- the tax revenue expected out of Assembly Row.
- a map of the DIF for the October 9th BOA meeting,
- the annual debt service and how much is already banked,
- the value of the real estate along with a reasonable projection of the anticipated revenue and
- Lafuente will take up this order in the BOA meeting.

Chairman Lafuente intends to take this item up at the October 9, 2014 BOA meeting.

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE

197517 - Requesting an appropriation of \$253,620 in unused bond funds for renovations and safety improvements at the Kennedy School Playground.:

Ms. Morrison said that the city used the services of a professional estimator and that projects are coming in extremely high, which is not unique to Somerville. At the present time, there are 3 parks under construction. Members questioned the accuracy of the request and asked for a timeline for completion. Mr. Bean suggested keeping the item in committee until a revised request is presented.

RESULT:

WORK COMPLETED

197608 - Requesting permission to enter into a 5 year contract for AED medical supervision, training, and support.:

Ms. Renault-Caragianes spoke of School Department requirements relating to the AED and training and noted that most schools have defibrillators. The cost for a one year agreement would be \$2,000.

RESULT:

APPROVED

197675 - Requesting authorization to amend #193816, an authorization to borrow and bond for Union Square Urban Renewal Block D2, by increasing the total amount to \$9,500,000.:

Alderman White asked to be kept up to date on all potential takings by eminent domain and requested that a map be provided showing eminent domain parcels, noting which parcels have been taken and the amount for the relocation costs. Additionally, he requested a full, in depth analysis, a breakdown of what has been expended from the bond, to date, information on potential liabilities, notations on the map of what the MBTA would be responsible for and a list of the contaminated areas. The D2 block Green Line station is on schedule and the demolition vendor is onsite. Ms. McGettigan will provide a copy of the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) between the Somerville Redevelopment Authority and the City.

RESULT:**KEPT IN COMMITTEE****197676 - Requesting an appropriation of \$62,000 from the Parks Stabilization Fund for Kenney Park improvements.:**

Chairman Lafuente requested a copy of the change order.

RESULT:**APPROVED****197677 - Requesting the appropriation of \$39,400 from the Capital Stabilization Fund for Capuano Field lighting.:****RESULT:****APPROVED****197678 - Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$31,670 from the Mass Cultural Council, for the Arts Council's LCC grant program.:****RESULT:****APPROVED****197679 - Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$18,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts, for the Arts Council to conduct a city wide dance series in 2015.:**

Mr. Jenkins stated that there are matching funds.

RESULT:**APPROVED****197680 - Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$5,800 from the Mass Cultural Council, for the Arts Council's general operational support.:****RESULT:****APPROVED****197731 - Requesting acceptance of a gift of up to \$2,435.71 from the Boston 4 Celebrations Foundation to reimburse the Police Department for assistance to the Foundation.:**

RESULT:

APPROVED