

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Minutes of the Meeting
January 16, 2018

1. The Clerk of the Finance Committee called the meeting to order at 8:45 pm. The Clerk called the role. Committee members LaCava, Mackin, McMenimen, Romard and Vidal were present.
2. The Clerk asked for nominations for a Chair of the Finance Committee and Councillor McMenimen was nominated by Councillor Romard. There were no other nominations and the nomination period was closed. On a unanimous roll call vote, Councillor McMenimen was elected Chairwoman of the Finance Committee.
3. Chairwoman McMenimen gave a brief overview of the role of the Finance Committee for the benefit of the two new members. Chairwoman McMenimen requested the Clerk (City Auditor) to provide the two new members with the FY2018 budget and the other financial reports used by the Finance Committee. The City Auditor explained the current and historical documents could be found on the City Auditor's webpage on the City's website.
4. The City Auditor explained the Mid-Year Budget review would be held on the February 20, 2018 meeting of the Finance Committee and the review of the independent audit would be held on the March 5, 2018 meeting of the Finance Committee.
5. Councillor Vidal moved to take the matter of the resolution on "financial transparency" (2/27/2017) off the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Vidal asked the Auditor to provide a status of the project. The Auditor explained the project was ready to roll out but needed to get the endorsement from the Mayor and then to provide a demonstration for the Finance Committee. The Auditor explained the program (OpenGov) is found in many communities nationwide. The Auditor stated he would provide the names of five communities using OpenGov so the Finance Committee members could get an early preview of the program. Councillor Vidal moved to place the matter back on the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter was place back on the table.
6. Councillor Romard moved to take the matter of the resolution on "bills on warrant" (2/13/2017) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. The City Auditor handed out to the Finance Committee his analysis of the approval process for bills incurred by the City Council. Chairwoman McMenimen stated the matter could be discussed at the next Finance Committee meeting. Councillor Romard moved to place

the matter back on the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter was placed back on the table.

7. A request was received from the Mayor to request funding in the total amount of \$30,000 to cover the transportation and disposal of excavated materials, concrete and asphalt that is generated from water and sewer excavations while performing water and sewer repairs.

The funding will be a transfer as follows:

TRANSFER FROM:

Sewer-MWRA Assessment	#600-440-5400-5690	\$15,000
Water-MWRA Assessment	#610-452-5400-5690	\$15,000

<u>TOTAL</u>		<u>\$30,000</u>
--------------	--	-----------------

TRANSFER TO:

Sewer-Trench Tailings	#600-440-5400-5394-45	\$15,000
Water-Trench Tailings	#610-452-5400-5394-45	\$15,000

<u>TOTAL</u>		<u>\$30,000</u>
--------------	--	-----------------

Councillor Romard moved to hear from City Engineer Steve Casazza. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Mr. Casazza gave a brief explanation of the funding need and answered questions from Councillors Romard and Vidal concerning the ability to reuse the materials and the contract price. Councillor Romard moved to approve the funding request. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the transfer of \$30,000 for the trench tailings was approved.

8. Councillor LaCava moved to take the matter of the transfer request of the Law Department for the purchase of computers (12/11/2017) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor LaCava moved to hear from City Solicitor John Cervone. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Mr. Cervone gave an explanation of the need and the use of the computers by his legal staff. Councillors Romard and Vidal asked several questions about the choice of computers, including the apparent lack of input from the IT Department. Mr. Cervone explained the funding was in the Law Department budget and that an independent vendor reviewed the specifications for the choice of computers. Councillor Mackin reviewed the specifications of the computers and stated the items and the price were good. Councillors Romard and Vidal continued to raise concerns about the Law Department having the choice of computers at the exclusion of the IT Department. Councillor Mackin moved to invite the IT Director to the next Finance Committee meeting to discuss the computer purchase. The motion was

adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Romard moved to place the matter back on the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter of the computer purchase was placed back on the table.

8. A motion to adjourn by Councillor Vidal was approved by a voice vote and Chairwoman McMenimen declared the Committee adjourned – 10:00pm.

Paul G. Centofanti – Clerk to the Finance Committee