

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Minutes of the Meeting
October 7, 2019

1. Chairwoman McMenimen called the meeting to order at 8:10pm.
2. Chairwoman McMenimen requested that a roll call be taken to record the attendance for the meeting. The Clerk called the roll – Committee members LaCava, D. LeBlanc, Mackin, Romard and McMenimen were present.
3. Councillor Romard moved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on September 16, 2019. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes of the meeting on September 16, 2019 were accepted.
4. Councillor Mackin moved to take the matter of the \$10,000 grant to the Waltham Cultural Council (WCC) off the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Mackin moved to hear from the Planning Director, Catherine Cagle and representatives of the WCC, Elizabeth Moy and Brad Pielech. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Mackin asked questions concerning the goals and mission of the WCC program, sources of revenue and examples of the programs supported with the funding. Councillor Mackin also asked what the WCC plans to use the additional \$10,000 grant. Ms. Moy responded to Councillor Mackin's questions giving detailed answers about the goals of the WCC and a listing of the recipients of the grant funds. Mr. Pielech spoke about the procedure for granting funds and the controls in place to ensure the funds were being spent appropriately. Mr. Pielech provided a spreadsheet document to the Committee detailing the source/use of funds and statistics on the numbers of applicants and applications granted. Councillor Romard asked several follow up questions on the handout. Councillor Romard stated he was on the board of the Waltham Philharmonic but was still able to vote on the funding request. Councillor LaCava spoke about the impact of arts programs on the local economy and how it is a stimulus. Councillor D. LeBlanc spoke about the importance of providing the grants. Chairwoman McMenimen stated the positive attributes of the WCC and the good work they perform. Chairwoman McMenimen went on to speak about a recent Boston Herald article criticizing the State Cultural Council on the lavish spending. Chairwoman McMenimen stated this behavior by the State Cultural Council adversely impacted the funds made available to the local councils. Chairwoman McMenimen asked how individuals can find out how to submit an application for grant funding. Councillor Mackin moved to approve the \$10,000 transfer to the WCC. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the transfer of \$10,000 was approved.

5. A request was received from the Mayor to approve the acceptance of a \$250,000 grant from the State DOER towards the City's energy action plan. Councillor D. LeBlanc moved to hear from the Planning Director, Catherine Cagle. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor D. LeBlanc asked several questions about the time frame to spend the current grant, how long the grant program has been available and how the \$250,000 will be spent. Ms. Cagle explained the intended use of the funds and the impact on energy costs. Councillor D. LeBlanc asked about the status of hiring the newly created position of Assistant Planning Director/Sustainability. Councillor Mackin asked questions about the LED replacements and if the City could expect to see a budget reduction in its street light bills. Councillor Romard asked additional questions about the intended use of the grant funds and who would oversee the program. Councillor Romard moved to approve the acceptance of the \$250,000 energy grant. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the grant was accepted.
6. A request was received from the Mayor to approve the transfer of funds totaling \$150,850 to fund the Illicit Discharge Detection Elimination (IDDE) program coordinator for the year 5 work package.

The following is the scope of services:

Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination investigations	\$ 66,500.00
Junction manhole sampling	\$ 38,200.00
Intermunicipal connection sampling	\$ 17,750.00
DEP/EPA reporting	\$ 11,500.00
<u>Monthly progress meetings & coordination</u>	<u>\$ 16,900.00</u>
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>\$150,850.00</u>

The funding transfer is as follows:

FROM

#603-440-2008-7310	IDDE Program	\$ 12,954.50
#603-440-2010-7330	IDDE Program	\$ 628.82
#603-440-2015-7210	Rosewood Drive	\$ 49,000.00
#600-440-5800-7560	Section 1314-B Design	\$ 14,138.93
#600-440-5800-7500	I/I Mitigation Fees	\$ 74,127.75
<u>TOTAL</u>		<u>\$150,850.00</u>

TO:

#603-440-2008-7350	IDDE Program	Coordinator	\$ 12,954.50
#603-440-2010-7350	IDDE Program	Coordinator	\$ 628.82
#603-440-2015-7350	IDDE Program	Coordinator	\$ 49,000.00
#600-440-5800-7350	IDDE Program	Coordinator	\$ 14,138.93
#600-440-5800-7350	IDDE Program	Coordinator	\$ 74,127.75
<u>TOTAL</u>			<u>\$150,850.00</u>

Councillor Romard moved to hear from the City Engineer, Steve Casazza. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Mr. Casazza gave an overview of the project and the individual tasks of the scope of work. Councillor Romard asked Mr. Casazza to explain what IDDE is and how it impacts the City's infrastructure. Councillor Mackin asked several follow up questions about the IDDE program and the source of the funds. Councillor Mackin moved to approve the transfer of \$150,850 for the IDDE program. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the transfer was approved.

7. A motion by Councillor Romard to adjourn was adopted on a voice vote and Chairwoman McMenimen declared the meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.

Paul G. Centofanti – Clerk to the Finance Committee