

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Minutes of the Meeting
Tuesday – June 20, 2023

1. Chairman LaCava called the meeting to order at 8:35pm in the City Council Chamber.
2. Chairman LaCava requested that a roll call be taken to record the attendance for the meeting. The Clerk called the roll – Committee members Durkee, LaFauci, McMenimen, Vidal, and LaCava were all present in-person.
3. Councillor Vidal moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 5, 2023. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes of the meeting on June 5, 2023 were approved.
4. A motion by Councillor LaFauci to hear from all individuals with an item on the agenda was adopted on a voice vote – Traffic Engineer J. Michael Garvin, City Engineer Robert Winn, and City Auditor Paul Centofanti. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
5. A request was received from the Mayor to accept the donation of a City Hall Museum Room sign from Shawn Laswell. Councillor Durkee moved to accept the donation and that a thank you note is sent to the donor. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
6. A request was received from the Mayor to accept the donation of \$6,200 from Robert Storer of the Paine Historical Trust to restore two portraits at the Paine Estate. Councillor Durkee moved to accept the donation and that a thank you note is sent to the donor. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
7. A request was received from the Mayor to accept the donation of a portrait of Julie Richardson Shepley from Roger Shepley for the Paine Estate. Councillor LaFauci moved to accept the donation and that a thank you note is sent to the donor. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
8. A request was received from the Mayor to approve the transfer of Traffic Impact funds in the amount of \$60,000 to fund two (2) modern bus shelters on Carter Street. Mr. Garvin explained in detail the intended use and specifications of the bus shelters. Mr. Garvin also stated that \$24,00 had been previously approved and would be added to this \$60,00 request for a total cost of \$84,000 for the two bus shelters. Councillors Vidal, LaFauci, and Durkee asked several follow up questions about the partnership with the MBTA, the future maintenance and repair of the bus shelters, and ownership of the land where the bus shelters would be located. Councillor Durkee moved to approve the \$60,000 funding for the two (2) bus shelters. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
9. A request was received from the Mayor to approve the transfer of Traffic Impact funds in the amount of \$9,700 for a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) to be installed at the intersection of Dale Street and Caughey Street. Mr. Garvin explained the purpose was

to address the vehicle speed and pedestrian access at the intersection. Councillor LaFauci stated his approval for the RRFB and the positive impact it would have in the location area. Councillor LaFauci moved to approve the \$9,700 funding for the RRFB. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

10. A request was received from the Mayor to approve the appropriation from Unreserved Fund Balance in the amount of \$356,328 to fund several minor capital items for the Assessor, Building, Clerk, CPW, Info Tech, Library, Purchasing, and Treasurer Departments. It was explained to the Committee these were items requested by the Department for the FY2024 budget and the Mayor recommended they be funded separately. Upon questions from the Committee, City Clerk Joe Vizard gave a detailed explanation of his request, including the need and intended use. Councillor LaFauci moved to approve the \$356,328 funding for the minor CIP items. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
11. A request was received from the Mayor to approve a financing transaction of \$1,750,000 that included the use of ARPA funds (\$1,082,400), an appropriation from Unreserved Fund Balance (\$333,800), and an appropriation from Sewer Retained Earnings (\$333,800) for the Summit Avenue reconstruction project. Upon questions from President McMenimen, Councillors LaFauci and Durkee, City Engineer Winn gave a detailed explanation of the scope of work, the commencement date and expected completion date. Councillor LaFauci moved to approve the \$1,750,000 funding for the Summit Avenue reconstruction project. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
12. A request was received from the Mayor to approve the three-year collective bargaining agreement (CBA) between the City and the Mechanics' Union for the period July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025. The funding for year 1 of the CBA could be absorbed within the current CPW wage budget and the use of ARPA funds of \$7,500. City Auditor Paul Centofanti explained the agreement on compensation was consistent with the other Unions. The agreement also included an increase in the employee OPEB contribution, the implementation of time clocks and a language change for bereavement leave. A motion to approve the funding of the CBA for the Mechanics' Union was adopted on a voice vote.
13. A motion by Councillor Vidal to adjourn was adopted on a voice vote and Chairman LaCava declared the meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.

Paul G. Centofanti – Clerk to the Finance Committee