

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Minutes of the Meeting

April 13, 2020

1. Vice-President McMenimen called the meeting to Order at 8:00 pm by remote access.
2. Vice-President McMenimen requested that a roll call be taken to record the attendance for the meeting. The Clerk called the roll – President Brasco, Councillors Darcy, Dunn, Durkee, Harris, LaCava, LaFauci, LeBlanc, Mackin, McLaughlin, O'Brien, Paz, Stanley, Vidal and Vice-President McMenimen were present.
3. A request was received from the Mayor to approve the appropriation totaling \$237,904 for the purchase of the furniture, fixtures and equipment for the Moody Street Fire Station project.

FROM:

Unreserved Fund balance	#001-000-3590-3590	\$237,904
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TO:

Fire – Moody St Fire Station FFE	#001-220-5800-6410	\$237,904
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The following is an itemized list of the items and the cost.

Gym Equipment	\$ 27,324
Kitchen Equipment	\$ 12,360
Computers	\$ 19,685
Monitors & Televisions	\$ 23,933
Furniture	\$ 90,610
Alerting & Security	\$ 49,472
Washers & Dryers	\$ 4,520
Miscellaneous	\$ 10,000
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>\$237,904</u>

Councillor Harris moved to hear from the Fire Chief, Tom MacInnis, Deputy Fire Chief Tim Pratt and Mayor McCarthy. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Chief MacInnis gave a brief explanation of each category of the items. Councillor Harris followed up with several questions to the Chief for a more detailed response. Councillor Harris moved to approve the appropriation request. The motion was adopted on a roll call vote of 15 in favor (President Brasco, Councillors Darcy, Dunn, Durkee, Harris, LaCava, LaFauci, LeBlanc, Mackin, McLaughlin, O'Brien, Paz, Stanley, Vidal and Vice-President McMenimen) and none opposed and the appropriation of \$237,904 was approved.

4. A request was received from the Mayor to authorize the Mayor to go forward with a purchase and sales agreement for the property located at 89–91 Maple Street in accordance with the terms set forth in the Mayor’s communication to the City Council dated April 9, 2020. Councillor Harris moved to hear from the Fire Chief, Tom MacInnis, Deputy Fire Chief Tim Pratt and Mayor McCarthy. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Harris explained the background and necessity for the City to purchase the property. Chief MacInnis explained the parking needs for the new Moody Street Fire Station. The Mayor gave an overview of the negotiation with the owner and how the price was calculated. Councillor Harris moved to approve the Mayor’s request. On the motion, Councillor LaCava asked several questions about the demolition of the existing building on the property and the expected cost to create the parking area. The Mayor explained that an environmental analysis was to be performed, the design would be done in-house and the other items would be put out to bid. The motion of Councillor Harris was adopted on a roll call vote of 15 in favor (President Brasco, Councillors Darcy, Dunn, Durkee, Harris, LaCava, LaFauci, LeBlanc, Mackin, McLaughlin, O’Brien, Paz, Stanley, Vidal and Vice-President McMenimen) and none opposed and the request of the Mayor was approved.
5. A request was received from the Mayor to authorize the Mayor to go forward with an agreement to purchase the UMass land and buildings south of Beaver Street in accordance with the terms set forth in the Mayor’s communication to the City Council dated April 9, 2020. Councillor LeBlanc recused himself from the discussion and vote on the matter. Councillor McLaughlin moved to hear from the Mayor. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. The Mayor gave an outline of the transaction and read her letter of request to the City Council into the record. Councillors Darcy and Paz both spoke in favor of the request and gave their reasons. Councillor McLaughlin moved to approve the Mayor’s request. The motion was adopted on a roll call vote of 14 in favor (President Brasco, Councillors Darcy, Dunn, Durkee, Harris, LaCava, LaFauci, Mackin, McLaughlin, O’Brien, Paz, Stanley, Vidal and Vice-President McMenimen) and 1 recused (LeBlanc) and the request of the Mayor was approved.
6. A request was received from the Mayor to approve the following financing transaction totaling \$3,420,000 towards the \$17,420,000 acquisition cost of the UMass Field Station and Farm property. These funds will supplement the previous appropriation of CPA funds of \$13,750,000 (Council Order #34614 approved on 11/12/2019) and \$250,000 (Council Order #34656 approved on 12/10/2019).

FROM:		
Unreserved Fund Balance	#001–000–3590–3590	\$ 602,362.62
Sale of City Owned Land	#217–121–1015–3590	\$2,817,637.38
<u>TOTAL</u>		<u>\$3,420,000.00</u>

TO:

Mayor–Land Acq (UMass Fields)

#001–121–5800–6140

\$3,420,000.00

Councillor LeBlanc recused himself from the discussion and vote on the matter.

Councillor McLaughlin moved to hear from the Mayor and Assistant City Solicitor Luke Stanton. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. The Mayor explained the importance of the land purchase including the positive impact on the environment and the ability to produce food at the site. Councillor McLaughlin moved to approve the appropriation request. The motion was adopted on a roll call vote of 14 in favor (President Brasco, Councillors Darcy, Dunn, Durkee, Harris, LaCava, LaFauci, Mackin, McLaughlin, O'Brien, Paz, Stanley, Vidal and Vice–President McMenimen) and 1 recused (LeBlanc) and the appropriation of \$3,420,000 was approved.

7. A motion by President Brasco to adjourn was adopted on a voice vote, and the Chair declared the Committee adjourned at 8:55pm.

Paul G. Centofanti – Clerk to the Committee of the Whole