

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Minutes of the Meeting
March 16, 2015

1. Chairman Brasco called the meeting to order at 9:50 pm.
2. Chairman Brasco requested that attendance be taken by a roll call. The Clerk called the roll – Councillors Giordano, McMenimen, Romard, Vizard and Chairman Brasco were present.
3. Councillor Vizard moved that that the minutes of the meeting March 2, 2015 be accepted. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
4. A request was received from the Mayor to transfer funds in the amount of \$1,554 from account #001-138-5200-5420 Purchasing-Office Supplies to account #001-138-5800-6414 Purchasing-Office Equipment/Furniture. The funds will be used to purchase filing cabinets for the Purchasing Office. Councillor Vizard moved that the transfer request be approved. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
5. A request was received from the Mayor to accept the donation of \$5,000 from the Hurley House to the Police Department GREAT program to be directed towards both elementary and middle school students on topics related to the avoidance of gang pressure, youth violence and drug & alcohol abuse. Councillor Romard moved to hear from off-committee members – Mayor McCarthy and Deputy Police Chief William Stanton. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Vizard disclosed that his mother was a board member of the Hurley House, but stated he was allowed to discuss and vote on the matter. Councillor Romard raised concern about the City accepting funds from a non-profit organization and they could better use it for their programs. Councillor Romard moved to send the funds back and to thank the Hurley House for their gesture. On the motion, the Mayor and Deputy Chief Stanton answered questions, explained a similar gift had been previously accepted and explained the specific purpose for which the gift would be used. Councillor McMenimen asked to move the question. The motion of Councillor Romard to turn down the gift did not pass on a roll call vote of 1-3, with Councillor Romard voting in favor, Councillors Giordano, McMenimen and Vizard voting against. Chairman Brasco presiding, did not vote. A motion to accept the gift and send a note of thanks was adopted on a roll call vote of 4-1, with Councillors Giordano, McMenimen, Vizard and Chairman Brasco voting in favor and Councillor Romard voting against.

6. A request was received from the Mayor to appropriate the amount of \$294,106 from Unreserved Fund Balance to account #001-480-5800-6620 Traffic-Traffic Master Plan to be combined with existing traffic impact funds in amount of \$84,894 to fund the low bid for the Traffic Master Plan project in the amount of \$379,000. Councillor Vizard moved to hear from an off-committee member – Traffic Engineer Michael Garvin. Councillor Vizard asked Mr. Garvin to explain the specific scope of work in the bid. Mr. Garvin stated that the master traffic plan would review existing conditions, evaluate future conditions and develop mitigation strategies. It would also include meetings with the public. Councillor Vizard moved to approve the appropriation request. On the motion Councillor McMenimen asked question concerning the City’s linkage accounts and the potential use of the existing funds. Councillor McMenimen suggested there be coordination of the work for efficiency purposes and to incorporate a communication system into the plan. Councillor Romard asked questions concerning the scope of work and suggested it would be better to have a scope of work that is more focused and specific. Off-committee, Councillor Darcy suggested the plan identify new pathways for bikers, walkers and buses, including utilizing over/under passes for intersections with a rating of D or E. Off-committee, Councillor Fowler commented the plan was long overdue and we should be doing it. Chairman Brasco relinquished the Chair to Councillor Giordano. Councillor Brasco stated that traffic is the number one issue raised amongst the citizens and having proper traffic flow supports the business community and local economy. Councillor Brasco resumed the Chair. Councillor McMenimen commented on the importance of appropriate parking schemes and its ability to generate revenue. The original motion of Councillor Vizard to approve the appropriation was adopted on a roll call vote of 4-1, with Councillors Giordano, McMenimen, Vizard and Chairman Brasco voting in favor and Councillor Romard voting against.
7. The issue of the mid-year budget review and the independent audit report was brought up by Chairman Brasco. It was decided to review the mid-year budget at the April 6 Finance Committee meeting and discuss the independent audit report at the April 21 Finance Committee meeting.
8. A motion by Councillor McMenimen to adjourn was approved by a voice vote and Chairman Brasco declared the committee adjourned – 11:00 pm.

Paul G. Centofanti – Clerk to the Finance Committee