

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Minutes of the Meeting
July 31, 2017

1. Chairwoman McMenimen called the meeting to order at 11:45pm.
2. Chairwoman McMenimen requested that a roll call be taken to record the attendance for the meeting. The Clerk called the roll - Committee members Fowler, Giordano, Romard, Vidal and McMenimen were present.
3. A motion to table the minutes of the meeting held on June 27, 2017 was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes were tabled.
4. A request was received from the Mayor to approve the acceptance of the gift of 27 boardroom chairs from Raytheon. Councillor Fowler moved to approve the acceptance of the gift. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the gift was accepted. Also, a thank you note is to be sent to the donor.
5. A request was a received from the Mayor to approve the transfer of \$19,000 from the Stabilization Fund-General to account #001-156-5200-5340 Info Tech-Telephone Service. These funds will be used to pay outstanding telephone bills that were incurred in FY2017. Councillor Giordano moved to hear from the Info Tech Director, Donnie Aucoin. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Mr. Aucoin explained the reasons for the outstanding invoices and the challenges overseeing the telephone budget. Councillor Giordano moved to approve the transfer request. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the transfer of \$19,000 was approved.
6. A request was received from the Mayor to accept the 604B Water Quality Assessment and Planning Grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in the amount of \$17,092. These funds will be used to prepare design plans for improvement of the Stormwater quality runoff to the Charles River. Councillor Fowler moved to hear from the City Engineer, Steve Casazza. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Mr. Casazza explained the purpose and uses of the grant funds. Councillor Fowler moved to approve the acceptance of the grant. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the grant was accepted.
7. A request was received from the Mayor to approve the transfer of \$56,000 from the Stabilization Fund-Police CIP Projects to account #001-210-5800-6412 Police-Animal Control Vehicle. The funds will be used to purchase a replacement vehicle for the Animal Control Officer. Councillor Giordano moved to approve the transfer request. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the transfer of \$56,000 was approved.

8. A request was received from the Mayor to approve the transfer of funds totaling \$1,163,550 to fund the first year (FY2017) and the second year (FY2018)) of the three year collective bargaining agreement between the City and the Firefighters' Union for the period July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019.

In addition, the contract includes agreement on reforms the City was seeking pertaining to Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) and the IRS reporting requirement on uniform allowances.

TRANSFER FROM:

Auditor - Collective Bargaining	#001-135-5400-5111	\$1,163,550
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TRANSFER TO:

Fire - Salary	#001-220-5100-5111	\$ 405,420
Fire - Wage	#001-220-5100-5112	\$ 645,080
Fire - EMT	#001-220-5200-5146	\$ 6,125
Fire - Uniform Allowance	#001-220-5500-5190	\$ 106,925

The City Auditor, Paul Centofanti explained the specific elements of the collective bargaining agreement (CBA). In particular, it included an extremely important benefit to protect the lives of firefighters by allowing the City to pay for certain medical testing/screening for the early detection of cancer. Councillor Fowler moved to approve the transfer request. The motion was adopted on a voice and the transfer of \$1,163,550 to fund the Firefighters' CBA was approved.

9. A request was from the City Council President to keep open the following purchase orders and to have the amounts carried forward from FY2017 to FY2018 for outstanding obligations pending against each purchase order.

#17801	Kyocera	\$2,042.00
#17383	Community Preservation Associates	\$4,000.00
#16684	Collins, Loughran & Peliquin, PC	\$9,140.00

AND

To close the remaining balance of PO #15213, Community Preservation Associates, \$110.24.

Several councillors asked questions about the status of PO #16684 and why there was a need to keep open. It was decided to keep the PO #16684 open and the Auditor was directed to follow up and determine if there was a need.

A motion to keep PO #17801, PO #17383, PO #16684 open and to close PO #15213 was adopted on a voice vote.

10. A motion to adjourn by Councillor Fowler was approved by a voice vote and Chairwoman McMenemy declared the Committee adjourned - 12:15am.

Paul G. Centofanti - Clerk to the Finance Committee