

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Minutes of the Meeting
May 1, 2017

1. Chairwoman McMenimen called the meeting to order at 10:05 pm.
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. Councillor Romard moved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on April 3, 2017. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes were accepted.
4. Councillor Vidal moved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on April 18, 2017. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes were accepted.
5. Councillor Romard moved to suspend the rules to take an agenda item out of order - payment of \$167.99 for the Creative Frames invoice of the City Council. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Romard moved to hear from the City Council President, Diane LeBlanc. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. President LeBlanc explained the reasons for the invoice and requested that it be paid. Councillor Giordano moved to approve the payment of the invoice. The motion was adopted on voice vote and the payment of \$167.99 for the Creative Frames invoice was approved.
6. A request was received from the Mayor to accept a gift in the amount of \$1,500 from Attorney Michael R. Connors to dedicate a bench for his father, Attorney Robert E. Connors, Jr. Councillor Giordano moved to accept the gift of \$1,500. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the gift of \$1,500 was accepted.
7. A request was received from the Mayor to appropriate \$615,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance to the following CPW Snow accounts - #001-421-5100-5131, Snow-Overtime \$92,500, #001-421-5200-5276, Snow-Rental of Trucks/Equipment \$351,200, #001-421-5200-5531, Snow-Salt & Sand \$162,000, #001-421-5200-5532, Plows, Blades & Parts \$3,700 and #001-421-5200-5460, Grounds keeping Supplies \$5,600. Councillor Vidal moved to hear from the CPW Director, Michael Chiasson. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Mr. Chiasson explained the need for the additional funds. Councillor Vidal asked questions about the amount of snowfall and the total expenses for this program. Councillor Romard asked questions about the efficiency of the service and if the City is spending more than it should. Councillor Giordano moved to approve the appropriation request. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the appropriation of \$615,000 was approved.

8. A request was received from the Mayor to appropriate \$20,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance to account #001-121-5400-5791, Mayor-Tourism Events (Steampunk/Riverfest). Councillor Giordano moved to hear from the Mayor. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. The Mayor explained the funds were to subsidize the two events as the State cut the funds for these types of events. Councillor Fowler stated he heard the funds had been restored. After additional discussion, it was decided to place a condition on the order stating the City is to be reimbursed by the recipient if the State funds are restored. Councillor Fowler moved to approve the appropriation of \$20,000 and to include the repayment condition on the order. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the appropriation of \$20,000 was approved with the condition.

9. Councillor Romard moved to take the matter of the FY2016 independent audit (4/18/2017) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Romard moved to hear from the Police Chief, Keith MacPherson, Fire Chief, Paul Ciccone, City Treasurer, Tom Magno and City Auditor Paul Centofanti concerning the audit comment about the police and fire details. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Romard asked several questions of the two Chiefs, the Treasurer and the Auditor about the billing process, the collection process and the reporting process. Councillor Romard expressed concern about the continuing deficit in the police and fire detail funds and if there was a procedure to address the deficit. Councillor Romard moved that an itemized list of abated accounts be provided so as to document the deficit. The motion did not pass on a roll call vote of 1 in favor (Romard), 3 opposed (Fowler, Giordano & Vidal) and McMenimen presiding. Councillor Romard moved to place the matter back on the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter was tabled.

10. A motion to adjourn by Councillor Giordano was approved by a voice vote and Chairwoman McMenimen declared the Committee adjourned - 11:30 pm.

Paul G. Centofanti - Clerk to the Finance Committee