

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Minutes of the Meeting
March 7, 2016

1. Chairman Brasco called the meeting to order at 9:35pm.
2. Chairman Brasco requested that a roll call be taken to record the attendance for the meeting. The Clerk called the roll - all Committee members were present.
3. Councillor Giordano moved that that the minutes of the meeting February 16, 2016 be accepted. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes were accepted.
4. A request was received from the Mayor to appropriate \$150,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance to account #001-192-5200-5245 Building Department - Repairs to Buildings to pay expenses for the remainder of FY2016. Councillor Vizard moved to hear from an off-committee individual - Inspector of Buildings, William Forte. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillors Vizard and Romard asked detailed questions of Mr. Forte to explain the reasons for the additional funding need and the specific incurred expenses. Councillor Vizard moved to approve the appropriation request. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the appropriation of \$150,000 was approved. Councillor Romard expressed some concern with the funding request and asked Mr. Forte to provide him additional details of the incurred expenses prior to the matter being deliberated at the City Council meeting of March 14.
5. A request was received from the Mayor to appropriate \$22,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance to account #001-192-5100-5121 Building Department PT Salaries (\$12,000) and to account #001-192-5100-5131 Building Department Overtime (\$10,000) to pay these expenses for the remainder of FY2016. Councillor Vizard moved to hear from an off-committee individual - Inspector of Buildings, William Forte. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillors Vizard and Romard asked detailed questions of Mr. Forte to explain the additional funding need and its use. Councillor Vizard moved to approve the appropriation request. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the appropriation of \$22,000 was approved.

6. A request was received from the Mayor to accept two grants totaling \$24,460 for the Emergency Management Services (EMS) Department – FFY2016 HEMP grant (\$2,000) and FFY2015 EMPG grant (\$22,460). Councillor Vizard moved to hear from an off-committee individual – EMS Director, Bernie Mullin. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Mr. Mullin gave a brief overview of each grant and the intended use of the funds. Councillor Vizard moved to approve the grants collectively. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the two grants totaling \$24,460 were approved.
7. A request was received from the Mayor to accept a donation in the amount of \$5,000 from the Friends of the Hurley House to the Police Department for the GREAT program. Councillor Vizard moved to accept the donation and that a thank you note is sent to the donor. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the donation of \$5,000 was approved.
8. A request was received from the Mayor to appropriate \$50,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance to account #001-220-5100-5131 Fire Department – Overtime to pay overtime expenses for the remainder of FY2016. Councillor Vizard moved to hear from an off-committee individual – Chief of the Fire Department, Paul Ciccone. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillors Vizard, McMenimen and Romard asked detailed questions of Chief Ciccone to explain the reasons for the additional funding need, staffing levels and if \$50,000 was enough. Chief Ciccone stated this would get him through mid-May and he hoped to be back for additional funds. Councillor Vizard moved to approve the appropriation request. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the appropriation of \$50,000 was approved.
9. A request was received from the Mayor to accept a grant in the amount of \$93,861 for the Council on Aging to be used for several programs to benefit senior citizens. Councillor Giordano moved to accept the grant. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the grant of \$93,861 was approved.
10. A motion to take the matter of the mid-year budget review (2/1/2016) off the table was adopted on a voice vote. A motion to hear from off-committee individuals – Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Drew Echelson and School Business manager, Leanne Wilcinski was adopted on a voice vote. Dr. Echelson and Ms. Wilcinski answered questions from the Committee members on school enrollment demographics, the ELL program, graduation rates, the upcoming

FY2017 budget and ways to elicit cost saving ideas from school employees. Chairman Brasco indicated the FY2017 School budget would probably be deliberated by the Finance Committee at a separate budget review meeting. A motion to file the mid-year budget review was adopted on a voice vote and the matter was filed.

11. A motion to adjourn by Councillor Vizard was approved by a voice vote and Chairperson Brasco declared the committee adjourned - 11:15 pm.

Paul G. Centofanti - Clerk to the Finance Committee