

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Minutes of the Meeting
October 20, 2014

1. Chairman Brasco called the meeting to order at 9:10 pm.
2. Councillor McMenimen moved 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 McMenimen moved that that the minutes of the meeting October 6, 2014 be accepted. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
4. A request was received from the Mayor to accept a gift of furniture valued at \$5,000 from the estate of Elizabeth D. Castner for placement in the Wellington House located at 785 Trapelo Road. Since the Chairman of the Historical Commission was not in attendance, Councillor McMenimen moved to request the Chairman appear at the next Finance Committee meeting. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. A motion by Councillor McMenimen to place the matter on the table was adopted on a voice vote.
5. A request was received from the Mayor to accept the gift of four (4) pallets of PERGO laminate flooring from The Home Depot to be used in the remodeling of any City building. Councillor Vizard moved approval of the gift. On the motion, Councillor Romard moved to request the Mayor provide the additional information on the origin and use of the gift. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. A motion by Councillor Romard to place the matter on the table was adopted on a voice vote.
6. A request was received from the Mayor to accept the gift of a park bench from Yvette Abbott in honor of her late husband, Wayne Abbott, to be placed at the Nipper Maher Park. Councillor Vizard moved to accept the gift and that a thank you note is sent to the donor. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
7. A request was received from the Mayor to approve the request of the Board of Library Trustees to hire its selected candidate for the position of Library Director at Step 3 of Grade 18. Councillor Vizard moved to hear from off-committee members – Joan Garniss, Chair of the Board of Library Trustees and Kristen Murphy, Personnel Director. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Ms. Garniss explained the selection process to the Committee and offered the reasons of the Library Board of Trustees for the candidate that was chosen. Ms. Garniss reminded the Committee that they were only being asked to vote on the salary of the selected candidate. Councillors on the Committee asked detailed questions of the Ms. Garniss and Ms. Murphy about the past history of compensating a new employee at a step greater than 1, the impact on attracting good candidates with the City's present salary structure and the posting of the position. Off-

committee member, President Waddick supported the choice of the Library Trustees, stating "we should not substitute our judgment for theirs." Councillor Vizard moved approval of the request to compensate the selected candidate for the position of Library Director at a Step 3. On the motion, off-committee member, Councillor Stanley raised concerns with the staffing at the Library, its impact on the services to the public and in support of the rank and file employees of the Library would not be voting for the salary request. The motion of Councillor Vizard was adopted on a voice vote.

8. Councillor McMenimen moved to take the matter of the voluntary check off for the Excise Tax Scholarship Fund (2/24/2014) from the table. Councillor McMenimen requested that the City Treasurer update the Committee on the status of the matter. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. A motion by Councillor McMenimen to place the matter back on the table was adopted on a voice vote.
9. Councillor McMenimen moved to take the matter of the federal and state mandate resolution (6/9/2014) from the table. The motion was adopted by a voice vote. Councillor McMenimen commented and asked questions about the information that the Auditor had received from each City department and the School Department. Since the Committee had received the information tonight, it was stated additional time was needed to review the information and have any follow up questions or comments. The Auditor stated that for the departments that were still researching the information, a response would be provided to the Committee within a month. A motion by Councillor McMenimen to place the matter back on the table was adopted on a voice vote.
10. A motion to adjourn was approved by a voice vote and the Chair declared the committee adjourned - 10:30 pm.

Paul G. Centofanti - Clerk to the Finance Committee