

(The following is not a verbatim transcript of comments or discussion that occurred during the meeting, but rather a summarization intended for general informational purposes. All motions and votes are the official records).

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Regular meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Monday, September 13, 2021 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island and via Zoom Webinar.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by the Chair.

Present Councilwoman Jessica M. Marino
 Councilwoman Nicole Renzulli
 Councilman John P. Donegan
 Councilman Matthew R. Reilly
 Councilman Robert J. Ferri, Vice-Chair
 Council President Christopher G. Paplauskas, Acting Chair

Also Present: Councilwoman Lammis J. Vargas
 Councilwoman Aniece Germain
 Anthony Moretti, Director of Administration
 Paul McAuley, Deputy Chief of Staff
 Robert Strom, Director of Finance
 John Verdecchia, Assistant City Solicitor
 David Dimaio, City Council Budget Analyst
 Stephen Angell, City Council Legal Counsel
 Rosalba Zanni, Acting City Clerk
 Heather Finger, Stenographer

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

On motion by Councilman Ferri, seconded by Councilwoman Renzulli, it was voted to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting and they stand approved as recorded. Motion passed unanimously.

I. COMMITTEE BUSINESS MATTERS CARRIED OVER

Councilwoman Vargas

- *Municipal Court Update*

Director Strom stated that we have caught up on various fines and fees through the Court. At this time, our Revenues are running pretty close to budget. We are at approximately 14% of what the budget figure was that was passed by the City Council. Based on what the court Administrator stated to him, things have picked up. On the Expenditure side, we are under-budget by approximately \$10,000.

5-21-01 ***Ordinance authorizing the City to utilize Western Recreational Impact Fees for the bike path beautification and restoration project. Sponsored by Councilwoman Marino, Councilmen Donegan and Ferri.***

Councilwoman Marino asked that this Ordinance be withdrawn. She understands from conversation with the Administration that we are currently looking into whether or not the ownership of the bike path and responsibilities with respect to restoration and maintenance falls within the purview of the State or the City. It would make sense to fully vet that situation first.

Director Moretti stated that that is correct. He made a call to D.O.T. and is waiting to hear back from the person at D.O.T.

Ordinance was withdrawn.

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS* and/ or NEW MATTERS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

A. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

B. NEW MATTERS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

- ***Real Estate Tax Abatements***

No one appeared to speak in favor or to oppose.

On motion by Councilman Ferri, seconded by Councilwoman Renzulli, it was voted to recommend approval of this list of Tax Abatements as recommended by City Assessor. Motion passed unanimously.

- ***Motor Vehicle Tax Abatements***

No one appeared to speak in favor or to oppose.

On motion by Councilwoman Renzulli, seconded by Councilman Reilly, it was voted to recommend approval of this list of Tax Abatements as recommended by City Assessor. Motion passed unanimously.

- ***Tangible Tax Abatements***

No one appeared to speak in favor or to oppose.

On motion by Councilman Reilly, seconded by Councilwoman Renzulli, it was voted to recommend approval of this list of Tax Abatements as recommended by City Assessor. Motion passed unanimously.

- ***Tax Interest Waiver Approvals***

No one appeared to speak in favor or to oppose.

On motion by Councilman Ferri, seconded by Councilwoman Marino, it was voted to recommend approval of this list of Tax Interest Waiver approvals as recommended by City Treasurer. Motion passed unanimously.

- ***Update from Lisa Andoscia, City Council Grant Writer.*** (Council Vice-President Brady).

Council President Paplauskas stated that the Grant Writer was not available this evening.

On motion by Councilman Ferri, seconded by Councilwoman Renzulli, it was voted to move this item to the full City Council meeting.

- ***Status of available funds for Open Space acquisition.*** (Councilwoman Marino)

Director Strom stated that right now, we have approximately \$39,500 in actual cash for Open Space and we have remaining authority of \$4.5 million of which we would have to bond for.

Council President Paplauskas asked that this item be removed from the agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Rosalba Zanni
Acting City Clerk