



# Committee on Finance

March 9, 2009 – 7:00 pm – **Agenda**  
City Council Chamber, Room 214 – Municipal Building

## View Minutes

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1. COMMUNICATION, Renee Fernandes-Abbott, City Treasurer to Councillor Jane Gonsalves, Chair, Finance Committee, requesting the Finance Committee's approval of the sale of the aggregate loan obligation in the amount of \$8,039,458, for the interim loan from Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust. (Ref'd 2/27/09)

***INVITEES: City Treasurer Renee Fernandes-Abbott***

2. COMMUNICATION, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting AN ORDER, for the TRANSFER of \$65,424.00 from ZOO, SALARIES & WAGES, to ASSESSORS, SALARIES & WAGES. (Ref'd 2/12/09)
  - 2a. AN ORDER,
  - 2b. RELATED MOTION, Councillor Morad, requesting that Dr. William Langbauer, Director of ZOOLOGICAL SERVICES appear at the same meeting during which the Finance Committee discusses the transfer of \$65,424.00 from Zoo, Salaries & Wages to Assessors, Salaries & Wages to explain why there is \$65,424.00 in excess in the Salaries and Wages line of the Zoo. (Ref'd 2/12/09)

***INVITEES: City Auditor Peter Schmidt; Assessors Administrative Assistant Peter Barney; Director of Zoological Services Dr. William Langbauer***

3. Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting AN ORDER, that 3,500,000.00 is appropriated for the purpose of remodeling, reconstruction and making extraordinary repairs to City-owned buildings; that to meet this Appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, and the Committee on Finance, is authorized to borrow \$3,500,000.00 under Chapter 44 of the General Laws or any other enabling authority; that the Mayor is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out this project; and that the Treasurer is authorized to file an application with the Municipal Finance Oversight Board to qualify under Chapter 44A of the General Laws any or all of the Bonds and to provide such information and execute such documents as the Board may require for these purposes. (Ref'd 1/22/09, 2/11/09 – tabled to next meeting, invite Pat Sullivan)
  - 3a. AN ORDER, (Ref'd 1/22/09, 2/11/09 - tabled to next meeting, invite Pat Sullivan)

***INVITEES: City Auditor Peter Schmidt; DPF Commissioner Lawrence Worden; Superintendent Facilities-Construction & Maintenance John Perry; Library Director Stephen Fulchino; Police Chief Ron Teachman; Fire Chief Paul Leger; Emergency Management Director Mark Mahoney; Director of Housing & Community Development Patrick Sullivan***

4. Written Motion, Council President Gonsalves, Councillors Lawrence, Saunders, Gomes, Alves, Coelho, Martins and Pimental, asking that the City Council request that the Mayor's Office, and the Department of Public Facilities provide the City Council

with a breakdown of expenditures inherent in the renovation and rehabilitation of the Sister Avelar Community Center, and that the breakdown include the scope of the work, the cost of the work, a list of who is doing the work, and the source of funding for that work; and further, that the breakdown should be line by line. (Ref'd 12/18/08, tabled 2/11/09)

***INVITEES: Mayor's Chief of Staff William Burns; DPF Commissioner Lawrence Worden; Director of Housing & Community Development Patrick Sullivan***

5. Related Motion, Councillor Morad, requesting that the City Auditor appear before the Committee on Finance, to brief the Committee regarding the controls in existence for the daily operation of all the Revolving Funds in the City; and further, in his role as City Auditor, detail for the Committee, the results of the last audit performed for each of the Revolving Funds. (Ref'd 7/17/08)

***INVITEES: City Auditor Peter Schmidt***

6. WRITTEN MOTION, Councillors Gonsalves, Morad, Lawrence, Martins, Saunders, Pimental, Alves, Duarte, and Gomes, requesting that the Mayor's Office send the people who represented the City of New Bedford at the Regionalization Summit held on February 10, 2009, at Apponequet Regional High School, to the next Committee on Finance Meeting to address the City Council relative to the regionalization ideas that were discussed and proposals that were made. (Ref'd 2/12/09)

***INVITEES: Executive Aide to the Mayor Normand Audette***

7. Written Motion, City Council President Gonsalves, requesting that the Committee on Finance meet with the City Auditor and the City Treasurer, to review the savings incurred from the change in health insurance for FY 2008, and the projected savings for health insurance in FY 2009. (Ref'd 4/10/08)

***INVITEES: City Auditor Peter Schmidt; City Treasurer Renee Fernandes-Abbott; Pilgrim Health Insurance Consultant Hinkley, Allen & Tringdale, LP***

8. Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting AN APPROPRIATION/ORDER in the amount of \$715,000 for the following purpose: for the reconstruction of Ben Rose Baseball Field, a Municipal outdoor athletic facility; that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor and the Committee on Finance, is authorized to borrow \$715,000 under M.G.L. c44, §7(25) or any other enabling authority; that the Mayor is authorized to contract for and expend any State aid available for the project from the Urban Self Help Grant program, provided that the amount of the authorized borrowing shall be reduced by the amount of such aid received prior to the issuance of bonds or notes under this order; that the Mayor is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out this project; and that the Treasurer is authorized to file an application with the Municipal Finance Oversight Board to qualify under Chapter 44A of the General Laws any or all of the bonds and to provide such information and execute such documents as the Board may require for these purposes. (Ref'd 12/21/06)

- 8a. An Order, (Ref'd 12/21/06)

***INVITEES: City Auditor Peter Schmidt; City Treasurer Renee Fernandes-Abbott***

9. Related Motion, Councillor Morad, asking that the City Council request the Mayor that he appear in the next Financial Committee meeting to inform the Council where the funding for the building of the Standard-Times Field was appropriated from and if the amount was, in fact, \$700,000, and to breakdown of said requested information. (Ref'd 4/24/08)

***INVITEES: Mayor Scott W. Lang;***

10. Communication, City Solicitor Irene B. Schall, to City Council, submitting AN ORDER accepting a QUITCLAIM DEED from the New Bedford Redevelopment Authority, for a portion of the property that is known as Ben Rose Field, and dedicating the property on which the ball field is located for park and playground purposes; said property being deeded to the City is shown abutting Front Street, Lot 9H on Approval Not Required Plan of Land; also submitting SURVEYOR'S AFFIDAVIT and ORDERING designation of said property "for park and playground purposes, in accordance with M.G.L. C. 45, Section 14," , Section 14," upon acceptance of said Deed, and it will be placed under the control of the City of New Bedford Board of Park Commissioners, which will enable the City to obtain reimbursement from the Urban Self Help Grant for \$500,000. (Ref'd 10/23/08)

- 10a. AN ORDER,

***INVITEES: City Solicitor Irene Schall; Assistant City Solicitor Jane Medeiros Friedman***

***Chairperson suggests taking "No Further Action", on the following item:***

11. Written Motion, Councillor Koczera, that the Committee on Finance request Mayor Scott Lang along with the Chief Financial Officer Daniel Patten, to inquire if the City, as authorized by M.G.L. Chapter 262, Section 8, and Section 20, Chapter 46 of the Acts of 2003, has been collecting 50% of the fees collected by the appointed Constables for the service of the civil process in excess of the fee structure established in Section 8 of Chapter 262, to be deposited with the proceeds going into the City's General Fund, and other various requirements. (Ref'd 5/11/06, 6/28/06 - Referred to two Committees (Finance & Ordinance) Ordinance Committee referred its matter to the Committee on Finance)