



# *Committee on Finance*

January 29, 2013 – 7:00 PM - **Minutes**  
Chambers of the City Council, Room 214

**\*\*View Agenda\*\***

**MEETING: COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**  
**DATE: JANUARY 29, 2013**  
**TIME: 7:04 P.M.**  
**PLACE: CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 214, MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**PRESENT: COUNCILLORS JANE GONSALVES, CHAIRPERSON; HENRY BOUSQUET; DEBORA COELHO; BRUCE DUARE, JR.; JOSEPH LOPES; STEVEN MARTINS; JAMES OLIVEIRA**

**ABSENT: COUNCILLORS JOHN SAUNDERS, VICE-CHAIRMAN; DAVID ALVES; BRIAN GOMES; DENIS LAWRENCE, JR.**

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Councillor Gonsalves called the Finance Committee Meeting to order and took attendance. The Clerk read two Communications into the record from Councillor Gomes stating he would be late in attending this meeting and Councillor Alves stating he was unable to attend due to a prior commitment. These Communications were received and placed on file by Councillor Martins and seconded by Councillor Lopes.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, R. Renee Fernandes-Abbott, Treasurer/Collector, to Councillor Jane Gonsalves, Chairperson Committee on Finance, requesting the Finance Committee's approval to renew Bond Anticipation Notes and permanently finance two projects were received and placed on file by Councillor Martins and seconded by Councillor Coelho. (1)

R. Renee Fernandes-Abbott, Treasurer/Collector was present to answer questions from the Committee. She explained to the Committee that there is \$26,000,000 in outstanding temporary notes left over from February of 2012, and the city entered the market to resolve these. She stated that these new temporary notes would be payable in February of 2014.

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Duarte, the Committee VOTED: To approve the renewal of the Bond Anticipation Notes and permanently finance two projects. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 7, Nays 0.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell to City Council, submitting AN ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$5,000.00 from SOLICITORS, CHARGES & SERVICES to SOLICITORS, SUPPLIES & MATERIALS, was received and placed on file by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Martins. (2, 2a)

Councillor Gonsalves informed the Committee that Solicitor Markey called her to explain that he was unable to attend the meeting as he teaches at the Law School; but he does need office supplies and they are doing very well in the other accounts.

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Coelho, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$5,000.00 from SOLICITORS, CHARGES & SERVICES to SOLICITORS, SUPPLIES & MATERIALS. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell to City Council, submitting AN ORDER, for the TRANSFER of \$3,000.00 from FIRE CODE ENFORCEMENT, RESERVE FOR APROPRIATION to FIRE, CHARGES & SERVICES, was received and placed on file by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Martins. (3, 3a)

Michael Gomes, Fire Chief was present to answer questions from the Committee. The Chief explained that the reason for such a larger than normal surplus in his budget is that his department has been able to stretch the SAFER Grant funds out to July 1<sup>st</sup>, which is longer than was expected. He also added that they are still waiting to hear about FY14 renewal on the grant.

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Martins, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER for the TRANSFER of \$3,000.00 from FIRE CODE ENFORCEMENT, RESERVE FOR APROPRIATION to FIRE, CHARGES & SERVICES. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell to City Council, submitting AN ORDER, for the TRANSFER of \$1,500.00 from AIRPORT, CHARGES & SERVICES to AIRPORT, CAPITAL OUTLAY was received and placed on file by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Duarte. (4, 4a)

Thomas Vick, Airport Manager was present to answer questions from the Committee.

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Martins, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER, for the TRANSFER of \$1,500.00 from AIRPORT, CHARGES & SERVICES to AIRPORT, CAPITAL OUTLAY. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell to City Council, submitting a LOAN ORDER for \$2,100,000.00 from the Department of Public Infrastructure for the Combined Sewer Overflow Abatement Program this funding is necessary and predicated on an Administrative Order issued in September 2012, by the Environmental Protection Agency; upon approval of the Loan Order, the City will be eligible for reimbursement from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Clean Water State Revolving Fund was received and placed on file by Councillor Martins and seconded by Councillor Lopes. (5, 5a)

R. Renee Fernandes-Abbott, Treasurer/Collector was present to address the Committee. She stated that the EPA issued an Administrative Order to New Bedford and DPI is requesting the \$2,100,000 to plan the project in accordance with the EPA's order. She stated that these funds will be completely reimbursed by the Clean Water Revolving Fund of Massachusetts.

Councillor Lopes asked if she is positive that 100% of the \$2.1 million will be reimbursed. R. Renee Fernandes-Abbott stated again that she is, and that the planning must be done in March of 2013.

Councillor Gonsalves explained that the work that needs to be done is largely, if not all, in the West End, because it is the oldest part of the city and that is where the system is failing.

On motion by Councillor Duarte and seconded by Councillor Lopes, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the LOAN ORDER for \$2,100,000.00 from the Department of Public Infrastructure for the Combined Sewer Overflow Abatement Program this funding is necessary and predicated on an Administrative Order issued in September 2012, by the Environmental Protection Agency; upon approval of the Loan Order, the City will be eligible for reimbursement from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Clean Water State Revolving Fund. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 7, Nays 0.

On a Related Motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Duarte, the Committee VOTED: To invite Ron Labelle to attend a future Finance Meeting and provide detailed information on the Combined Sewer Overflow Abatement Program and how the \$2,100,000.00 will be utilized. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell to City Council, submitting a LOAN ORDER for \$504,000.00 to support the total project cost of creating a multipurpose path on the New Bedford Hurricane Barrier this action is required under the State's PARC (Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities) grant program regulations, the State's Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs recently awarded the City a \$352,800 PARC grant which will cover 70% (state share) of the total \$504,000 project cost and which will reduce the City's share of the cost to 30% (local share) was received and placed on file by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Duarte. (6, 6a)

Jill Maclean, Acting City Planner was present to address the Committee and answer questions.

On motion by Councillor Bousquet and seconded by Councillor Lopes, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the LOAN ORDER for \$504,000.00 to support the total project cost of creating a multipurpose path on the New Bedford Hurricane Barrier this action is required under the State's PARC (Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities) grant program regulations, the State's Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs recently awarded the City a \$352,800 PARC grant which will cover 70% (state share) of the total \$504,000 project cost and which will reduce the City's share of the cost to 30% (local share). This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 7, Nays 0.

Councillor Lopes made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councillor Martins.

This meeting adjourned @ 7:25 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Clerk of Committees