



Fiscal Committee - Board of Representatives

Jay Fountain, Chair Frank Cerasoli, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Monday, June 29, 2015
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: Democratic Caucus Room, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT 06905-2098

The Fiscal Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Fountain, Vice Chair Cerasoli and Committee Member Reps. Coleman, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Kooris, Mitchell and Silver. Absent or excused was Committee Member Rep. Day. Also present were Reps. Buckman, Ryan and Watkins; Michael Toma, Law Department; Bill Jessa and Sue Greene, Assessors, Office; Karen Cammarota, Grants Office; Hugh Murphy, BOE Finance; Terri Drew, Youth Services; Jim Hricay, OPM; Laura Burwick and Michael Pollard; Mayor's Office; Bill Woollacott, H&H Consultants; Brill Brink, WPCA; Michael Handler, Administration and Mani Poola, Traffic Engineer.

Chair Fountain called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action Report Made
¹ 16. F29.325	REVIEW; Budget Process. 06/03/15 – Submitted by Rep. Fountain	

The Committee first discussed Item No. 16. Mr. Pollard explained that the goal of the revised Budget process was to make it simpler and more transparent. Committee members made the following comments and suggestions:

- Combine the Operating Budget book and the detail book, possibly with a summary page with the detail behind
- Include more history
- Highlight the City's contractually obligated increases
- Label/clarify part-time entries
- The program breakdown was useful
- Include a way for the Board to have input into the budget prior to the Mayor's submission, in order to communicate Board's priorities

¹ Video Time Stamp 00:00:23

- ²1. [F29.316](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); **Approved 8-0-0**
\$2,842.00 Emergency Management; Medical & Life; Help pay
for medical insurance of the Emergency
Management Preparedness Director; FY 14/15
grant is \$61,934 with city match of \$61,934. Total
budget is \$123,868. (50% grant funds).
05/29/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
06/11/15 – Approved by Board of Finance

Ms. Cammarota stated that this is to align the City budget with the State budget. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa and Silver in favor).

- ³2. [F29.317](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); **Approved 8-0-0**
\$24,000.00 Contracted Services; Funds will be contracted out to
survey, document, and inventory historic buildings
in the Glenbrook neighborhood (100% grant funds).
05/29/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
06/11/15 – Approved by Board of Finance

Ms. Cammarota stated that the City previously did a survey in Hubbard Heights. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa and Silver in favor).

- ⁴3. [F29.318](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); **Approved 8-0-0**
\$195,765.00 Education Through Adventure; The program
operates at Scalzi Park and is staffed by seasonal,
trained adventure facilitators (100% fee for service
funded)
05/29/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
06/11/15 – Approved by Board of Finance

Ms. Dell stated that this appropriation is from fees raised from users. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa and Silver in favor).

- ⁵4. [F29.315](#) RESOLUTION; Authorizing the Mayor to sign an **Approved 8-0-1**
agreement with the State Department of Energy &
Environmental Protection for the Installation of
Lighting at Michael F. Lione Memorial Park; amount
of grant: \$537,000 (City match: \$0).
05/18/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin

² Video Time Stamp 00:23:28

³ Video Time Stamp 00:25:33

⁴ Video Time Stamp 00:26:26

Ms. Cammarota stated that resolution is for a State bond fund grant to put lights in Lione Park. She will convey to Engineering concerns expressed by the Committee regarding the shielding of lights. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa and Silver in favor; Rep. Mitchell abstaining).

5. [F29.321](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); **Approved 9-0-0**
\$537,000.00 Michael F. Lione Memorial Park Lighting;
Installation of 8 field lights and 20 Streetscape lights
at Michael F. Lione Memorial Park (100% grant
funded).
05/26/15 – Approved by [Planning Board](#)
05/29/15 –Submitted by Mayor Martin
06/11/15 – Approved by Board of Finance

A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 9-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Mitchell and Silver in favor).

- ⁶6. [F29.319](#) APPROVAL; of a \$1,100,000.00 Transfer of **Approved 9-0-0**
\$1,100,000.00 FY2013/14 Year End Fund Balance to the Rainy
Day Fund.
05/29/15 –Submitted by Mayor Martin
06/11/15 – Approved by Board of Finance

Mr. Hricay explained that this is to transfer \$1.1 Million of 2013/14 Year End Fund Balance to the Rainy Day Fund, which will keep the fund at 4.3% of the budget. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 9-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Mitchell and Silver in favor).

- ⁷7. [F29.320](#) APPROVAL; of a \$111,283.00 Transfer of **Approved 9-0-0**
\$111,283.00 FY2013/14 Year End Fund Balance to the Storm
Related Clean-up Reserve.
05/29/15 –Submitted by Mayor Martin
06/11/15 – Approved by Board of Finance

Mr. Hricay explained that this is to transfer \$111,283 to a storm reserve account. The money would have to be appropriated before being used. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 9-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Mitchell and Silver in favor).

⁵ Video Time Stamp 00:27:28

⁶ Video Time Stamp 00:30:50

⁷ Video Time Stamp 00:35:08

- ⁸8. [F29.322](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); **Approved 8-0-0**
\$475,000.00 Atlantic Street Reconstruction; Improvements to
Canal St., Pacific St., and Atlantic St. (private
contribution from Metro Green Residential
Development per Zoning Board condition of
approval)
05/26/15 – Approved by [Planning Board](#)
05/29/15 –Submitted by Mayor Martin
06/11/15 – Approved by Board of Finance

Mr. Poola explained that this project is being funded by Metro Green Residential as required by the Zoning Board. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 9-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Mitchell and Silver in favor).

- ⁹9. [F29.326](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); **Approved 9-0-0**
\$4,275,420.00 Fiber Optic Trunk Cable Installation; Replace 20
miles of existing aging cable (100% Grant funded).
05/26/15 – Approved by [Planning Board](#)
05/29/15 –Submitted by Mayor Martin
06/11/15 – Approved by Board of Finance

Mr. Poola explained that this project will go out to bid in the next couple of months and should be completed by the end of next year. This will give 100% coverage throughout the City. It will replace copper wire with fiber optic cables and will be above ground. They are planning for future relocation of poles. This will only be available for use by public entities but will give them greater band width. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 9-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Mitchell and Silver in favor).

- ¹⁰10. [F29.323](#) RESOLUTION; Amending the Capital Budget for **Approved 9-0-0**
Fiscal Year 2014/15 by increasing the appropriation
by \$510,000 for the C36589 Springdale
Expansion/Code Work and C5B623 Districtwide
Paving/Resurfacing Projects to be Funded by
Close-outs.
05/29/15 –Submitted by Mayor Martin
06/11/15 – Approved by Board of Finance

Mr. Hricay explained that the Board has already approved these appropriation and the closeout was not rejected. This resolution is for the bonds. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 9-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Mitchell and Silver in favor).

⁸ Video Time Stamp 00:38:26

⁹ Video Time Stamp 00:39:23

¹⁰ Video Time Stamp 00:48:05

11. [F29.327](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Board of Education Operating Budget; to Defray FY 2014-15 Special Education Cost increases. Withdrawn
 \$459,190.00
 06/04/15 – Submitted by Board of Education
 06/11/15 – Held by Board of Finance until 06/30/15
 06/26/15 – Withdrawn by Board of Education
- ¹¹12. [F29.328](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Board of Education Operating Budget; to Defray increases in Gas Heat account for FY 2014-15. **Approved 9-0-0**
 \$98,000.00
 06/04/15 – Submitted by Board of Education
 06/11/15 – Approved by Board of Finance

Mr. Murphy explained that this is an appropriation from the Board of Education Energy Reserve Account to the Board of Education Operating Budget. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 9-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Mitchell and Silver in favor).

- ¹²13. F29.116 REVIEW; Financial Controls, Reporting Requirements and Other Contractual Obligations between the City of Stamford and Funded Third-Party Organizations **Report Made**
 06/03/14 – Submitted by Rep. Buckman
 06/09/14 – Held at Steering
 08/11/14 – Held at Steering
 09/29/14 – Report Made & Held in Committee
 10/14/14 – Held at Steering
 11/17/14 – Held in Committee
 12/22/14 – Held in Committee
 01/12/15 – Held at Steering
 03/30/15 – Held in Committee
 04/27/15 – Held in Committee

Secondary Committee: Legislative & Rules

Committee members discussed items they would like to see in this Ordinance with Mr. Toma and Mr. Handler, including:

- Requiring a contract if a 3rd party received at least \$50,000 per year
- Documentation they would like to receive from a 3rd party, such as
 - A mission and goal statement
 - An organizational chart
 - A description of the services to be provided
- The ability to ask for semi-annual financials
- Requiring general liability insurance

¹¹ Video Time Stamp 00:53:41

¹² Video Time Stamp 00:56:38

Mr. Handler noted that the goal is not to be burdensome to outside agencies, but to protect the City's interests and to support the agencies and help them develop appropriate controls⁵. He noted that there is not City staff to do internal audits on all outside agencies. The City already has the ability to obtain this information from agencies that have leases with the City, although only to obtain financial information once a year.

- ¹³14. [F29.280](#) REVIEW; Senior Citizen Tax Abatement. **Report Made**
04/08/15 – Submitted by Rep. Fountain
04/27/15 – Held in Committee

Mr. Jessa and Ms. Greene reviewed the [attached handout](#), regarding the applicants for the Senior Citizen Tax Abatement under the pilot program and the comparison to prior years. Committee members suggested that:

- The tax credit be clearer on the tax bill in the future
- The report have more breakdowns, such as credit by income category
- Changing the requalification requirements of the program so that applicants can requalify every other year

- ¹⁴15. [F29.324](#) REVIEW; OPEB Actuarial Calculations. **Report Made**
06/02/15 – Submitted by Rep. Fountain

Mr. Hricay explained that the City has been increasing the portion of the ARC for OPEB contributed by the City 10% each year. Last year was 80% and for the 2015-16 fiscal year it will be 90%. Last year Mr. Woolacott did a full valuation. Mr. Woolacott reviewed the [attached report](#), including the assumptions used in the OPEB valuation, highlights of the valuation and the Annual Required Contribution. The ARC contribution is lower than in 2012, but the City is funding a greater percentage. The ARC numbers are somewhat lower than what was budgeted.

Under a Suspension of Rules:

A motion to suspend the rules to take up Item Nos. 17 through 24 was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-0-4 (Reps. Fountain, Coleman, Di Costanzo, Mitchell and Silver in favor; Reps. Cerasoli, DeLuca, Fedeli and Figueroa abstaining).

- ¹⁵17. [F29.329](#) RESOLUTION; with Respect to the Authorization, Issuance and Sale of Not Exceeding \$20,000,000 City of Stamford, Connecticut Water Pollution Control System and Facility Revenue Refunding Bonds. **Approved 7-0-3**
06/23/15 – Submitted by Jim Hricay
06/30/15 – To be considered by Board of Finance

¹³ Video Time Stamp 01:14:05

¹⁴ Video Time Stamp 01:27:41

¹⁵ Video Time Stamp 01:55:20

Mr. Handler explained that this refunding resolution is the result of hard work by the WPCA and City staff with outside consultants. The refunding bonds are revenue bonds which are backed by the Authority's user-rates. With respect to the refunding opportunity, the City is refunding the 2006 revenue bond issue which has an average coupon for the remaining bonds of 4.63%. The proposed true interest cost (TIC) on the new refunding bonds is 3.44%, resulting in total budgetary savings of approximately \$1.4 million and total present value (PV) savings of approximately \$1.0 million. All of the proposed savings are recouped equally over the remaining life of the bond issue and there is no extension of maturities. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 9-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Coleman, Di Costanzo, Figueroa, Mitchell and Silver in favor; Reps. Cerasoli, DeLuca and Fedeli abstaining).

18. [F29.330](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); **Held 10-0-0**
\$64,625.00 WPCA; Installing New Sewers in the Wedgemere
Road, White Oak Lane, Eden Road and Emerald
Lane.
06/26/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
06/30/15 – To be considered by Planning Board
06/30/15 – To be considered by Board of Finance

This amount is in addition to \$250,000 which was previously appropriated. A motion to hold this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 10-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Kooris, Mitchell and Silver in favor).

19. [F29.331](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); **Held 10-0-0**
\$800,000.00 WPCA; Aeration Blowers Upgrade for better control
of dissolved oxygen in the biological reactors to
make system more energy efficient and improved
wastewater treatment.
06/26/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
06/30/15 – To be considered by Planning Board
06/30/15 – To be considered by Board of Finance

The previous amounts for this item were already bonded. A motion to hold this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 10-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Kooris, Mitchell and Silver in favor).

20. [F29.332](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); **Held 10-0-0**
\$265,213.00 WPCA; Installing New Sewers in the Perna Lane
Area.
06/26/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
06/30/15 – To be considered by Planning Board
06/30/15 – To be considered by Board of Finance

This amount is in addition to \$150,000 which was previously appropriated. A motion to hold this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 10-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Kooris, Mitchell and Silver in favor).

21. [F29.333](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); **Held 10-0-0**
\$850,000.00 WPCA; Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation; upgrading
the collection system and abate/prevent infiltration
and inflow into the sewers.
06/26/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
06/30/15 – To be considered by Planning Board
06/30/15 – To be considered by Board of Finance

This amount is in addition to \$2,150,000 which was previously appropriated. A motion to hold this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 10-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Kooris, Mitchell and Silver in favor).

22. [F29.334](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget) **Held 10-0-0**
\$2,050,000.00 WPCA; WPCA Major Replacement; upgrading the
equipment and controls at the treatment plant.
06/26/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
06/30/15 – To be considered by Planning Board
06/30/15 – To be considered by Board of Finance

A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 10-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Kooris, Mitchell and Silver in favor).

23. [F29.335](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); **Held 10-0-0**
\$225,000.00 WPCA; Sanitary Pumping Station Upgrade;
Upgrading the equipment and controls at the sewer
pumping stations in the collection system.
06/26/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
06/30/15 – To be considered by Planning Board
06/30/15 – To be considered by Board of Finance

This amount is in addition to \$150,000 which was previously appropriated. A motion to hold this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 10-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Kooris, Mitchell and Silver in favor).

24. [F29.336](#) RESOLUTION; Amending the Capital Budget for **Held 9-0-0**
Fiscal Year 2014-2015 by Adding an Appropriation
of \$10,440,322 for Various Sewer Projects and a
Debt Service Reserve Fund for the Projects and
Other WPCA Projects and Authorizing \$10,440,322
General Obligation Bonds and/or Revenue Bonds of
the City to Meet Said Appropriations
06/26/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
06/30/15 – To be considered by Board of Finance

Mr. Hricay explained that this resolution will allow the funding of the 6 new projects above. This resolution includes a funding of several projects previously authorized but not approved for bond issuance and debt service coverage. A motion to hold this item

was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 9-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Kooris, Mitchell and Silver in favor).

A motion to continue this meeting until July 6, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Democratic Caucus Room was made, seconded and approved by unanimous vote. (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Kooris, Mitchell and Silver in favor).

Chair Fountain adjourned the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Fountain, Chair

This item is on [video](#).