



## ***Fiscal Committee - Board of Representatives***

Jay Fountain, Chair

Frank Cerasoli, Vice Chair

# **Committee Report**

**Date:** Monday, September 28, 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, Day, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Kooris and Silver. Absent or excused was Committee Member Rep. Mitchell. Also present were Trevor Roach, Assistant Chief, Stamford Fire Department; Guy Bailey, Stamford Historical Society; Michael Handler, Director of Administration; Lee Berta, Acting Director of OPM; David Yanik, Controller; Karen Cammarota, Grants Administrator; and Lindsey Miller.

Chair Fountain called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee Action</b>
5. <a href="#">F29.348</a>	REVIEW; Fiscal Year 2014-15 – Budget vs. Actual. 08/05/15 – Submitted by Rep. Fountain 08/24/15 – Held in Committee	<b>Report Made</b>

The Committee first took up item No. 5. Ms. Berta distributed the [attached handout](#) of the preliminary financials as compared to budget and Ms. Berta, Mr. Handler and Mr. Yanik reviewed them with the Committee. On the revenue side, the City collected \$3.2M less in property tax revenue than originally budgeted, but the City offset that with additional departmental revenues, especially from building permits and conveyance taxes. The general fund also received \$800,000 less in revenue for the parking fund than was budgeted. In addition the parking Fund ran a deficit of more than \$300,000 that will have to be covered by a transfer from the General Fund. The City received \$1.5M of revenue in excess of that budgeted and was \$24,000 over budget in expenditures. The City also expects it will experience a \$1.5M shortage in contingency. On the expenditure side, PHS&W had the biggest surplus. Mr. Handler stated that because the revenue side is down, several positions were held and projects are held up. Based on this unaudited information it is projected that the city will end the 2015 fiscal year with a small surplus of around \$1,000,000 (less than .2% of the budget). However, Mr. Handler also stated that based on early figures for fiscal year 2016 that it will be even tighter than the previous year. This is because revenues were budgeted at levels that are extremely high.

1. [F29.352](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); **Approved 10-0-0**  
\$150,000.00 Intersection improvements of Taylor Reed  
Place/Maple Tree Avenue @ Courtland Avenue to  
Improve Traffic Operation for Truck Turning; with  
enhance crosswalks; pedestrian ramps; improve  
signal operation for safety.  
09/01/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin  
08/25/15 – Approved by Planning Board  
09/10/15 – Approved by Board of Finance

Mr. Poola stated that this is an appropriation for an additional \$150,000 on top of the previous appropriations. The Committee had asked him to come back for this additional funding. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 10-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, Day, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Kooris and Silver in favor).

2. [F29.350](#) RESOLUTION; Authorizing the Mayor to Sign an **Approved 10-0-0**  
Agreement with the State Department of Energy &  
Environmental Protection for Construction of the  
Whittingham Discovery Center in Mill River Park  
(\$3,000,000 grant, no City match).  
08/28/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin

Ms. Cammarota explained that the Mill River received this grant to build the Discovery Center. Rep. Fountain would like to see a projection of the estimated cost of the operations and maintenance expenses when the Board is asked to appropriate the funds. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 10-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, Day, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Kooris and Silver in favor).

3. [F29.351](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating **Approved 10-0-0**  
\$35,000.00 Budget); Stamford Historical Society; funds were  
included as party of contingency. The city was  
waiting on prior year financials which were recently  
received.  
09/01/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin  
09/10/15 – Approved by Board of Finance

Mr. Handler and Mr. Bailey explained that these funds were held at budget time due to issues with embezzlement by the previous treasurer. All of the funds have been refunded and the Historical Society has taken steps to ensure that this will not happen again, including using Quickbooks, creating procedures for the handling of cash (although this was not the source of the problem); requiring a second signature on checks and requiring regular financial reports to the Board. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 10-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, Day, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Kooris and Silver in favor).

---

<sup>1</sup> Video Time Stamp 00:24:25

<sup>2</sup> Video Time Stamp 00:28:10

<sup>3</sup> Video Time Stamp 00:29:50

<sup>4</sup>4. [F29.353](#)  
\$83,000.00

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Stamford Fire Department; Necessary Funds Omitted from Budget Process in error for medical supplies, telephone expenses and Communication Utilities.  
09/01/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin  
09/10/15 – Approved by Board of Finance

**Approved 10-0-0**

Chief Roach explained that these are accounts that were omitted when the budget book was revised. Medical supplies was keyed in as \$5000 instead of \$55,000 and telephone expenses were omitted. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 10-0-0 (Reps. Fountain, Cerasoli, Coleman, Day, DeLuca, Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Kooris and Silver in favor).

***As a Secondary Committee:***

1. CS29.015 REVIEW; Discussion of Revenues and Costs associated with Parking Fund.  
09/11/15 – Submitted by Rep. Cerasoli

Chair Fountain adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Fountain, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).

---

<sup>4</sup> Video Time Stamp 00:37:19