



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

Jay Fountain, Chair

Frank Cerasoli, Vice Chair

# **Committee Report**

**Date:** Monday, October 26, 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, Fedeli and Silver. Absent or excused were Committee Member Reps. Di Costanzo, Figueroa and Mitchell. Also present were Karen Cammarota, Grants Administrator, Milton Puryear, Mill River Collaborative; Mike. Handler, Director of Administration; and Lee Berta, Assistant Director, OPM.

Vice Chair Cerasoli called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee Action</b>
1. <a href="#">F29.350</a>	RESOLUTION; Authorizing the Mayor to Sign an 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 09/28/15 – Approved by Committee 10/05/15 – Held by Full Board	<b>Approved 6-0-1</b>

The Committee had held this item last month in order to get more information about ongoing operating expenses. Mr. Puryear stated that the operating costs will be carried by the Mill River Collaborative. The ongoing operating costs will be, largely, for janitorial services, which will be shared with the carousel building. There is funding coming in for the environmental space, rental of the café space and ice skating fees will contribute to the operating expenses. They do not anticipate the building needing support from the City. A motion to approve this resolution was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-0-1 (Reps. Cerasoli, Coleman, Day, DeLuca, Fedeli and Silver in favor; Rep. Fountain abstaining).

- <sup>1</sup>2. [F29.354](#) RESOLUTION; Authorizing an Agreement with the Connecticut Department of Housing for Tax Abatement Assistance. **Approved 6-0-1**  
09/23/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin

Ms. Cammarota explained that this is an agreement to support Coleman Towers. This is a 40 year old agreement which needs to be renewed. The grant is about \$35,000 per year. This is a pilot tax abatement program. A motion to approve this resolution was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-0-1 (Reps. Cerasoli, Coleman, Day, DeLuca, Fedeli and Silver in favor; Rep. Fountain abstaining).

- <sup>2</sup>3. [F29.356](#) \$2,000.00 ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); WIC Special Projects Grant to expand WIC's collaboration with Head Start programs to increase mutual recruitment and retention. **Approved 6-0-1**  
09/29/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin  
10/08/15 – Approved by Board of Finance

Ms. Cammarota explained that this is an initiative by the State Department of Health directing all WIC offices to collaborate more fully with Head Start in order to try to ensure that eligible children stay in the program longer. This is for \$2000.00 to last over 3 years. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-0-1 (Reps. Cerasoli, Coleman, Day, DeLuca, Fedeli and Silver in favor; Rep. Fountain abstaining).

- <sup>3</sup>4. F29.357 REVIEW; Use and Reporting of Reserve for Contingency Fund. **Held 6-0-1**  
10/02/15 – Submitted by Rep. Fedeli

Ms. Fedeli explained that she was more interested in how the Reserve Fund is accounted for. Mr. Handler explained that the Board of Finance sets the contingency amount. There is also a reserve fund contributed to each year for wages negotiations. This is the only amount included in this fund until the agreement is settled. The current year would come out of contingency and the past years would come out of the reserve. The Controller would need to address the size of this reserve and how it is reported from year to year. This item would possibly need to be addressed in executive session, since it would address negotiations. Mr. Handler pointed out in the [Appropriations from Contingency Report as of June 25, 2015](#) that the UAW Wage Increase item reflected the amount for the then current year; the remainder came out of the reserve. A motion to hold this item in order to have the Controller address it was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-0-1 (Reps. Cerasoli, Coleman, Day, DeLuca, Fedeli and Silver in favor; Rep. Fountain abstaining).

Vice Chair Cerasoli adjourned the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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<sup>1</sup> Video Time Stamp 00:06:25

<sup>2</sup> Video Time Stamp 00:07:47

<sup>3</sup> Video Time Stamp 00:10:33

Frank Cerasoli, Vice Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).