



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

Monica Di Costanzo, Chair

Frank Cerasoli, Vice Chair

# **Committee Report**

**Date:** Monday, December 28, 2015  
**Time:** 7:00 p.m.  
**Place:** Republican Caucus Room, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT 06905-2098

The Fiscal Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Di Costanzo and Committee Member Reps. Fedeli, Figueroa, Miller, Mitchell, Quinones and Silver. Absent or excused were Committee Member Reps. Cerasoli, Coleman, Day and DeLuca. Also present were Jay Fountain, OPM Director; Lee Berta, Assistant Director OPM; Karen Cammarota, Grants Officer; and Sharona Cowan, Social Services Division.

Chair Di Costanzo called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee Action</b>
The Committee first considered Item No. F29.369.		
5. <a href="#">F29.369</a> \$50,000.00	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Relocation Services; Outstanding Hotel Bills for Emergency Housing, Food Reimbursement, Moving Expenses and Rehousing Expenses per Uniform Relocation Assistance Act. 11/30/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin 12/10/15 – Approved by Board of Finance	<b>Approved 6-0-0</b>

Ms. Cowan explained that this program is set up so that people who are displaced during housing code enforcement are not homeless. This covers expenses which have been incurred and anticipated expenses and is based upon expenses from the past 2 years. The bulk of this amount will be used for a 6 family home from which residents have been discussed. So far this year 9 families have been helped. The City is reimbursed for these expenses by the Landlord or through a lien. There is a General Fund revenue line item where the reimbursement would go. The appropriation comes out of contingency. The statute requires that families remain in the jurisdiction from which they have been displaced. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Figueroa, Miller, Mitchell, Quinones and Silver in favor).

1. [F29.368](#)      ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget);      **Approved 6-0-0**  
\$333,076.00      Community Development; Affordable Housing  
Linkage Program; Funds from commercial building  
permit fees to create and rehabilitate affordable  
housing. (Amount of funds: \$110, 292 (FY13/14);  
\$139,707 (FY14/15); \$83,077 (FY15/16)).  
11/30/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin  
12/10/15 – Approved by Board of Finance

Ms. Cammarota explained that this money from building permit fees. The prior 2 year funds had been collected, but had not been appropriated or spent. The money comes from the General Fund Budget but goes to the Capital Budget. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Figueroa, Miller, Mitchell, Quinones and Silver in favor).

2. [F29.363](#)      ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget);      **Approved 6-0-0**  
\$22,742.00      Youth Services Bureau; Grant larger than  
anticipated; Additional appropriation needed to  
match award (100% grant funded).  
11/30/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin  
12/10/15 – Approved by Board of Finance

Ms. Cammarota explained that there is a dollar for dollar match for this grant, but the funds are already included in the budget. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Figueroa, Miller, Mitchell, Quinones and Silver in favor).

3. [F29.367](#)      ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget);      **Approved 5-0-2**  
\$80,280.00      Education Through Adventure program; program  
supplies (100% donations).  
11/30/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin  
12/10/15 – Approved by Board of Finance

Ms. Cammarota explained that this is the program run by the Youth Services Bureau at Scaalzi Park funded by donations. She will provide a breakdown of how the funds are used and whether the donations are always completely used. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5-0-2 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Figueroa, Miller, Mitchell and Silver in favor; Reps. Fedeli and Quinones abstaining).

4. [F29.364](#)      ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget);      **Approved 7-0-0**  
\$15,932.00      Senior Health Program; Grant larger than  
anticipated; Additional appropriation needed to  
match award (100% grant funded).  
11/30/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin  
12/10/15 – Approved by Board of Finance

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<sup>1</sup> Video Time Stamp 00:15:03

<sup>2</sup> Video Time Stamp 00:24:02

<sup>3</sup> Video Time Stamp 00:25:25

<sup>4</sup> Video Time Stamp 00:33:28

Ms. Cammarota explained that this funds a part-time nurse who goes to senior centers and senior residences. This will permit the nurse to have more hours. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 7-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Miller, Mitchell, Quinones and Silver in favor).

- <sup>5</sup>6. [F29.365](#)      ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget);      **Approved 6-0-1**  
\$42,303.00      Justice Assistance Grant; Extra Walking Patrols on  
Overtime Basis (100% grant funded).  
11/30/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin  
12/10/15 – Approved by Board of Finance

Ms. Cammarota explained that these are federal funds allocated through a formula each year. The police department determined to use the funds for extra walking patrols to deter crime. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-0-1 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Miller, Mitchell, Quinones and Silver in favor; Rep. Figueroa abstaining).

- <sup>6</sup>7. [F29.366](#)      ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget);      **Approved 7-0-0**  
\$1,500.00      Fire Prevention Grant; Grant from FM Global to be  
used by Fire Marshal's Office to Purchase Camera  
Equipment (100% grant funded).  
11/30/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin  
12/10/15 – Approved by Board of Finance

Ms. Cammarota explained that this will provide 5 cameras to be used to help document fire investigations. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 7-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Figueroa, Miller, Mitchell, Quinones and Silver in favor).

- <sup>7</sup>8. [F29.361](#)      RESOLUTION; Authorizing the Mayor to sign an      **Held 6-0-0**  
agreement with the State Office of Policy &  
Management for an Inter-Town Capital Equipment  
(ICE) Purchase Incentive Program to purchase  
\$268,000 in Tactical Personal Protective Equipment  
for EMS and Fire Departments (City match:  
\$19,200).  
11/17/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin

Ms. Cammarota explained that Stamford is the lead agency for Stamford, Norwalk, Darien and Greenwich. Stamford will get 48 sets of equipment. The \$268,000 is the entire grant. There are a total of approximately 100 sets. Questions were raised regarding the cost. A motion to hold this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Miller, Mitchell, Quinones and Silver in favor).

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<sup>5</sup> Video Time Stamp 00:36:29

<sup>6</sup> Video Time Stamp 00:38:05

<sup>7</sup> Video Time Stamp 00:39:15

- <sup>8</sup>9 [F29.362](#) RESOLUTION; Authorizing an agreement with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for a Clean Water Fund Grant (Total Project Cost: \$848,897; Grant \$466,844; City share: \$381,963) 11/17/15 – Submitted by Mayor Martin **Held 6-0-0**

Committee members expressed concern about the lack of detail on this item. A motion to hold this item until January 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. to consider this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Fedeli, Miller, Mitchell, Quinones and Silver in favor).

- <sup>9</sup>10. F29.357 REVIEW; Use and Reporting of Reserve for Contingency Fund. **Report Made**  
10/02/15 – Submitted by Rep. Fedeli  
10/26/15 – Held in Committee  
11/23/15 – Held in Committee

Mr. Fountain and Ms. Berta discussed the contingency update, including the [6/25/15 contingency report](#), the [12/21/15 contingency report](#); and the [draft CAFR](#) sheet with fund balances as of 6/30/15.

The Contingency includes an estimate of the current year obligations for unpaid labor costs. If the amount is not spent, it then goes onto Fund Balance. Mr. Fountain explained that at the end of FY 2014/15, there was a contingency balance of \$2,943,698.28. This balance was not sufficient to cover anticipated future obligations (from outstanding contracts that were not settled). This amount came from various sources, including increased fees and building permits. For FY 2015/16, out of the \$8,700,000, \$5,652,000 was anticipated for wage settlements. There is currently a balance of \$2,852,000.

When the contingency is not appropriated, it is assigned to future obligations. If that is not all used, it goes into assigned fund balance. Current year costs would come from Contingency, prior year costs would come from the Fund Balance.

- <sup>10</sup>11. [F29.370](#) REVIEW; 1st Quarter FY 2015 Status Report. **Report Made**  
12/7/15 – Submitted by Rep. Di Costanzo

Mr. Fountain and Ms. Lee reviewed the first 4 pages of the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Status report with Committee members. The Grand Levy is bringing in less than anticipated primarily because the reserve for tax appeals has been substantially underestimated. These are both commercial and residential. The Board of Finance has been using the net collection rate. Budget uses gross collection rate, which is lower.

Respectfully submitted,  
Monica Di Costanzo, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).

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<sup>8</sup> Video Time Stamp 00:47:29

<sup>9</sup> Video Time Stamp 00:52:55

<sup>10</sup> Video Time Stamp 01:07:50