



**Fiscal Committee -
Board of Representatives**

Monica Di Costanzo, Chair

Frank Cerasoli, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Monday, May 22, 2017

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Democratic Caucus Room, 4th Floor, 888 Washington Boulevard,
Stamford, CT 06905-2098

The Fiscal Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Di Costanzo, Vice Chair Cerasoli and Committee Member Reps. Coleman, Coppola, Day, Fedeli, Miller, Mitchell, Quinones and Silver. Absent or excused was Rep. Figueroa. Also present were Rep. Ryan; Karen Cammarota, Grants Officer; Jay Fountain and Tony Romano, OPM; and Ralph Blessing, Land Use Bureau.

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

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. F29.518 \$37,125.00	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); Distracted Driving Grant; Decrease Fatalities and Injuries caused by Driver Distraction. Enforcement Increased on an Overtime Basis. (25% City match will come from existing police overtime account). 05/02/17 – Submitted by Mayor Martin 05/11/17 - Approved by Board of Finance	Approved 9-0-0

Ms. Cammarota explained that this grant comes from the Department of Transportation with the goal of decreasing fatalities. The funds are used for police overtime for April and August. This will be at designated intersections based upon observations of spotters. Almost 50% of the traffic citations are given during this six week period. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 9-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Cerasoli, Coleman, Coppola, Day, Fedeli, Miller, Quinones and Silver in favor).

2. F29.520 \$135,000.00	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); Seven HUD HOME Program Loans Made by the City were Repaid; \$127,000 to be used for New Projects; \$8,000 to be used for Program Staff Costs. 04/24/17 – Submitted by Mayor Martin 05/11/17 - Approved by Board of Finance	Approved 9-0-0
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Ms. Cammarota explained that the HOME loan program is used for the rehabilitation of low income housing. These loans were repaid and go back into the program. These funds are not designated for any specific project at this point. A motion to approve this

item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 9-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Cerasoli, Coleman, Coppola, Day, Fedeli, Miller, Quinones and Silver in favor).

3. [F29.519](#) REJECTION; Capital Project Closeout **No Action Taken**
\$1,954,191.13 Recommendations: Project Nos. CP0059, CP1065,
CP1373, CP0053, CP2222, CP3103, CP3800,
CP5029, CP6402, CP6582.
04/18/17 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
05/09/17 - Approved by [Planning Board](#)
05/11/17 – No action taken by Board of Finance

Mr. Romano explained that that the first two projects are done, the third was taken over by the State, the fourth and fifth were WPCA projects which they asked to be closed out and the rest were Smith House projects. Some of this money will be included in an additional appropriation next month for the Strawberry Hill Avenue improvements and to reuse a federal grant for a 911 generator. No action was taken on this item.

4. [F29.521](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); **Approved 10-0-0**
\$362,000.00 1056 Washington Boulevard Remediation; Removal
of Contaminated Materials at 1056 Washington
Boulevard to Facilitate its use as Open Space within
Mill River Park.
03/21/17 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
04/04/17 – Approved by [Planning Board](#)
05/11/17 - Approved by Board of Finance

Ms. Cammarota explained that this is a grant from the State ECD to clean up a space which used to be a gas station and a dry cleaner. The design plans are currently being prepared. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 10-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Cerasoli, Coleman, Coppola, Day, Fedeli, Miller, Mitchell, Quinones and Silver in favor).

5. [F29.522](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); **Approved 10-0-0**
\$50,000.00 South End Implementation Study; Implementing the
Findings of Phase 1 South End Study.
05/02/17 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
04/25/17 – Approved by [Planning Board](#)
05/11/17 – Approved by Board of Finance

Mr. Blessing stated that the Transportation Bureau originally received this grant from the State of Connecticut as part of the Atlantic Street Bridge replacement to do research on historic structures in the South End. At the same time, the Land Use Bureau proposed a South End neighborhood study and funds for that were approved in the Capital Budget. Because these two items belong together, the grants were combined into a larger pot, enabling a more comprehensive study. The State had no objection to the combination of the grant. They issued an RFP for a consultant and hope that the contract for the consultant will be finalized. Issues they will look at include transportation, enhancement of the historic district, traffic and parking. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 10-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Cerasoli, Coleman, Coppola, Day, Fedeli, Miller, Mitchell, Quinones and Silver in favor).

6. [F29.523](#)

REVIEW; FY 16/17 Third Quarter Projections.
05/02/17 - Submitted by Rep. Di Costanzo

Report Made

Mr. Fountain distributed the [attached materials](#) and reviewed the third quarter projections.

- The City is projecting a \$4.797 million surplus, largely due to revenue.
- This year there were sufficient budgeted amounts for tax appeals and elderly tax rebates, so taxes were not under budget
- Conveyance taxes through April are higher than last year's total. One sale brought in almost \$2 million. This is not expected to be repeated next year.
- There was also an excess of \$900,000 for assigning of vehicles by the State
- Next year's budget does not increase the building permit amounts
- The City will be cut \$294,000 for the Mashantucket Pequot funds for this year
- \$7.9 million of reserves were taken for the contract settlement, but only 7.4 were used
- The data storage expense for police body cameras was not incurred, because the camera program had not started.
- OPM believes that the surplus is a conservative figure
- There was discussion about how to use this surplus at the Board of Finance
- Contingency has increased \$500,000 to cover State uncertainty
- There is a proposal to lease the Star of the Sea building for recreational programs

Chair Di Costanzo adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Monica Di Costanzo, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#)