



Fiscal Committee - Board of Representatives

Monica Di Costanzo, Chair

Lindsey Miller, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Monday, June 22, 2020
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: The meeting was held remotely at <https://zoom.us/j/97138761148>.

The Fiscal Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Di Costanzo, Vice Chair Miller and Committee Member Reps. Fedeli, Figueroa, McMullen, Morson, Nabel and Pendell. Also present were Reps. Michelson and Watkins; Sandy Dennies, Interim Director of Administration; Jay Fountain and Anthony Romano, OPM; Karen Cammarota, Grants Office; Jennifer Calder, Director of Health; Assistant Chief Tom Wuennemann, Stamford Police Department; and Al Cava, HR Director.

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

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. F30.330	RESOLUTION: with Respect to the Authorization, Issuance And Sale Of Not Exceeding \$20,000,000 \$15,000,000 City Of Stamford General Obligation Refunding Bonds. 06/02/20 – Submitted by Acting Director Dennies	Approved 7-0-1
Ms. Dennies discussed this item with the Committee as follows:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The original number was reduced because only the 2014 bonds can be refunded• The anticipated savings from the refunding through 6/30/2033 are \$1,889,539• There will be cost savings from doing the refunding at the same time as a new issue• The savings will be \$127-143,000 per year• The total debt service after the refunding will be \$14.9 million. These are the only bonds available for refunding at this time• The Board of Finance is required to approve this after approval by the Board of Representatives		
A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 7-0-1 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Miller, Fedeli, McMullen, Morson, Nabel and Pendell in favor; Rep. Figueroa abstaining)		
2. F30.333 \$1,481,377.00	REJECTION; Capital Project Closeout Recommendation; CPBM17 Westover Magnet School – MTF. 06/02/20 – Submitted by Mayor Martin 04/28/20 – Approved by Planning Board 06/11/20 – To be Considered by Board of Finance	Failed 0-8-0

3. [F30.332](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); **Approved 8-0-0**
\$1,481,377.00 CPBM17 Westover Magnet School – MTF. (State Grant funded).
06/02/20 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
04/28/20 – Approved by Planning Board
06/11/20 – To be Considered by Board of Finance

Mr. Romano and Ms. Dennies discussed items 2 and 3 together with the Committee as follows:

- The closeout is because the funding source for the project is being changed from bonding to a grant. Item 2 removes the bond funds from the project and Item 3 puts the same amount back as grant funds
- The bond funds have already been bonded and authorized by the Board of Representatives and will move to another mold project already authorized by the Board of Representatives which has not yet been bonded. The result will be that the City will not need to bond as much
- The City will receive the grant funds as reimbursement from the state.

A motion to approve rejection Item No. 2 was made, seconded and failed by a vote of 0-8-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Miller, Fedeli, Figueroa, McMullen, Morson, Nabel and Pendell opposed).

A motion to approve Item No. 3 was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Miller, Fedeli, Figueroa, McMullen, Morson, Nabel and Pendell in favor).

4. [F30.334](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); **Approved 8-0-0**
\$124,158.00 Covid-19 Crisis Response - including Nurses' OT, Medical and Cleaning Supplies, and Education Campaign (100% Grant funded).
06/02/20 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
06/11/20 – To be Considered by Board of Finance

Ms. Cammarota and Dr. Calder discussed Item 4 with the committee as follows:

- This is a federal grant through the State Health Department
- The State has mandated that it can be used for overtime, education and supplies – Ms. Cammarota will provide the specific breakdown of funds
- This is not CARES Act funding

A motion to approve Item No. 4 was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Miller, Fedeli, Figueroa, McMullen, Morson, Nabel and Pendell in favor).

5. [F30.335](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); **Approved 8-0-0**
\$134,989.00 Covid-19 Emergency Radio Grant - Purchase of 32 Portable Radios to Enhance Pandemic Response (100% Grant funded).
06/02/20 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
06/11/20 – To be Considered by Board of Finance

Ms. Cammarota and Assistant Chief Wuennemann discussed Item 5 with the committee as follows:

- This is a federal grant through the Department of Justice
- The funds will be used to replace 32 obsolete radios and purchase the additional necessary software and equipment
- The grant will fully fund the purchase

A motion to approve Item No. 5 was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Miller, Fedeli, Figueroa, McMullen, Morson, Nabel and Pendell in favor).

- 6. F30.331 REVIEW; Comparison of Stamford's Cost of **Report Made**
Employee Benefits per Dollar of Salary with Other CT
Cities, including Greenwich, Norwalk, Bridgeport and
Danbury, and Discussion Of The Differences Which
May Be Illustrated.
06/03/20 – Submitted by Reps. Watkins and
Michelson

Secondary Committee: Personnel

Committee members discussed the need to specify this request with Mr. Cava and Ms. Dennies. It was noted that the Mayor has said that the City spends \$1 on benefits for every \$1 on salary and the committee is interested in the consolidated details behind the comparative calculations and benefit definitions. It is difficult to compare benefits with neighboring communities as all have different items in their plans and contracts. The City would have to hire someone to do this study to inform of these differences and identify plan improvement and savings recommendations based on independent analysis. The information the Committee is looking for needs to be defined. A motion to form either a special committee or subcommittee to work on this project was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Miller, Fedeli, Figueroa, McMullen, Morson, Nabel and Pendell in favor).

Under a Suspension of the Rules

- 7. F30.338 RESOLUTION; Adoption of the Capital Budget **No Action Taken**
(WPCA) Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 To June 30, 2021.
06/10/20 – Submitted by Jay Fountain