



Fiscal Committee - Board of Representatives

Monica Di Costanzo, Chair

Lindsey Miller, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Monday, November 23, 2020
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: This meeting was held remotely.

The Fiscal Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Di Costanzo, Vice Chair Miller and Committee Member Reps. Coleman, Fedeli, Figueroa, McMullen, Morson, Nabel and Pendell. Also present were Rep. Matherne; Jay Fountain, OPM Director; Karen Cammarota, Grants Officer; Ted Jankowski, Director of Public Safety, Health and Welfare; Mike Pensiero, IT; and Sandy Dennies, Director of Administration.

Chair Di Costanzo called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. F30.381 \$704,298.00	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); ELC Enhancing Detection; Detection and Enhancement of Response to COVID outbreak (100% grant funded). 10/30/20 – Submitted by Mayor Martin 11/12/20 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0	Approved 9-0-0

Ms. Cammarota explained that this is a grant from the CDC through the State Department of Health. This is a 2 ½ year grant to help local governments respond to COVID. The State wants to budget 1 year at a time (\$281,719 for 2020-21). This year \$131,000 will be going to Visiting Nurse & Hospice for a part time nurse for contact tracing; \$60,000 will go to the Columbia School of Public Health for data analysis; \$83,000 will go to the Impact Planning Group for health promotion and marketing (education campaign); and \$6,000 will go to a part time seasonal contact tracer. The City has only received one year's funding at this point.

A motion to approve Item No. 1 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote.

2. F30.379 \$325,000.00	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); FY21 Contingency Appropriation MAA & Nurses Reserve – FY20 Wage Increase; Appropriation of Funds from Contingency to Fund Future Obligations of the City. 10/30/20 – Submitted by Mayor Martin 11/12/20 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0	Approved 9-0-0
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3. [F30.383](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); **Approved 9-0-0**
\$325,000.00 FY21 Fund Balance Appropriation MAA & Nurses Reserve – FY20 Wage Increase; Appropriation of Funds from Fund Balance to Fund Future Obligations of the City.
10/30/20 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
11/12/20 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0

Mr. Fountain discussed Items 2 and 3 together. There was no increase in these contracts. These are appropriations from contingency and the fund balance being used to decrease the negative amount in the benefits accounts.

A motion to approve Item No. 2 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote.

A motion to approve Item No. 3 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote.

4. [F30.380](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); **Approved 9-0-0**
\$1,800,000.00 CP7149; Public Safety Equipment Replacement & Upgrade; Purchase of 200 Public Safety Radios for the Fire Department and 270 Public Safety Radios for the Police Department.
10/22/20 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
11/10/20 – Approved by [Planning Board](#)
11/12/20 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0

Mr. Jankowski explained that the upgrade of the public safety radios was a project to be phased in over several years, but by purchasing the radios at one time this year, the City will be saving \$600,000. These radios are a necessity and are being obtained at a discount price. These are high quality radios. The life expectancy of the radios is about 10 years. The amount for these radios included in the capital budget for next year will be removed. The old radios will be provided to Motorola as part of the negotiated agreement (no data resides on devices.) The radios have a warranty and a support contract, including coverage for accidental damage. The departments will be getting different radios, based upon their needs, but they are compatible.

A motion to approve Item No. 4 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote.

5. [F30.382](#) REVIEW; FY 2020-21 First Quarter Projections. **Report Made**
11/03/20 – Submitted by Director Fountain

Mr. Fountain and Ms. Dennies reviewed page 3 of the [attached report](#) with the Committee. The Board of Finance had anticipated a \$65 M shortfall at the last budget approval, budgeting a 93.9% tax collection rate. The Board of Finance and Board of Representatives made \$32 M cuts to the budget to address the shortfall. The City budgeted \$33.2 M (\$15 M in short term borrowing and using \$18.2 M of the Rainy Day fund) to address the rest of the shortfall. The City received \$14.9 M more in tax collection in the first half than budgeted; there was a strong performance on building permits and conveyance tax; and departmental revenue was \$3.1M higher than budgeted and departmental expenses are coming in under budget (other than Governmental Services due to the delay of the primary in August). OPEB spending is higher than budgeted. As a result, the total shortfall is \$18.6 rather than \$33M. The City is still assuming a 93.9% collection rate for taxes in the second half. The short term borrowing has been authorized but not yet used, nor has the Rainy Day Fund been used. It is not known whether the City will receive the anticipated State revenue.

Chair Di Costanzo adjourned the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Monica Di Costanzo, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).