



Fiscal Committee - Board of Representatives

Monica Di Costanzo, Chair

Lindsey Miller, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021
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, Figueroa, McMullen, Morson, Nabel and Pendell. Absent was Committee Member Rep. Fedeli. Also present were Jay Fountain and Anthony Romano, OPM; Karen Cammarota and Anita Carpenter, Grants Office; Hidalgo Nagashima and Bekim Ukperaj, EG Brennan Golf Course; Mark McGrath, Director of Operations; Lyda Ruijter, Town and City Clerk; Ted Jankowski, Director of Public Safety, Health and Welfare; Lou Casolo, City Engineer; and Bill Napoletano, Director, Tax & Revenue Collections.

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

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. F30.431 \$136,000.00	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); Homeland Security 18/19. \$86,000 Increase of Funds to be Allocated to Bomb Squad and Interoperable Radio Replacement Projects; \$50,000 for City of Stamford to act as Fiduciary Agent (100% Grant Funded). 03/30/21 – Submitted by Mayor Martin 04/08/21 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0	Approved 8-0-0

Ms. Cammarota explained that the State has allocated an additional \$86,000 for this grant to be used for the bomb squad. In addition, the \$50,000 for the City to act as fiduciary on this grant had not been appropriated this year and so has been included. A motion to approve Item No. 1 was made, seconded, and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Vice Chair Miller and Committee Member Reps. Coleman, Figueroa, McMullen, Morson, Nabel and Pendell in favor).

2. F30.430 \$15,180.00	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); Historic Preservation; Restore and Preserve Pages of the Historical Deed of the Town of Stamford dating back to 1667-1701 as Extremely Important Records; includes Creation of Custom Cases and Digitizing for Public Access. Grant Amount Increased; Funds to be Appropriations from Land Recording Fee – Historic Preservation Fund. 02/03/21 – Submitted by Mayor Martin 04/08/21 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0	Held 7-1-0
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Ms. Ruijter explained that Stamford has the original City deed, and she has worked with a specialist for treatment of old documents to determine how the document should be handled.

The source of these funds is not grant funds but Town Clerk historic preservation funds, which the Town Clerk gets from land reporting fees. There are funds available in the historic preservation account. Committee members asked for clarification on the source of the funds, the balance of the funds in the historic preservation account, the previous year's expenditure, and the grant verbiage.

A motion to hold Item No. 2 until 6:15 on May 3, 2021 was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 7-1-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Vice Chair Miller and Committee Member Reps. Figueroa, McMullen, Morson, Nabel and Pendell in favor; Rep. Coleman opposed).

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| 3. F30.432
\$135,000.00 | ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Increase of \$120,000 to Pro Shop Revenue Share and \$15,000 to Bank Fees due to Additional Revenue from Additional Anticipated Rounds and Resulting Increased Share to Pro Shop.
03/30/21 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
04/08/21 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0 | Approved 8-0-0 |
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Mr. McGrath, Mr. Ukperaj and Mr. Nagashima explained that this appropriation is needed because the course exceeded the estimated number of rounds played this past year, so that the Pro Shop is entitled to more funds. This is a sign of the course's success during Covid. A motion to approve Item No. 3 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Di Costanzo, Vice Chair Miller and Committee Member Reps. Coleman, Figueroa, McMullen, Morson, Nabel and Pendell in favor)

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| 4. F30.429
\$500,000.00 | REJECTION; Capital Project Closeout Recommendation; CP8715; Mill River Phase 2 East Side (Funding Source: Bonds).
03/16/21 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
04/06/21 – Approved by Planning Board
04/08/21 – Recommended by Board of Finance | Failed 0-6-2 |
| 5. F30.433
\$1,664,311.17 | ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); 001231; Design, Permitting and Construction of Approximately 650 Linear Feet of Publicly Accessible Riverwalk Parkland Along the Eastern Bank of the Mill River between Tresser Boulevard and Richmond Hill Avenues.
03/30/21 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
04/06/21 – Approved by Planning Board
04/08/21 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0 | Approved 5-1-2 |
| 6. F30.428 | RESOLUTION; Amending the Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 by Adding an Appropriation of \$1,664,311.17 for the Mill River Greenway – Tresser to Richmond Hill Project and Authorizing \$500,000 General Obligation Bonds of the City to Meet Said Appropriation.
04/01/21 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
04/08/21 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0 | Approved 5-1-2 |

The Committee discussed Item Nos. 4, 5, and 6 together with Mr. Romano and Mr. Casolo.

- Item No. 4, the closeout of the \$500,000 is at the request of the Grants Department which seeks to separate out the two projects so that CP8715; Mill River Phase 2 which has a \$4 million grant, can be tracked separately.
- Item No. 6 consists of the \$500,000 bonds from the closeout and \$1,164,000 from the RBS escrow account from the sale of Division Street
- Although the description is 650 linear feet, the total area is 41,000 ft², including grading and earthworks
- The project is not designed yet; this budget includes design, construction, oversight and permitting; there is no expectation of any additional City funds being put into this project
- The completion agreement with RBS provides for the walkway with the funds to be used for its construction
- A consultant will be retained to prepare bid documents; the price will be determined by the amount in the escrow account; some projects have been completed – moving of a storm drain and building a parking lot on Clinton Ave
- This will be maintained by the Mill River Collaborative

A motion to approve Item No. 5 was made, seconded, and approved by a vote of 5-1-2 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Vice Chair Miller and Committee Member Reps. Morson, Nabel and Pendell in favor; Rep. Coleman opposed; Reps. Figueroa and McMullen abstaining).

A motion to approve Item No. 4 was made, seconded, and failed by a vote of 0-6-2 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Vice Chair Miller and Committee Member Reps. McMullen, Morson, Nabel and Pendell opposed; Reps. Coleman and Figueroa abstaining).

A motion to approve Item No. 6 was made, seconded, and approved by a vote of 5-1-2 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Vice Chair Miller and Committee Member Reps. Morson, Nabel and Pendell in favor; Rep. Coleman opposed; Reps. Figueroa and McMullen abstaining).

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| 7. F30.434 | REVIEW; City Arrangements for Receiving Payments by Credit or Debit Card; "Convenience Fees" Applicable to Each; Companies Handling these Transactions, and Contract Terms.
04/06/21 – Submitted by Rep. de la Cruz | Report Made |
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Mr. Napolitano reviewed the [attached materials](#) with the Committee. The City is hoping that under the ERP, the City will be able to consolidate to 1 merchant and reduce the fees. The Tax Department's fees are lower than most other cities. New Haven may do all of their transactions through Webster Bank. The City is charged these convenience fees; it does not get any part of these fees. E-checks or debit cards have much lower costs than credit cards. He will compile a complete list of all merchants over the next few months. A review with WPCA is also planned.

A motion to hold Item No. 7 was made, seconded, and failed by a vote of 3-4-1 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Figueroa, and Nabel in favor; Reps. Miller, Coleman, McMullen and Morson opposed; Rep. Pendell and abstaining).

Chair Di Costanzo adjourned the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Monica Di Costanzo, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).