



Fiscal Committee - Board of Representatives

Monica Di Costanzo, Co-Chair

Lindsey Miller, Co-Chair

Committee Report

Date: Monday, October 24, 2022
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: *Democratic Caucus Room, 888 Washington Blvd, Stamford, CT, 4th Floor and remotely.*

The Fiscal Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Co-Chairs Miller and Di Costanzo and Committee Member Reps. Boeger (remotely), Coleman (remotely), Fedeli, Garst (remotely), Morson, Nabel (remotely), Pierre-Louis (remotely), and Tomas (remotely). Also present were Reps. Adams (remotely), Pavia (remotely), Summerville (remotely), and Walston (remotely); Anita Carpenter, Grants Administrator (remotely); Jody Bishop-Pullan, Director of Health (remotely); Lyda Ruijter, Town Clerk (remotely); Terry Drew, Youth Services Director (remotely); Elda Sinani, Lee Berta, and Tony Romano, OPM (all remotely); Kevin Murray, Director of Parks & Recreation (remotely); Sandra Dennies, Director of Administration (remotely); David Yanik, Controller (remotely); Frank Petise, Transportation, Traffic and Parking Bureau Chief (remotely); Michael Smith, BOE Director of Facilities Capital Projects (remotely); Assistant Chief Mike Robles, Stamford Fire Department.

Co-Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. F31.085	GRANTS RESOLUTION; Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into an Agreement with the State Department of Energy & Environmental Education related to the Mill River Park Phase 2 West Side [update to Resolution No. 3874]. 09/13/22 – Submitted by Anita Carpenter	Approved 10-0-0

Ms. Carpenter explained that the City received a \$2 million funding from the State Bond Commission flowing through DEEP. All this does is update the resolution from Mayor Martin to Mayor Simmons to update the agreement and proceed with the funding. A motion to approve Item No. 1 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Miller, Di Costanzo, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Garst, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor).

2. F31.101 \$39,021.00	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant funding to Implement Programming Related to Hypertension; Increase of Funds and Extend Project Period to 9/30/2023 (Source of Funds: 100% Grant Funded). 10/06/22 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons 10/13/22 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0	Approved 10-0-0
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Ms. Bishop-Pullan explained that this is a public health grant for preventive service in the community clinic. The grant was extended for an additional year and additional funds were awarded. A motion to approve Item No. 2 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous

voice vote (Reps. Miller, Di Costanzo, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Garst, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor).

3. [F31.086](#) **Approved 10-0-0**
\$34,750.92 ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget);
Town Clerk; Election Funding; Funding from the
CT Secretary of the State to Support Election
Activities - Website subsite; Contractor to Liaison
with Granicus for layout; Divider Wall; Wall Units;
Shelving; 3 Laptops; Printer; Automatic Envelope
Opener, and Supplies (Source of Funds: 100%
Grant Funded).
10/06/22 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
10/13/22 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0

Ms. Ruijter explained that this is a grant for the absentee ballot process. The funds will be used for continuing safety and processing. A motion to approve Item No. 3 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Miller, Di Costanzo, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Garst, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor).

4. [F31.087](#) **Approved 9-0-1**
\$480,956.15 ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget);
Homeland Security FY22/23; Subaward from State
for Region 1; City of Stamford receives \$50,000 to
act as Fiduciary Agent (Source of Funds: 100%
Grant Funded).
10/06/22 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
10/13/22 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0

Ms. Carpenter explained that this is an annual appropriation for region one for Homeland Security dollars. The funds are used for equipment purchases, training, the bomb squad, cyber security funds, ppe, barricades, etc. The city receives \$50,000 to serve as a fiduciary for the region. A motion to approve Item No. 4 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Miller, Di Costanzo, Coleman, Fedeli, Garst, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor; Rep. Boeger abstaining).

5. [F31.088](#) **Approved 10-0-0**
\$36,007.00 ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget);
Solid Waste and Recycling; NIPS Environmental
Fee; NIPS Surcharge Funding to Reduce Solid
Waste Generation or Impact of Litter from the Solid
Waste to be used for Contracted Partnership with
Local Community Organization for Litter Cleanups.
(Source of Funds: NIPS Surcharge).
10/06/22 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
10/13/22 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0

Ms. Carpenter stated that this is the first appropriation for these funds, to recycle the small NIPS bottles. Moving forward, this will be in the budget. Ms. Dennies noted that the use of these funds is limited to solid wasted clean up. A motion to approve Item No. 5 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Miller, Di Costanzo, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Garst, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor).

6. [F31.089](#)
\$46,118.00

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); Youth Services Bureau; Opioid Settlement; Funds from National Opioid Settlement must be used for Activities related to Prevention and Reduction of Opioid Use – Gap Filling Funding to Support Hiring of a P/T Seasonal and Purchase Program Supplies and Materials until Long Term Grant Funding is Awarded in July 2023. (Source of Funds: National Opioid Settlement).
10/06/22 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
10/13/22 – Approved by Board of Finance 5-1-0

Approved 10-0-0

Ms. Drew explained that there has been a huge uptick in opioid use and fentanyl, and the funds will be used to begin prevention initiatives for the city. A motion to approve Item No. 5 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Miller, Di Costanzo, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Garst, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor).

7. [F31.090](#)
\$77,510.00

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); BOE Project Accountant for School Construction; Funding for New Position to Focus on Funding of School Construction and Supporting Maximum Reimbursement for the BOE's Long-Term Facilities Plan (Source of Funds: Contingency).
10/06/22 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
10/13/22 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0

Approved 10-0-0

Ms. Dennies explained that the Board of Ed accountant position is being requested because the BOE is putting forth a long-term facilities plan which touches every single building in their system, and addresses all of the issues related to those buildings - systems, envelope, replacement, new construction and renovate as new. The costs for that program are exceptionally high. This accountant position will focus on the long-term facilities and will ensure that grant applications and materials are submitted to the State to provide for maximum reimbursement, and that the reimbursement is monitored. Anything that is grant funded can't be bonded. In addition, the Board of Ed also has other sources of Grant funds that will be used for the Long Term Facilities plan. This appropriation represents the salary for the December 1st through June 30th timeframe.

In response to questions from the Committee, Ms. Dennies and Mr. Yanik explained that this will be a union position with all benefits. The LTF plan is a 20-year plan, so it is better to have a municipal employee than hire a contractor. BOE transactions are processed through the City, so this appropriation is also processed through the City. The position will be included in next year's budget at about \$130,000. It will be difficult to find an accountant with municipal and grants experience. In order to receive reimbursement, you need to know what you can submit for reimbursement and monitor the reimbursement to make certain that they are reimbursing the same way that you have, in fact, submitted them. The six-month period after the completion of the project is the window that the State normally has to audit the project, but the State doesn't have a huge team of auditors. In some of the past the City has had to wait for auditors to be assigned to be reimbursed, now the City can hire independent auditors who can evaluate the reimbursement rates.

A motion to approve Item No. 7 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Miller, Di Costanzo, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Garst, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor).

8. [F31.091](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Hazardous Toxic Waste Spill; to Cover State Mandated Emergency Cleanup and Disposal of Hazardous Toxic Waste Spill at Facilities Maintenance Division (Source of Funds: Contingency). **Approved 8-0-0**
\$36,492.00
10/06/22 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
10/13/22 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0

Dr. Sinani explained that this appropriation is to cover the costs of a toxic waste spill at 185 Magee Avenue, building six. A motion to approve Item No. 8 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Miller, Di Costanzo, Boeger, Fedeli, Garst, Morson, Nabel, and Pierre-Louis in favor).

9. [F31.092](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Self-Sustaining Programs; To Fund City's Share of Adult Leagues (Source of Funds: Revenue). **Approved 10-0-0**
\$75,000.00
10/06/22 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
10/13/22 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0

Dr. Sinani and Mr. Murray explained that this appropriation is to cover the costs of increase use of the adult and youth leagues in the summer of 2022. A motion to approve Item No. 9 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Miller, Di Costanzo, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Garst, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor).

10. [F31.093](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); **Approved 10-0-0**
\$1,111,781.67
CP2755; Greenwich Ave at Pulaski St Roundabout; Request Increases Project Amount in Order to Accept Additional Funds from DOT. (Source of Funds: 100% State funded).
10/06/22 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
09/27/22 – Approved by [Planning Board](#)
10/13/22 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0

Mr. Petise explained that the City received 5 bids, all of which were above the previously approved amount. All were within 4%, and were high due to the increase in prices. The contract also includes amounts for contingencies and incidentals. This is 100% state funded. The work will probably begin in the spring. The total project cost is \$3.19 million. A motion to approve Item No. 10 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Miller, Di Costanzo, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Garst, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor).

11. F31.094 \$165,000.00	Additional Appropriation (Capital Budget); Cpbm14; Julia Stark – MTF Allocation of Utility Funded Rebate Associated with Roof Top Unit Replacement Project. 10/06/22 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons 09/27/22 – Approved by Planning Board 10/13/22 – Approved by Board of Finance 5-1-0	Approved 10-0-0
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Mr. Smith explained that this appropriation will allocate a utility funded rebate for 6 high efficiency units. One half of the qualified cost is being received. A motion to approve Item No. 11 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Miller, Di Costanzo, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Garst, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor).

12. F31.095 \$2,000,000.00	REJECTION; Capital Project Closeout Recommendation; C16012; City Wide Storm Drains; ARP Funds. 10/06/22 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons 09/27/22 – Approved by Planning Board 10/13/22 – To be Considered by Board of Finance 10/13/22 – WITHDRAWN	WITHDRAWN
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13. F31.096 \$2,000,000.00	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); C16012; City Wide Storm Drains; Reappropriation of ARP Closeout Funds for Installation and Replacement of Storm Drains, Catch Basins and Curbs. 10/06/22 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons 09/27/22 – Approved by Planning Board 10/13/22 – To be Considered by Board of Finance 10/13/22 – WITHDRAWN	WITHDRAWN
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14. F31.097 \$150,000.00	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); C63005; Fire Apparatus; Adjustment due to Market Increase in Apparatus Cost. (Source of Funds: Bond (City)). 10/06/22 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons 09/27/22 – Approved by Planning Board 10/13/22 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0	Approved 10-0-0
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Assistant Chief Robles explained that the planning to purchase a new truck began more than one year ago. At that time, they thought that \$1.7 million would be sufficient, but prices have increased and they have been told that more increases are coming. This will replace the current truck in the South End, which is from 2006. Trucks should be replaced every 15 years and will take 2 years to receive this truck. The department is concerned that the current truck may not last that long, in which case they will have to borrow a truck. They received a quote for \$1.829 million in July, so this appropriation should cover the entire cost. A motion to approve Item No. 14 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Miller, Di Costanzo, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Garst, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor).

15. [F31.098](#) RESOLUTION; Amending the Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 by Adding an Appropriation of \$150,000 for the Fire Apparatus Project and Authorizing \$150,000 General Obligation Bonds of the City to Meet Said Appropriation
10/06/22 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
10/13/22 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0 **Approved 10-0-0**

A motion to approve Item No. 15 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Miller, Di Costanzo, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Garst, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor).

16. [F31.099](#) \$100,000.00 ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); CP2351; East Side Fire Station; Cost of Remodeling Co-ed Bathroom has Exceeded Estimates. (Source of Funds: Bond (City)).
10/06/22 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
09/27/22 – Approved by [Planning Board](#)
10/13/22 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0 **Approved 8-0-2**

Assistant Chief Robles explained that this is the oldest fire station and only has a male bathroom. The goal is to have 2 bathrooms. The original plan was to spend \$200,000, but bids came in at \$300,000. The City engineer was asked to reconfigure the plans to reduce the costs. It was sent out to bid again, and, came back at just under \$300,000 due to recent price increases. The project was broken down into separate parts. The cost of the required asbestos abatement will come from another fund. This will require replacement of the plumbing to the street and moving of a wall of the gym, replacing the acoustic tiling, LED lighting and removing the carpeting to avoid contamination. A motion to approve Item No. 16 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Miller, Di Costanzo, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Morson, Nabel, and Pierre-Louis in favor; Reps. Garst and Tomas abstaining).

17. [F31.100](#) RESOLUTION; Amending the Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 by Adding an Appropriation of \$100,000 for the East Side Fire Station Project and Authorizing \$100,000 General Obligation Bonds of the City to Meet Said Appropriation
09/20/22 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
10/13/22 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0 **Approved 8-0-2**

A motion to approve Item No. 17 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Miller, Di Costanzo, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Morson, Nabel, and Pierre-Louis in favor; Reps. Garst and Tomas abstaining).

A motion to reconvene this meeting at a date yet to be determined in order to take up potential items from the Grants office was made, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Miller, Di Costanzo, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Morson, Nabel, and Pierre-Louis in favor; Reps. Garst and Tomas abstaining).

Co-Chair Miller recessed the meeting at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lindsey Miller, Co-Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).