



Fiscal Committee - Board of Representatives

Sean Boeger, Co-Chair

Lindsey Miller, Co-Chair

Committee Report

Date: Wednesday, December 27, 2023
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: *This meeting was held in the Democratic Caucus Room, 888 Washington Blvd, Stamford, CT, 4th Floor and remotely.*

The Fiscal Committee met as indicated above. In attendance in person were Co-Chair Miller and Committee Member Rep. Morson. In attendance remotely were Co-Chair Boeger and Committee Member Reps. Camporeale, Fedeli, Figueroa, and Graham. Excused were Committee Member Reps. Goldberg, Pierre-Louis, Shaw, and Tomas. Also present in person were Ben Barnes, Director of Administration and Anthony Romano, OPM. Also present remotely were Reps. Adams and Summerville; Jody Bishop-Pullan, Director of Health; Dan Colleluori, Director of Recycling and Sanitation; Bill Maguire, Assistant Director OPM; Lindsey Cohen, Associate Planner; Chris Dellaselva, Law Department; Jennifer Henkind, M.D., and Caryn Furst.

Co-Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. F31.309 \$433,342.00	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); Health Department has Received an Award from the State Department of Public Health for a Workforce Development Grant to Strengthen Public Health Workforce and Infrastructure (Source of Funds: 100% State Grant) 11/28/23 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons 12/14/23 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0	Approved 6-0-1

Ms. Bishop-Pullan explained that the CDC has given money to the States to boost public health infrastructure and workforce. The States are required to allocate the funds to cities based on size and population. The funds will be used to hire staff and provide training. This position will be focused on specific projects and will last for the duration of the grant. Additional sources of funds would need to be found for the position to remain.

A motion to approve Item No. 1 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Boeger, Miller, Camporeale, Fedeli, Graham, and Morson in favor; Rep. Figueroa abstaining).

2. F31.304	GRANTS RESOLUTION; Authorizing the Mayor to enter into and Sign Agreements with the CT Department of Public Health for a Workforce Development Grant. 11/29/23 - Submitted by Mayor Simmons	Approved 7-0-0
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A motion to approve Item No. 2 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Boeger, Miller, Camporeale, Fedeli, Figueroa, Graham, and Morson in favor).

3. [F31.310](#) \$439,411.00 ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); Health Department has Received an Award from the State Department of Public Health to Develop and Implement Vaccine Educational Campaigns and Media Outreach to Promote Vaccine Confidence, Address Vaccine Hesitancy, and Promote Vaccine Equity (Source of Funds: 100% State Grant) **Approved 7-0-0**
12/04/23 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
12/14/23 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0

Ms. Bishop-Pullan explained that this is money from the State to support COVID, flu and childhood immunizations. There is currently a lack of providers, and the department has been picking up the slack. The administrative part of this grant will be contracted. There is currently an RFP for this. Education will also be contracted. Staff will be paid for overtime.

A motion to approve Item No. 3 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Boeger, Miller, Camporeale, Fedeli, Figueroa, Graham, and Morson in favor).

4. [F31.305](#) GRANTS RESOLUTION; Authorizing the Mayor to enter into and Sign Agreements with the CT Department of Public Health for the Immunization and Vaccines for Children Project. **Approved 7-0-0**
11/29/23 - Submitted by Mayor Simmons

A motion to approve Item No.4 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Boeger, Miller, Camporeale, Fedeli, Figueroa, Graham, and Morson in favor).

5. [F31.308](#) \$2,016,940.78 ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); 001380; SWIFR Food Waste Collection/Composting and Sustainability Project (Source of Funds: 100% Federal Grant) **Approved 7-0-0**
11/29/23 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
11/08/23 – Approved by [Planning Board](#)
12/14/23 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0

Mr. Colleluori explained that this is a three-year grant to purchase 4 waste processing machines and a truck and to provide part-time staff to collect the waste. There will be 52 neighborhood containers. Stamford is one of three municipalities in the northeast to get this grant.

The drop-off program has been very successful. In 2 years, it went from 40,000 lbs. to 85,000 lbs. They are hoping that with this grant, collections will increase to 500,000 lbs. per year. The main goal is sustainability, but this will also save the city money. The grant will fund marketing, capital equipment, staffing and public education.

Dr. Henkind stated that food waste is 1/3 of the garbage collection in the city and this will mitigate carting to other cities. The current program is popular with residents.

Ms. Furst explained that this grant will overcome the challenges of the current program for making the program more convenient.

A motion to approve Item No.5 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Boeger, Miller, Camporeale, Fedeli, Figueroa, Graham, and Morson in favor).

6. [F31.306](#) GRANTS RESOLUTION; Authorizing the Mayor to enter into and Sign Agreements with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) Grant Program
11/29/23 - Submitted by Mayor Simmons **Approved 7-0-0**

A motion to approve Item No.6 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Boeger, Miller, Camporeale, Fedeli, Figueroa, Graham, and Morson in favor).

7. [F31.284](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Fire Wage Retro Payout; Request to Appropriate Funds to Fund Fire Retro Wage Increase Obligations for FY18/19 – FY22/23 per a Recent Contract Settlement (Source of Funds: Fund Balance).
\$7,371,066.00
10/30/23 - Submitted by Mayor Simmons
11/09/23 – Held by Board of Finance 6-0-0
11/27/23 – No Action Taken by Committee
12/14/23 – Held by Board of Finance **No Action Taken**

8. [F31.288](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Fire Wage Increase FY23/24; Request to Appropriate Funds per the Increased Obligations for FY23/24 per a Recent Contract Settlement (Source of Funds: Contingency).
\$4,461,103.00
10/30/23 - Submitted by Mayor Simmons
11/09/23 – Held by Board of Finance 6-0-0
11/27/23 – No Action Taken by Committee
12/14/23 – Held by Board of Finance **No Action Taken**

9. [F31.313](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); MAA Wage Increase FY23/24; Request to Appropriate Funds per the Increased Obligations for FY23/24 per a Recent Contract Settlement (Source of Funds: Contingency).
\$540,606.00
12/01/23 - Submitted by Ben Barnes
12/14/23 – Held by Board of Finance **No Action Taken**

10. [F31.314](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Police Wage Retro Payout; Request to Appropriate Funds to Fund Police Retro Wage Increase Obligations for FY22/23 per a Recent Contract Settlement (Source of Funds: Fund Balance).
\$1,047,321.00
12/01/23 - Submitted by Ben Barnes
12/14/23 – Held by Board of Finance **No Action Taken**

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| 11. F31.315
\$2,203,914.00 | ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Police Wage Increase FY23/24; Request to Appropriate Funds per the Increased Obligations for FY23/24 per a Recent Contract Settlement (Source of Funds: Contingency).
12/01/23 - Submitted by Ben Barnes
12/14/23 – Held by Board of Finance | No Action Taken |
| 12. F31.312
\$1,500,000.00 | ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Transfers from General Fund Balance to Reserve for Contingency due to Higher Than Anticipated Wage Increase Impact from Recent Union Contract Settlements.
12/06/23 - Submitted by Mayor Simmons
12/14/23 – Held by Board of Finance | No Action Taken |
| 13. F31.316
\$418,803.02 | ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Additional Spending Authority for Prior Year Purchase Orders; Carry-Over of Purchase Orders due to Delayed Implementation of ERP (Source of Funds: Fund Balance).
12/04/23 - Submitted by Mayor Simmons
12/14/23 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0 | Approved 6-0-1 |

Mr. Maguire explained that this is an appropriation of funds for FY22-23 purchase orders to carry them into FY23-24 due to delayed implementation of the ERP. These are all timing related items which were budgeted and then moved into fund balance as unspent.

A motion to approve Item No.13 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Boeger, Miller, Camporeale, Fedeli, Figueroa, and Morson in favor; Rep. Graham abstaining).

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| 14. F31.307
\$199,074.00 | ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); CP0042; Master Plan; 10-year Comprehensive Plan, including an update to the Stamford Affordable Housing Plan and to Address Data Collection needs of the City's Community Development Department to update the Consolidated Plan and create the Equity Action Plan (Source of Funds: City Bonds).
12/06/23 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
12/12/23 – To be Considered by Planning Board
12/14/23 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0 | Approved 4-0-3 |
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Ms. Cohen explained that under State law, the Planning Board is required to amend or prepare and adopt the plan of conservation and development for Stamford every 10 years. The plan in Stamford is the Master Plan. This is a request for funding for the decennial update. There is \$250,000 in the budget, but given the efficiencies of collecting data for 3 other state mandated plans and community engagement, they are seeking an additional \$200,000. The four topics they wish to address in the comprehensive plan are housing affordability, by updating the 2022 housing plan; sustainability and resiliency; diversity, equity, and inclusion; and mobility issues. Community engagement is expected to be a major cost driver.

A motion to approve Item No.14 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Miller, Fedeli, Graham, and Morson in favor; Reps. Boeger, Camporeale, and Figueroa, abstaining).

15. [F31.311](#) RESOLUTION; Amending the Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 by adding an Appropriation of \$199,074 for the Master Plans Project and Authorizing \$199,074 General Obligation Bonds of the City to Meet Said Appropriation. **Approved 5-0-2**
12/06/23 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
12/14/23 – Approved by Board of Finance 5-1-0

Mr. Barnes explained that the City is not planning to issue bonds until the summer of 2024, in FY24-25, based upon projections of cash needs for the capital program. There is adequate bond cash to support programs going on now.

A motion to approve Item No.15 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Miller, Fedeli, Figueroa, Graham, and Morson in favor; Reps. Boeger, and Camporeale abstaining).

16. [F31.317](#) APPROVAL; Agreement between City of Stamford and Milliman, Inc. for Actuarial Services under RFP No. 2023.0088 [Cost of Services: 2023-24: \$136,800, 2024-25: \$142,700, 2025-26: \$148,400, 2026-27: \$154,400, 2027-28: \$160,500, 2028-29: \$166,900, 2029-30: \$173,000]. **Approved 5-0-2**
12/01/23 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
12/14/23 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0

Mr. Barnes explained that this is a contract for actuarial valuations of pension plans, OPEB and other services, such as collective bargaining agreements. There was an RFP issued and Milliman was selected as the best consultant for the City. The contract is for 5 years with 2 one-year options for extensions. The prior contract was extended without a pre-agreed price; this price was negotiated to guarantee the cost. This price reflects the inflationary environment and the difficulty of actuarial firms in hiring a qualified workforce.

A motion to approve Item No.16 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Boeger, Miller, Camporeale, Figueroa, and Morson in favor; Reps. Fedeli and Graham abstaining).

Co-Chair Miller adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lindsey Miller, Co-Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).