Fiscal Committee -
Board of Representatives

Eric B. Morson, Co-Chair Andrew Zachary, Co-Chair

Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, November 23, 2026
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 were Committee Co-Chairs Zachary and Morson, and Committee Member Reps. Bouchard, de la Cruz, Dorsey, *Goldberg, *Graham Johnson and Lapine. No committee members were absent or excused.
(*arrived after Item 3 vote at 7:04 p.m.)

Also in attendance were ex-officio member Rep. Adams, and City staff and administration members Ann Brown, Supervising Engineer, WPCA; William Brink, Executive Director, WPCA; Jody Bishop-Pullan, Director, Health Department; Lou DeRubeis, Director, Public Safety, Health & Welfare; Lt. Christopher Felman-Merced, Stamford Police Department; Sgt. Jeffrey Booth, Stamford Police Department; Edward Browne, Stamford EMS; Luke Buttenwieser, Senior Transportation Planner, Transportation Department; Thomas Turk, Director, Transportation Department; Katherine LoBalbo, Director, BOE School Construction; Tony Romano, Director, Administration; and members of the public.

Co-Chair Morson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. F32.092	**APPROVAL**; of an agreement with Graviton Consulting Services to provide support and optimization services for the City's Oracle Cloud platforms Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Program 06/18/2026 –Submitted by Mayor Simmons 07/09/2026 – Held by Board of Finance 6-0-0 07/27/2026 – No Action Taken by Committee 08/03/2026 – No Action Taken by Board 08/12/2026 – Approved by Board of Finance 4-0-0 08/24/2026 – Recommitted to Steering by Committee 8-0-0 09/28/2026 – Recommitted to Steering by Committee 7-0-0 **10/26/2026 – Held by the Administration**	***WITHDRAWN***

Co-Chair Morson stated for the record that Item No. 1 (F32.092) had been withdrawn by the administration. There was no action on this item.

2. F32.131 $44,546.00	**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (GRANT);** for the Stamford Police Department Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Instructor Grant to cover overtime, FICA, and travel expenses	**APPROVED BY COMMITTEE 7-0-0**

associated with DRE and ARIDE training courses; Grant funded with no City funds required
10/15/2026 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
11/12/2026 – To be considered by the Board of Finance
11/12/2026 – Approved by Board of Finance 4-0-0

A motion to approve Item No. 2 (F32.131) was made, seconded, and Co-Chair Morson invited Sergeant Booth to speak about the item.

Sergeant Booth stated the item was for the Police Department's sole DRE instructor (Officer Corey Fisher) to go around the state, teaching different ARIDE training classes which hare mandatory for newer officers. The funds will cover his travel, his overtime, hist straight time and expenses incurred when he teaches. There was no discussion after his summary.

Item F32.131 was approved via a unanimous voice vote of 7-0-0 (Co-Chairs Morson and Zachary and Committee Reps. Bouchard, de la Cruz, Dorsey, Johnson and Lapine approved).

3. F32.132	**RESOLUTION;** Authorizing the Mayor to sign an Agreement with the CT Department of Transportation for financial assistance for the 2027 Drug Recognition Expert Instruction Project. 10/09/2026 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons	**APPROVED BY COMMITTEE 7-0-0**

A motion to approve Item No. 3 (F32.132) was made, seconded, and there was no discussion prior to the vote. This item is the accompanying resolution for Item No. 2 (F32.131).

Item F32.132 was approved via a unanimous voice vote of 7-0-0 (Co-Chairs Morson and Zachary and Committee Reps. Bouchard, de la Cruz, Dorsey, Johnson and Lapine approved).

4. F32.133 $25,000.00	**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (GRANT);** for the Health Departments Project Champion Grant to implement, sustain and enhance substance use prevention initiatives targeting youth in Stamford; 100% funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration 10/30/2026 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons **11/12/2026 – To be considered by the Board of Finance**	**APPROVED BY COMMITTEE 9-0-0**

A motion to approve Item No. 4 (F32.133) was made, seconded, and Co-Chair Morson invited Director Bishop-Pullan to speak about the item. Prior to the presentation starting, Committee Member Rep. Goldberg announced he had joined the meeting (at 7:04 p.m.), and staff noted to the Co-Chairs that Committee Member Rep. Graham also joined the meeting (at 7:04 p.m.).

Director Bishop-Pullan stated this is the second year of this grant program, which provides information and screening tools for preventing substance use and co-occurring disorders with mental health. The Health Department works with partners and some staff time is being charged to the project, but there is no additional staff. After the presentation, there was brief discussion, where some questions from committee members were answered.

Item F32.133 was approved via a unanimous voice vote of 9-0-0 (Co-Chairs Morson and Zachary and Committee Reps. Bouchard, de la Cruz, Dorsey, Goldberg, Graham, Johnson and Lapine approved).

5. F32.134 — **RESOLUTION;** Authorizing the Mayor to sign an Agreement with Child Health and Development Institute (CHDI) for Project Champion
10/22/2026 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE 9-0-0

A motion to approve Item No. 5 (F32.134) was made, seconded, and there was no discussion prior to the vote. This item is the accompanying resolution for Item No. 4 (F32.133).

Item F32.134 was approved via a unanimous voice vote of 9-0-0 (Co-Chairs Morson and Zachary and Committee Reps. Bouchard, de la Cruz, Dorsey, Goldberg, Graham, Johnson and Lapine approved).

6. F32.135
$90,307.00 — **ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (GRANT);** for the Police Depart. 2026 Port Security Grant to purchase a Mini-Caliber robotic response system to assess, investigate and mitigate potential threats within the Port of Stamford; protection critical maritime infrastructure and transportation system
10/15/2026 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
11/12/2026 – To be considered by the Board of Finance
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE 9-0-0

A motion to approve Item No. 6 (F32.135) was made, seconded, and Co-Chair Morson invited Lieutenant Felman-Merced to speak about the item.

Lieutenant Felman-Merced introduced himself to the committee as being part of the Bomb Squad and stated the item was for equipment to help both the bomb technicians, the public and first responders to stay safe and at a safe distance while handling explosive hazards. The purchase is for new equipment which will work with the existing equipment to provide extended range. There was brief discussion prior to the vote.

Item F32.135 was approved via a unanimous voice vote of 9-0-0 (Co-Chairs Morson and Zachary and Committee Reps. Bouchard, de la Cruz, Dorsey, Goldberg, Graham, Johnson and Lapine approved).

7. F32.136 — **RESOLUTION;** Authorizing the Mayor to sign an Agreement with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for the 2026 Port Security Grant Program
10/09/2026 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE 9-0-0

A motion to approve Item No. 7 (F32.136) was made, seconded, and Co-Chair Morson invited Director Romano to speak about the item.

Director Romano stated the item was for an appropriation that was approved a while ago under the prior Board. This item is to have the resolution to accompany it so the administration can sign off on the grant. There was no discussion prior to the vote.

Item F32.136 was approved via a unanimous voice vote of 9-0-0 (Co-Chairs Morson and Zachary and Committee Reps. Bouchard, de la Cruz, Dorsey, Goldberg, Graham, Johnson and Lapine approved).

8. F32.137 — **RESOLUTION;** Authorizing the Mayor to enter into and sign agreements with the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) for the Toilsome Brook Area Flood Resilience Project
10/27/2026 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE 9-0-0

A motion to approve Item No. 8 (F32.137) was made, seconded, and Co-Chair Morson invited Director Romano to speak about the item.

Director Romano stated the item was for an appropriation that was approved a while ago under the prior Board. This item is to have the resolution to accompany it so the administration can sign off on the grant. There was no discussion prior to the vote.

Item F32.137 was approved via a unanimous voice vote of 9-0-0 (Co-Chairs Morson and Zachary and Committee Reps. Bouchard, de la Cruz, Dorsey, Goldberg, Graham, Johnson and Lapine approved).

9. F32.138	**REJECTION;** of capital closeout recommendations of projects: C16012 and CP4000068 totaling ~~$117,115.62~~ **$177,115.62** 10/28/2026 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons **11/12/2026 – To be considered by the Board of Finance**	**NO ACTION TAKEN**

Co-Chair Morson read Item No. 9 (F32.138) into the record. There was no motion made and no action taken on Item No. 9, (F32.138) by the Committee.

There was a note that the dollar amount listed in the item, $117,115.62, was incorrect, and the correct dollar amount is $177,115.62. Staff noted this and corrected the dollar amount in the minutes.

10. F32.139 $177,115.62	**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (CAPITAL);** Project: C56182 Street Patch & Resurfacing; Changing funding sources due to either ineligible ARP expenses or project completion 10/27/2026 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons **11/10/2026 – Unanimously recommended by the Planning Board** **11/12/2026 – To be considered by the Board of Finance** **11/12/2026 – Approved by Board of Finance 4-0-0**	**APPROVED BY COMMITTEE 9-0-0**

A motion to approve Item No. 10 (F32.139) was made, seconded, and Co-Chair Morson invited Director Romano to speak about the item.

Director Romano stated that Item Nos. 9 and 10 are related and are moving ARP funds from one project to another due to either ineligible ARP expenses or project completion. There was no discussion prior to the vote.

Item F32.139 was approved via a unanimous voice vote of 9-0-0 (Co-Chairs Morson and Zachary and Committee Reps. Bouchard, de la Cruz, Dorsey, Goldberg, Graham, Johnson and Lapine approved).

11. F32.140 $3,500,000.00	**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (CAPITAL);** Project: C22046 Perna Lane Area Sewers: Special Revenue: Water Pollution Control; for increases in costs due to unknown extent of rock excavation discovered during construction 10/23/2026 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons **11/10/2026 – Unanimously recommended by the Planning Board** **11/12/2026 – To be considered by the Board of Finance** **11/12/2026 – Approved by Board of Finance 4-0-0**	**APPROVED BY COMMITTEE 9-0-0**

A motion to approve Item No. 11 (F32.140) was made, seconded, and Co-Chair Morson invited Director Brink and Ms. Brown to speak about the item.

Ms. Brown gave a brief presentation on the item, explaining the additional cost was due to the additional rock discovered at the excavation site. After the item summary was completed, there was discussion between Ms. Brown, Director Brink and the committee members regarding the item.

Item F32.140 was approved via a unanimous voice vote of 9-0-0 (Co-Chairs Morson and Zachary and Committee Reps. Bouchard, de la Cruz, Dorsey, Goldberg, Graham, Johnson and Lapine approved).

12. F32.141 $500,000.00	**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (CAPITAL);** Project: CP6904 WPCA Major Replacement; Water Pollution Control; For increased cost of equipment replacement including rebuilding one (1) belt filter press 10/23/2026 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons **11/10/2026 – Unanimously recommended by the Planning Board** **11/12/2026 – To be considered by the Board of Finance** **11/12/2026 – Approved by Board of Finance 4-0-0**	**APPROVED BY COMMITTEE 9-0-0**

A motion to approve Item No. 12 (F32.141) was made, seconded, and Co-Chair Morson invited Director Brink and Ms. Brown to speak about the item.

Director Brink gave a summation of the item, explaining the item is a recurring capital project to rebuild the equipment to extend its working life. This rehabilitation of the pump's bilge filter press is close to a half a million dollars due to inflation, as the costs of equipment have gone up far higher than the normal Consumer Price Index.

After the item summary was completed, there was some discussion regarding the pricing of the equipment. Item F32.141 was approved via a unanimous voice vote of 9-0-0 (Co-Chairs Morson and Zachary and Committee Reps. Bouchard, de la Cruz, Dorsey, Goldberg, Graham, Johnson and Lapine approved).

13. F32.142 $2,314,195.34	**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (CAPITAL);** Project: CP4000030 Microtransit Program; Traffic Engineering; Additional State funding for the City of StamFOWARD Microtransit Service to continue with the existing service area and operations 10/15/2026 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons **10/27/2026 – Unanimously Recommended by Planning Board** **11/12/2026 – To be considered by the Board of Finance** **11/12/2026 – Approved by Board of Finance 4-0-0**	**APPROVED BY COMMITTEE 9-0-0**

A motion to approve Item No. 13 (F32.142) was made, seconded, and Co-Chair Morson invited either Director Turk or Mr. Buttenwieser to speak about the item.

Mr. Buttenwieser gave a summation of the item. StamFORWARD is the microtransit service funded by the State of Connecticut's Department of Transportation. It's been in operations for 2 years and has provided just around 150,000 rides on the service. It is a mix of bus style service and a ride-share/Uber style service, where a user goes to their phone and calls the service center to request a ride. The service center then sends a Stamford van to pick you up within the service area. The service is available Monday through Sunda from 6 a.m. through 8 p.m., and the small fee for the service is $1.75, which is tied to the current bus fare. This item is to request additional funding from

the State to continue the operations moving forward. There are no city dollars that go into this program.

After the item summary was completed, there was no discussion. Item F32.142 was approved via a unanimous voice vote of 9-0-0 (Co-Chairs Morson and Zachary and Committee Reps. Bouchard, de la Cruz, Dorsey, Goldberg, Graham, Johnson and Lapine approved).

14. F32.143 $33,913.00	**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (CAPITAL);** Project: CP4000040 SEMS Vine Road Trailer; Emergency Communications Center; Replacement of SEMS Medic 4 Trailer on Vine Road; currently under severe disrepair and is manned 24 hours a day; removal of old and replacement 10/26/2026 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons **10/27/2026 – Unanimously Recommended by Planning Board** **11/12/2026 – To be considered by the Board of Finance** **11/12/2026 – Approved by Board of Finance 4-0-0**	**APPROVED BY COMMITTEE 9-0-0**

A motion to approve Item No. 14 (F32.143) was made, seconded, and Co-Chair Morson invited Director DeRubeis to speak about the item.

Director DeRubeis gave a summation of the item. The trailer, Medic 4 station, is one of their primary locations that the department deploys out of for emergency medical responses and is in very poor condition. The replacement project stated about 10 years ago, but the COVID pandemic caused the project to be delayed. It was picked up again a few years ago, and in 2025, they were approved for capital funds of $305,000. It was put out for RFP, at which time they were looking for a more permanent structure, but the responses came in way over budget. The project was put out for rebid once again and they were able to find a manufacturer that is willing to work with them for $287,000. They have a balance of $253,086 in the account, based on the original work done by Engineering to try to make that a permanent structure. This created the shortage of $34,000 to complete the project. There was a private contribution of $33,913 to the Stamford EMS Board, so they are here to request use of those funds. Mr. Browne stated that the Board also approved the use of these donated funds previously via a vote to allocate the donated funds to the City so the project can be completed.

After the item summary was completed, there was no discussion. Item F32.143 was approved via a unanimous voice vote of 9-0-0 (Co-Chairs Morson and Zachary and Committee Reps. Bouchard, de la Cruz, Dorsey, Goldberg, Graham, Johnson and Lapine approved).

15. F32.144 $1,200,000.00	**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (CAPITAL);** Project: CP4000094 Construction and Engineering Services for Alvord Lane & Commerce Pump Station Upgrades; WPCA; cost estimate has been revised 10/23/2026 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons **11/10/2026 – Unanimously recommended by the Planning Board** **11/12/2026 – To be considered by the Board of Finance** **11/12/2026 – Approved by Board of Finance 4-0-0**	**APPROVED BY COMMITTEE 9-0-0**

A motion to approve Item No. 15 (F32.144) was made, seconded, and Co-Chair Morson invited Ms. Brown to speak about the item.

Ms. Brown gave a summation of the item, stating the item is to increase the funding authorization from the current $6.5 million to the estimated total cost for the project of $7.6 million so the project for the two pump stations on Alvord Lane and on Commerce Road can go out to bid.

After her brief summary, there was no discussion. Item F32.144 was approved via a unanimous voice vote of 9-0-0 (Co-Chairs Morson and Zachary and Committee Reps. Bouchard, de la Cruz, Dorsey, Goldberg, Graham, Johnson and Lapine approved).

16. F32.145 $101,441.99	**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (CAPITAL);** Project: CP4000100 Springdale - LTFP DM/AR Grants - BOE - Accessible restroom renovation, including two single user restrooms adjacent to the cafeteria and multi-fixture restrooms on the ground floor 10/30/2026 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons **11/10/2026 – Unanimously recommended by the Planning Board** **11/12/2026 – To be considered by the Board of Finance** **11/12/2026 – Approved by Board of Finance 4-0-0**	**APPROVED BY COMMITTEE 9-0-0**

A motion to approve Item No. 16 (F32.145) was made, seconded, and Co-Chair Morson invited Director LoBalbo to speak about the item.

Director LoBalbo gave a summation of the item, stating the appropriation was for a legal settlement and not due to an increase in construction costs.

After her summary, there was no discussion. Item F32.145 was approved via a unanimous voice vote of 9-0-0 (Co-Chairs Morson and Zachary and Committee Reps. Bouchard, de la Cruz, Dorsey, Goldberg, Graham, Johnson and Lapine approved).

Co-Chair Morson adjourned the meeting at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric B. Morson, Co-Chair

This meeting is available on video.