

April 25, 2006

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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The Committee on Finance convened on April 25, 2006, with Chairman William White presiding and Committee Members Aldermen Dennis Sullivan and Robert Trane also present and voting. Also present were Alderman William Roche, Communications Director Tom Champion, Mike Lambert from the Mayor's Office, Finance director Ed Bean, Superintendent of Schools Tony Pierantozzi, Tom Rowe, Peter McManus and Dan Petersen from NTI Group and Brendan Cotter from CTY.

Mr. Cotter made a presentation to the committee highlighting the following features of the Connect-CTY system:

- time based communication that is able to send 1000-1500 communications per minute
- system may be operated via the web or remotely from the field
- may be used to transmit any type of communication, in various languages to various groups, as determined by the user
- returns a report, in a matter of minutes, of the delivered calls, non-deliverable calls, answering machines reached, etc.
- a history of each message sent is built and stored for every household/business
- a record of every message that is created is stored for reuse or reference
- 50% of school districts in MA are using some type of Connect-CTY product
- the company has provided their service to government agencies and the military
- the system has been tested under stressed conditions with success
- 3 types of communication are possible: community outreach, priority communication and survey
- each record is capable of storing 3 phone numbers and 2 email addresses
- phone numbers are updated monthly, aggregated from over 200 sources, with first land-line number being provided by CTY
- system is interfaced with a GIS system, increasing the level of accuracy

- algorithms are used to differentiate the difference between an analog and digital voice mail systems, with a 95% success rate

The cost for the system during FY-07 would be \$88,500 for the city side and \$15,300 for the school side for a total of \$103,800. This amount is after the initial \$5,000 set up cost for the school side.

The committee discussed matters before it and took action on the following item:

#180611: Communication from Mayor - Requesting a transfer of \$29,199 from ISD Salaries Acct. to Communications Professional and Technical Services Acct. to fund the Connect-CTY service system from April 1, to June 30, 2006.

RECOMMENDATION: Should be approved

VOTE: Roll call vote: 2 in favor, 1 against, 2 absent

Alderman William A. White, Jr., Chairman
Committee on Finance

COMMITTEE REPORT

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In Board of Aldermen

Clerk