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July 9, 2008

### **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

The Committee on Finance convened on July 9, 2008, with Chairman Maryann Heuston presiding and Committee Members Aldermen Bruce Desmond, Walter Pero and John Connolly also present and voting. Also present were Police Chief Anthony Holloway, Jessie Baker from the Mayor's Office, DPW Commissioner Stan Koty, Water Superintendent Carol Antonelli, Ginger Barrett from the DPW, Monica Lamboy, Mark Friedman from SPCD, John Auferio from the SPD, Robert Collins and David Shapiro from the Solicitor's Office, Stephanie Hirsch from SomerStat and Finance Director Ed Bean.

#### **185952 - FY 09 Capital Investment Plan**

Ms. Lamboy spoke about the funds available from the State Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) and told the members that the city would fund 20% of the cost of the Union Square traffic/transportation study and the state would fund the remaining 80%. Chairman Heuston asked Ms. Lamboy to address the full Board of Aldermen at this week's meeting and Alderman Connolly requested that a summary be provided on the matter.

#### **185945 - Superior Officers retro adjustment**

Mr. Collins spoke about the contract settlement and noted that the union members have agreed to pay a larger portion of their health care premiums.

#### **185951 - Trade mark agreement for replica of City's new ladder Truck**

Mr. Shapiro spoke about the request of a company, TWH Collectibles, to make a scale replica of the city's new Seagrave tractor-drawn Aerial Ladder Truck. Chairman Heuston asked if any other communities have these replicas and what their compensation was. The committee members have some concerns regarding this matter and will hold the item for future action.

#### **185830 - Bond for water meters**

Ms. Antonelli spoke about the purchase and installation of new, tamper proof water meters and said that the project would take approximately 18 months to complete and noted that the software is already in place. The new meters would allow the city to obtain a usage history for any residence and to perform daily

checks of usage, thereby alerting the city, and in turn the residence, of potential problems such as an undetected water leak. Additionally, residents would also be able to access their usage information via the internet.

The committee discussed matters before it and took action on the following 13 items:

**182607:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval of a \$400,000 appropriation for Building Improvements to the High School to remediate the fuel oil release from two underground storage tanks, and authorization to borrow \$400,000 with a bond.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be placed on file

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 4 - 0 in favor

**183515:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting an appropriation of \$158,040,021 to fund the operating budget for the city for FY 2008.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be placed on file

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 4 - 0 in favor

**183642:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval to transfer \$50,000 from the Health Insurance Acct. to the Damage to Persons and Property Judgments/Settlements of Claims Acct. to satisfy claims against the City for the remainder of FY07.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be placed on file

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 4 - 0 in favor

**184488:** Communication - Tax Collector requesting approval of her Tax Collector Public Official Bond.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be placed on file

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 4 - 0 in favor

**184726:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval of a 1-year extension of the recycling contract with Casella Waste (aka FCR Recycling)

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be placed on file

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 4 - 0 in favor

**185314:** Communication - Director of SPCD submitting information regarding Finance and Administration Division staffing.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be placed on file

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 4 - 0 in favor

**185713:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval to expend a grant of \$101,000 from the MA Dept. of Public Health to the Public Health Dept. to subsidize the School Nursing Program.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 4 - 0 in favor

**185774:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting an appropriation of \$165,097,540 to

fund the operating budget for the city for FY 2009.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be placed on file

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 4 - 0 in favor

**185775:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting an appropriation of \$14,720,719 to fund the Sewer Enterprise Fund budget for FY 2009.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be placed on file

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 4 - 0 in favor

**185830:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval to appropriate \$4,400,000 to purchase and install water meters and authorize issuance of a bond to meet the appropriation.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 4 - 0 in favor

**185945:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting a transfer of \$267,825 from the Salary Contingency Acct. to the Police Salaries Acct. for retroactive adjustments under the Agreement with the Police Superior Officers Assn.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 4 - 0 in favor

**185947:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting a transfer of \$14,831 from the Salary Contingency Acct. to the Office of Sustainability and Environment Salaries Acct. to fund the new Director's revised salary of \$80,000.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 4 - 0 in favor

**185949:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval for a donation of \$8,000 from Federal Realty Investment Trust for Youth Summer Jobs Programming and other summer programs.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 4 - 0 in favor

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

Report of the Committee on Finance, July 9,  
2008

In Board of Aldermen

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Clerk