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September 23, 2009

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

The Committee on Finance convened on September 23, 2009, with Chairman Maryann Heuston presiding and Committee Members Aldermen Bruce M. Desmond, John Connolly, Walter Pero and William White also present and voting. Also present were Administrative Assistant Matt Dias, Assistant City Solicitors David Shapiro and Matt Buckley, DPW Commissioner Stan Koty, Personnel Director Jessie Baker, Monica Lamboy from SPCD, Project Manager Jerry Boyle, Deputy Police Chief Paul Upton, Finance Director Ed Bean and interested members of the public.

**187978 - an ordinance regarding weeds, grass and overgrowth:**

Mr. Shapiro discussed the proposal with the committee and will examine the legality of it as well as how it deals with trees and overgrowth on public ways.

**187979 - increasing the salary for the vacant Planning Director position from \$66,276, to \$73,000:**

Ms. Lamboy told the members that in order to attract a qualified candidate for this position, the salary needs to be increased.

**187985 - \$156,117 from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance program:**

**188118 - \$37,942 from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Program:**

Deputy Chief Upton told the members that the funds would be used to purchase facial composite sketching software and a digital finger printer. Funding would also be allotted for additional training for police officers and for a part-time victim witness advocate for domestic violence and abuse cases.

187986 - acceptance of \$7,500 from the MA Board of Library Commissioners:

**188075 - appropriation of \$20,000 to establish the Max-Pak Stabilization Fund:**

**188076 - acceptance of \$30,000 from 56 Clyde St. LLC and 61 Clyde St. LLC:**

Ms. Lamboy told the members that these payments were part of the covenant between the developer and the city. The \$30,000 payment will be put into the Gift Revolving Account.

**188077 - acceptance of \$5,000 from Royal Hospitality Services:**

Since the wording of this grant does not specify that it is for mitigation in Ward 2, the funds will be put into the Gift Revolving Account.

**188117 - acceptance of \$85,000 from Spectra Energy - Algonquin Gas:**

Commissioner Koty told the members that Spectra will pay for the installation of a raised table on Fellsway West.

**Argenziano School Update:**

Mr. Boyle spoke about the unfinished work at the Argenziano School and told the members that the HVAC system has been completed. Chairman Heuston asked for an updated punch list, with updated payment

amounts and close out figures and for the original estimated cost and the final cost figures. Mr. Boyle said that the final cost was approximately \$1.2 million under budget. Chairman Heuston asked Mr. Boyle to submit a plan and analysis for drainage at the school's field and to inform the committee what action was taken by the contractor and she further requested that any plans pertaining to the field's drainage be obtained from J&J Contracting and provided to the committee. Chairman Heuston also requested that the appropriate city personnel examine the field to determine if it is draining properly. Mr. Boyle stated that he would have a landscape engineer look at the field to determine the extent of the problem

Alderman Pero asked why his 2 previous resolutions, requesting that the contractor (J & J) appear before the committee, were ignored. Alderman Pero said that he put forth those resolutions in an effort to help in resolving some of the issues with the project and he expressed his frustration and displeasure with the Administration's lack of attention to his requests. Mr. Boyle stated that he will try to have the contractor appear before the committee.

The committee discussed matters before it and took action on the following 16 items:

**187979:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval of an increase in the annual rate of pay for the vacant Planning Director position in SPCD from \$66,276, to \$73,000.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 5 - 0 in favor

**187980:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval to enter into a new 3-year contract with Elizabeth Fleming, Esq., as outside workers' compensation legal counsel.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 5 - 0 in favor

**187981:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval to extend for one year a contract with Kimo Griggs Inc. for two benches in Union Sq.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 5 - 0 in favor

**187982:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval of a settlement with Ultraguard Protective Services of \$5,650.66.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 5 - 0 in favor

**187983:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval of a transfer of \$5,650.66 from the DPW B&G Alarms Acct. to the Law Dept. Settlement Acct., for a settlement with Ultraguard Protective Services.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 5 - 0 in favor

**187984:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval to pay \$4,070.16 in various prior year invoices in the Personnel Dept.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 5 - 0 in favor

**187985:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting acceptance of a \$156,117 grant from the FY09 Recovery Act Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program, for Police Dept. law enforcement programs.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 5 - 0 in favor

**187986:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting acceptance of a \$7,500 grant from the MA Board of Library Commissioners, for the Library's Somerville Reads/One Book program.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 5 - 0 in favor

**188075:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting an appropriation of \$20,000 to establish the Max-Pak Stabilization Fund, to fund Ward 5 amenities.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 5 - 0 in favor

**188076:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting acceptance of a \$30,000 grant from 56 Clyde St. LLC and 61 Clyde St. LLC (MaxPak) for community benefits.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 5 - 0 in favor

**188077:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting acceptance of a \$5,000 grant from Royal Hospitality Services, for any public purpose.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 5 - 0 in favor

**188078:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting acceptance of a \$5,000 grant from Green Cab Inc., for any public purpose.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 5 - 0 in favor

**188113:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting acceptance of temporary easements for construction in the Assembly Sq. area at Middlesex Ave. and Cummings St., and at 5-7 Middlesex Ave., and a permanent easement at 5-7 Middlesex

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 5 - 0 in favor

**188114:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval to extend a contract with Fay, Spofford and Thorndike to Nov. 14, 2012, for work in Assembly Sq.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 5 - 0 in favor

**188117:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting acceptance of a grant of \$85,000 from Spectra Energy—Algonquin Gas Transmission LLC, for appropriation to the Algonquin Gas Loop Project Stabilization Fund.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 5 - 0 in favor

**188118:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting acceptance of a grant of \$37,942 from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program for the Police Dept., for technology and equipment.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 5 - 0 in favor

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Alderman Maryann Heuston, Chairman  
Committee on Finance