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September 3, 2008

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

The Committee on Finance convened on September 3, 2008, with Chairman Maryann Heuston presiding and Committee Members Aldermen Bruce Desmond, Walter Pero and John Connolly also present and voting. Also present were Alderman William White, Jessie Baker from the Mayor's Office, Personnel Director Richard Tranfaglia, Police Chief Anthony Holloway, Chief Fire Engineer Kevin Kelleher, SPCD Director Monica Lamboy, Rob May from SPCD and Finance Director Ed Bean.

#### **186096 - appropriation of \$50,000 to purchase a License Plate Readers for the Police Department:**

Chief s explained that the readers would be deployed in 2 cruisers, one in the east sector and one in the west. The readers are capable of reading 30 license plates per minute and would be another tool in the Police Department's arsenal used to apprehend offenders of various crimes. The devices are updated on a daily basis from the state's database.

#### **186091, 186092 and 186093 - appropriations and bonds of \$395,000 for Albion Park, \$395,000 for Grimmons Park, and \$785,000 for Hodgkins Park:**

Ms. Lamboy addressed the members on these three items and explained that the same design team is working on all three parks. Construction is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2009 and be completed in the fall of 2009. Environmental tests will be performed at Hodgkins Park, where traces of oil have been found. Chairman Heuston expressed concern about neighborhood interest in Perry Park and noted that Perry Park was denied a water feature due to cost. Ms. Lamboy stated that Perry Park is being used as the standard for budgeting and explained that costs have increased. Alderman Pero spoke about neighborhood interest in Grimmons Park. When asked why the cost for Albion Park has increased so much, Ms. Lamboy replied that the increase was driven by neighborhood input. Alderman White requested that Mr. Bean provide an updated printout of the city's debt service. Mr. Bean informed the members that the parks would be funded with Assembly Square stabilization funds.

#### **186095 - appropriation of \$65,000 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund for a space needs analysis and a Municipal Facilities Master Plan:**

Mr. May addressed the members and explained that studies have shown that it is not cost effective to retrofit certain facilities, due to ADA requirements, and that combining offices in certain departments

would be a better utilization of space. The members told Mr. May that they would like to see the RFP and a substantive plan, prior to approval. Mr. Bean stated that the appropriation should be in place before the contract is signed and Alderman Connolly inquired if it could be conditioned on terms that the Board of Aldermen is comfortable with. Ms. Lamboy told the members that she would email them information explaining the scope of the work. Alderman Heuston's motion that the item be approved with the condition

that the Director of SPCD appear before the Finance Committee prior to the selection of a consultant and that the consultant appear before the Finance Committee to discuss the findings was approved.

**186098 - an appropriation of \$12,000 for additional licenses for the IntelliGov Customer Resource Management System:**

Alderman Pero recused himself from the discussion and vote on this item. Ms. Baker told the members that the additional licenses would allow department heads to have access to the data.

**186105 - authorization to apply for grant funding of up to \$750,000 for a Boynton Yards transportation/utility study:**

Mr. May discussed zoning revisions and the Green Line extension and informed the members that the study would take from 9 to 12 months and that it would include an evaluation of the utility system.

**186106 - authorization to apply for grant funding of up to \$500,000 for the Blessing of the Bay Boathouse:**

Ms. Lamboy addressed the members and said the city is working with the DCR on the grant process and that the grant is being funded with license plate revenues and would be used to rebuild a dock and for ADA improvements.

The committee also discussed:

186009 – an appropriation of \$296,367 to initiate seven projects for the Safe Start Program:

186097: a request to purchase a new police cruiser

186099: a request to fund the sick leave buyback and accrued vacation payments for a recently retired employee

186100: a request to fund a part-time student worker in Personnel

186103: a request to dispose of 5 vehicles in the Fire Department

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

**186009:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval for SPCD to appropriate \$296,367 from the Traffic Stabilization Fund to initiate seven projects for the Safe Start Program.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

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

**186091:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting the amendment of the appropriation and bond of \$395,000 for Albion Park, by increasing the appropriation and authorization to bond to \$1,075,000 (an increase of \$680,000).

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

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

**186092:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting the amendment of the appropriation and bond of \$395,000 for Grimmons Park, by increasing the appropriation and authorization to bond to \$875,000 (an increase of \$480,000).

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

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

**186093:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting the amendment of the appropriation

and bond of \$785,000 for Hodgkins Park, by increasing the appropriation and authorization to bond to \$1,000,000 (an increase of \$215,000).

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

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

**186095:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting an appropriation of \$65,000 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund for a space needs analysis and a Municipal Facilities Master Plan.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved with conditions (*that the item be approved with the condition that the Director of SPCD appear before the Finance Committee prior to the selection of a consultant and that the consultant appear before the Finance Committee to discuss the findings*)

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

**186096:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting an appropriation of \$50,000 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund to purchase a License Plate Reader System for the Police Dept. as part of the FY2009 Capital Investment Plan.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

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

**186097:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting an appropriation of \$35,000 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund for the Police Dept. to purchase a police cruiser to replace car #185.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

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

**186098:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting an appropriation of \$12,000 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund for 311 to purchase additional licenses for the IntelliGov Customer Resource Mgmt. System as part of the FY2009 Capital Investment Plan.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**186099:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting a transfer of \$8,853 from the Contingency Acct – Sick Leave Buyback to the SPCD Planning & Zoning Salaries Acct. to fund the sick leave buyback and accrued vacation payments for a recently retired employee.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

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

**186100:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting a transfer of \$2,000 from the Workers Comp. Professional & Tech. Services Acct. to the Workers Comp. Salaries & Wages Temporary Acct. to fund a part-time student worker in Personnel

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

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

**186103:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval in accordance with GL c30B s15 for the Fire Dept. to dispose of 5 vehicles.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

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

**186105:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting authorization for SPCD to apply to MA Public Works Economic Development for grant funding of up to \$750,000 for a Boynton Yards transportation/utility study.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

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

**186106:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting authorization for SPCD and the Recreation Dept. to apply to the MA Environmental Trust for grant funding of up to \$500,000 for the Blessing of the Bay Boathouse.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

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

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Alderman Maryann Heuston, Chairman  
Committee on Finance

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

Report of the Committee on Finance,  
September 3, 2008

In Board of Aldermen

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Clerk