



Fiscal Committee - Board of Representatives

Monica Di Costanzo, Chair

Frank Cerasoli, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Monday, March 28, 2016

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Democratic Caucus Room, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT 06905-2098

The Fiscal Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Di Costanzo, Vice Chair Cerasoli and Committee Member Reps. Day, DeLuca, Fedeli, Figueroa, Miller, Quinones and Silver. Absent or excused were Committee Member Reps. Coleman and Mitchell. Also present were Rep. Zelinsky; Karen Cammarota, Grants Office; Michael Pollard, Chief of Staff; Lee Berta, OPM; Clemon Williams, HR Director; Michael Sullivan, E.G. Brennan Golf Course; Tom Turk, Traffic and Road Maintenance; Joshua Benson, Transportation Bureau Chief.

Chair Di Costanzo called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
The Committee first considered Item No. 2.		
2. F29.381 \$35,000.00	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); To appropriate \$35,000.00 from Contingency to Fund Projected Expenditures for Leased Facilities/Contracted Services. 01/27/16 – Submitted by Mayor Martin 02/11/16 – Approved by Board of Finance 02/29/16 – Held in Committee	Approved 9-0-0

Mr. Pollard explained that this appropriation is for Lathon Wider Center. These funds are for the installation of the health clinic in the center. This saves the City the \$1,400/month the City was previously spending to house the clinic at Inspirica. In response to questions from the Committee, he noted that he had met with Representatives Coleman and Adams regarding their concern that Lathon Wider be used for community services. They have developed a process by which the NRZ will have input into the use of the building and the Board of Representatives will receive leases. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 9-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Cerasoli, Day, DeLuca, Fedeli, Figueroa, Miller, Quinones and Silver in favor).

3. [F29.399](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating **Approved 9-0-0**
\$107,331.00 Budget); To appropriate \$107,331 from assigned
fund balance to fund the 1199 retro wage increase
for FY13/14 and FY14/15.
03/09/16 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
03/10/16 – Approved by Board of Finance

Ms. Berta explained that this appropriation is for FY13-14 and FY14-15 payouts now that this collective bargaining agreement has been approved. The funds were put into contingency to cover this anticipated expense. The FY15-16 funds are included in current salary estimates. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 9-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Cerasoli, Day, DeLuca, Fedeli, Figueroa, Miller, Quinones and Silver in favor).

4. [F29.400](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating **Approved 9-0-0**
\$200,000.00 Budget); Registrar of Voters; Presidential Primary
costs for Republican and Democratic Presidential
Primaries on April 26, 2016.
03/09/16 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
03/10/16 – Approved by Board of Finance

Ms. Berta explained that historically, money has been put into contingency to cover this expense. This appropriation is an estimate based upon the costs of prior presidential primaries. Costs include the scanners, ballot printing, police costs, moving equipment, and 300 poll workers at 22 polling places. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 9-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Cerasoli, Day, DeLuca, Fedeli, Figueroa, Miller, Quinones and Silver in favor).

5. [F29.401](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating **Approved 9-0-0**
\$20,000.00 Budget); Employee Benefits; To engage an
investment advisor to assist in producing an RFP to
review 457 Plan Vendors and Explore
Consolidation.
03/09/16 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
03/10/16 – Approved by Board of Finance

Mr. Williams explained that the City currently has three 457 plan vendors. The City has been watching the fees which are currently too high. The City is taking advantage of a provision in one of the contracts to get money for research in order to pay for this RFP. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 9-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Cerasoli, Day, DeLuca, Fedeli, Figueroa, Miller, Quinones and Silver in favor).

6. [F29.402](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating **Approved 9-0-0**
\$20,000.00 Budget); E.G. Brennan Maintenance; to Replace
Protective Screening and Raise Protective Screen
and Install Chainlink Fence.
03/09/16 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
03/10/16 – Approved by Board of Finance

Mr. Sullivan explained that this appropriation covers two projects: an emergency replacement and raising of the netting behind the 13th green, which has already been done, and a proposal to raise netting and install a fence by the parking lot to make the

course more secure. This money is coming from the Golf Course fund. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 9-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Cerasoli, Day, DeLuca, Fedeli, Figueroa, Miller, Quinones and Silver in favor).

7. [F29.403](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Storm Account; to replenish salt domes by purchase of 6,400 tons of salt. **Approved 8-0-1**
\$497,152.00
03/09/16 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
03/10/16 – Approved by Board of Finance

Mr. Turk explained that he asked for this appropriation in February, at which time the salt domes were running low and the City had had nine storms. The City has not had storms since, so the salt will be available next year if there are no more storms. The price for the salt piggybacks on the State contract. Committee members discussed whether he should ask for more money for salt in his budget. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 8-0-1 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Day, DeLuca, Fedeli, Figueroa, Miller, Quinones and Silver in favor; Rep. Cerasoli abstaining).

The Committee next took up Item No. 1, which had been started earlier and then considered later so Ms. Cammarota could check on the numbers.

1. [F29.398](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); **Approved 9-0-0**
\$388,753.00 CDP/HOME; HOME Program; Seven HUD HOME Program loans made by City were repaid; repayment to be used for additional housing loans (\$349,878) and 10% for program staff costs per program guidelines (\$38,873.30) (100% repayment funded).
03/09/16 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
03/10/16 – Approved by Board of Finance

Ms. Cammarota explained that this is repayment of seven HUD HOME program loans and the money, less 10% staff costs, is to be used for additional housing loans. One repayment, in the amount of \$164,900 by 791 Atlantic Street was omitted from the description. She agreed to provide the Committee with information regarding the \$1,128 overcharge. (See the [attached email](#).) A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 9-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Cerasoli, Day, DeLuca, Fedeli, Figueroa, Miller, Quinones and Silver in favor).

8. [F29.378](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); **Approved 9-0-0**
\$50,000.00 To offset traffic improvement costs on the west side of Hope Street in the vicinity of Knapp Street.
1/16/16 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
01/19/16 – Approved by Planning Board
02/11/16 – Approved by Board of Finance
02/08/16 - Held at Steering

Mr. Benson explained that the City received \$50,000 from the developer as part of the approval process to offset the cost of the development. The developer needed to pay the funds in order to receive a Certificate of Occupancy. The money is to be used to extend the distinctive sidewalk treatment. Committee members discussed whether the money could be used for other purposes. Mr. Benson stated that he believed the requirement is that the money be used for “sidewalk improvements.” He stated he would provide the

committee with the actual language of the condition. (See the [attached email](#).) A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 9-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Cerasoli, Day, DeLuca, Fedeli, Figueroa, Miller, Quinones and Silver in favor).

- 9 [F29.405](#) APPROVAL; Appropriation of FY2014/15 Year End **Approved 9-0-0**
Fund Balance to: Rainy Day Fund: \$300,000;
Compliance with Federal Mandates: \$200,000;
Capital Non-recurring: \$500,000; Debt Service
Reserve: \$500,000; Storm Related Clean-up
Reserve: \$156,328.
03/09/16 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
03/10/16 – Approved by Board of Finance

Ms. Berta explained that there was originally a \$22 million fund balance, but part was already approved to be used for the BOE OPEB. This will bring the rainy day fund to 4.3% of the 2015-16 budget. The Compliance with Federal Mandates refers to a reserve in the event of claims under the Affordable Care Act. Committee members discussed the need for the rainy day fund in order to maintain a AAA bond rating, and the cap on the fund contained in the Charter. A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 9-0-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Cerasoli, Day, DeLuca, Fedeli, Figueroa, Miller, Quinones and Silver in favor).

Chair Di Costanzo adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Monica Di Costanzo, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).