



Fiscal Committee - Board of Representatives

Monica Di Costanzo, Co-Chair

Lindsey Miller, Co-Chair

Committee Report

Date: Monday, December 27, 2021
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: *This meeting was held remotely.*

The Fiscal Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Co-Chairs Di Costanzo and Miller and Committee Member Reps. Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas. Also present were Reps. de la Cruz, Goldberg, Grunberger, and Sherwood. Also present were Anita Carpenter, Grants Officer; Ted Jankowski, Director of Public Safety, Health and Welfare; Al Cava, HR Director; Ann Brown, WPCA; Lou Casolo, City Engineer; and Lee Berta and Tony Romano, OPM.

Co-Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. F31.004 \$74,873.00	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); Community Policing Development; Assist the Stamford Police Department's Accreditation Status mandated by "An Act Concerning Police Accountability Bill;" funds will be used for OT and Contracting with a License Document Management Software Provider. (100% grant funded). 12/01/21 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons 11/10/21 – Approved by Board of Finance 5-0-0	Approved 9-0-2

Ms. Carpenter explained that this is a grant for required accreditation of the police department. Law enforcement officers will be participating in training during overtime hours.

A motion to approve Item No. 1 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Di Costanzo, Miller, Coleman, Fedeli, Florio, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor; Reps. Boeger and Figueroa abstaining).

2. F31.005 \$57,827.00	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); Distracted Driver Grant; Decrease Fatalities and Injuries as a Result of Crashes Caused by Driver Distraction, Especially Hand Held Mobile Phone Use. (100% grant funded) 12/01/21 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons 11/10/21 – Approved by Board of Finance 5-0-0	Approved 8-0-3
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Ms. Carpenter explained that this is a grant for funding to support overtime and related fringe benefits for officers to spend time on the streets to address distracted driving. Grant funds can't be used for amounts appropriated in the budget. Mr. Jankowski explained that deployment of officers is based upon findings of the public safety analyst and experience. Staffing is done on a volunteer basis.

A motion to approve Item No. 2 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Di Costanzo, Miller, Fedeli, Florio, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor; Reps. Boeger, Coleman and Figueroa abstaining).

3. [F31.006](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); **Approved 9-0-2**
\$39,747.00 Justice Assistance Grant 21-22; Funds will be Utilized to Contract With a Qualified Vendor to Provide Crisis Intervention Training to New Police Hires, Civilian Public Safety Dispatchers and Police Headquarters Front Desk Personnel; OT Cost for Roll Call Training and Medical Bag Training. (100% Grant Funded)
12/01/21 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
11/10/21 – Approved by Board of Finance 5-0-0

Mr. Jankowski explained that this is a grant to support crisis intervention training for new officers and dispatchers. This is a proactive course by the Stamford Police Department; it is a 40 hour course which teaches officers to deescalate situations and address mental health incidents. The department has also engaged in implicit bias training as well as bias training by internal officers. Lives have been saved as a result of this training.

A motion to approve Item No. 3 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Di Costanzo, Miller, Coleman, Fedeli, Florio, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor; Reps. Boeger and Figueroa abstaining).

4. [F31.007](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); **No Action Taken**
\$124,994.00 Funds will be Utilized to Implement a Pilot Police Activities League (PAL) Program at Chester Addison Center Geared Towards High Risk Youth. (100% Grant Funded)
12/01/21 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
11/10/21 – NO ACTION TAKEN BY BOARD OF FINANCE

5. [F31.014](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); **Approved 11-0-0**
\$60,000.00 FY 19/20 Grant Increased by State Dept. of Emergency Management and Homeland Security; Funds to be Used to Purchase Four Variable Message Signs for use Throughout Region.(100% Grant Funded)
12/03/21 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
12/09/21 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0

Mr. Jankowski explained that these variable message signs are part of the Region 1 regional assets and are used during weather emergencies and currently during Covid. One of the volunteer fire companies own 1 such sign and Operations owns others. These will be shared within Region 1, but Stamford is often first in line to get them. The current signs are more than 10 years old. These are not speed reading signs.

A motion to approve Item No. 5 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Di Costanzo, Miller, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor).

6. F31.001 \$22,170.00	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Stamford Assistant Corporation Counsel Union Retroactive Wage Increase Obligations for FY20/21 per Contract Settlement. (Funding Source – Fund Balance) 12/01/21 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons 11/10/21 – Approved by Board of Finance 5-0-0	Approved 11-0-0
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Mr. Cava explained that this agreement was previously approved by the full Board. This is an appropriation for the retroactive wage increase under the agreement.

A motion to approve Item No. 6 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Di Costanzo, Miller, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor).

7. F31.002 \$52,348.00	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Stamford Assistant Corporation Counsel Union Wage Increase FY20/21 and FY21/22 per Contract Settlement. (Funding Source – Contingency) 12/01/21 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons 11/10/21 – Approved by Board of Finance 5-0-0	Approved 11-0-0
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Mr. Cava explained that this agreement was previously approved by the full Board. This is an appropriation for the 20/21 and 21/22 fiscal year wage increase under the agreement.

A motion to approve Item No. 7 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Di Costanzo, Miller, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor).

8. F31.003 \$350,000.00	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Director of Law; Unanticipated Expenses Incurred After the FY 21/22 Budget was Adopted. 12/01/21 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons 11/10/21 – Approved by Board of Finance 5-0-0	Held 11-0-0
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A motion to hold Item No. 8 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Di Costanzo, Miller, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor).

9. F31.011 \$117,741.00	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Stamford Municipal Nurses Association Wage Increase Obligations for FY20/21 and FY21/22 per Recent Contract Settlement. (Funding Source - Contingency) 12/03/21 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons 12/09/21 – Approved by Board of Finance 5-0-1	Approved 11-0-0
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Mr. Cava explained that this agreement was considered by the Personnel Committee and would be before the full Board on January 3, 2022. This is an appropriation for the 20/21 and 21/22 fiscal year wage increase under the agreement.

A motion to approve Item No. 9 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Di Costanzo, Miller, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor).

10. F31.012 \$49,864.00	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Stamford Municipal Nurses Association Retroactive Wage Increase Obligations for FY20/21 per Contract Settlement. (Funding Source – Fund Balance) 12/03/21 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons 12/09/21 – Approved by Board of Finance 5-0-1	Approved 11-0-0
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Mr. Cava explained that this corresponds to Item No. 9 and is an appropriation for retroactive year wage increase under the agreement. There are 37 public health nurses covered by the agreement.

A motion to approve Item No. 10 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Di Costanzo, Miller, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor).

11. F31.016 \$263,388.00	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); MAA Retroactive Wage Increase Obligations for FY20/21 per Contract Settlement. (Funding Source – Fund Balance) 12/03/21 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons 12/09/21 – Approved by Board of Finance 5-0-1	Approved 11-0-0
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12. F31.015 \$621,927.00	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); MAA Wage Increase Obligations for FY20/21 and FY21/22 per Recent Contract Settlement. (Funding Source - Contingency) 12/03/21 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons 12/09/21 – Approved by Board of Finance 5-0-1	Approved 11-0-0
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Mr. Cava discussed Item Nos. 11 and 12 together. He explained that this agreement was considered by the Personnel Committee and would be before the full Board on January 3, 2022. Item 11 is an appropriation for retroactive year wage increase under the agreement and Item 12 is an appropriation for the 20/21 and 21/22 fiscal year wage increase under the agreement.

A motion to approve Item No. 11 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Di Costanzo, Miller, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor).

A motion to approve Item No. 12 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Di Costanzo, Miller, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor).

13. [F31.013](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); **Approved 11-0-0**
\$640,000.00 CP2730; WPCF Force Main Repair; Repair of
CIPP Lining and Associated Pipe Replacement of
Failed 42" Force Main at Water Pollution Control
Facility.
12/01/21 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
11/09/21 – Approved by [Planning Board](#)
12/09/21 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0

Ms. Brown explained that when the treatment plant was being upgraded, a leak from the force main was discovered. The main carries raw sewage to the primary clarifier. The leak was due to corrosion and erosion in the bottom. When the liner was removed it was discovered that the leak ran the entire length of the force main. The WPCA obtained bids and the work was done on an emergency basis. The work came in higher than the estimate due to additional contractor work. The estimate was \$2.5 million and the work came in under \$3.2 million. The force main went back online on September 1st and has had no issues, including during Hurricane Ida on September 2nd. This amount is based on the total cost from the final change order. This amount comes from the WPCA cash reserve account.

A motion to approve Item No. 13 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Di Costanzo, Miller, Boeger, Coleman, Fedeli, Figueroa, Florio, Morson, Nabel, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor).

14. [F31.017](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); **Approved 6-5-0**
\$400,000.00 CP8701; John Boccuzzi @ Southfield; Completion
of Phase 1 – Realignment of Park Entry;
Replacement of Relocated Parking Lot with Dune
Habitat; Traffic Turnaround / Drop-Off, Waterfront
Improvements; Landscaping; and Replacement
Basketball Court
12/08/21 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
10/12/21 – Approved by [Planning Board](#) (as
\$2,400,000)
10/12/21 – Held by Board of Finance
12/09/21 – Approved by Board of Finance 5-1-0
(as \$400,000)

Mr. Casolo reviewed the background of this project. The [master plan for the park](#) includes realigning the access road to Congress Road for traffic lines, moving the parking lot out of the flood plain, creating a rotary for emergency vehicles, adding waterscape and play areas and additional landscaping. This upgrade also includes the Soundwaters educational facility. [Phase 1](#) concentrates on the mid to northern part of the park. The City went out to bid on Phase 1, but receive no bids. The project also provides utility connections into the Soundwaters facility, as required by the lease entered into between the City and Soundwaters. The Soundwaters project is to be completed in the Spring of 2022, so something needed to be done to enable the project to move forward. The City approached the Soundwaters general contractor and construction manager, who put in a bid that was significantly over budget. The City therefore [trimmed the project](#) to come within the budget by eliminating the roadway access to Congress Street, not building the cul de sac, and leaving the original parking lot. The associated drainage and utility and sanity sewer service to the building were retained and the [project is ongoing](#). Since construction began, there have been unforeseen conditions, impacted soils and other things and rock, and cost overruns, which is why the City is seeking an additional appropriation of \$400,000. The 2022-23 Capital Budget will include a request for funds to complete the rest of

Phase 1. There is an agreement with Soundwaters to share cost overruns 75%/25%.

Nine soil borings were conducted on the site and 1/3 of them indicated problematic soils in areas outside of the work. However, the work is revealing problematic soils within the area. The problematic soil is urban fill that has been deposited in the park over the years. Some of it is organic material that cannot support structures, such as a catch basin; this has required altering details resulting in overages. If material can't be used on site, it needs to be removed. When the soil was tested, some of it had elevated levels of contaminants. The soil must be managed; it must be stockpiled, covered in plastic, and tested. The test results determine the disposition of the material. Under DEEP practices, the material can be used in utility trenches and under impervious surfaces, such as parking lots; excess material, however, must be removed. Much of tonight's request is for removal of the material or to move it, cover it, test it, and manage it. Other things that have been encountered include an underground concrete slab which needs to be removed. Other additional costs have nothing to do with the soil. For example, an easement was needed to bring the utility service into the project. The city portion of the job is a little more than halfway done. He has also included a 5% contingency for the remainder of the job. The current project balance is not sufficient to fund these costs.

Mr. Casolo discussed this item with committee members. Items discussed included the following:

- The breakdown of the costs is: \$22,000 for the stockpiling of impacted material, \$35,000 to remove problematic structural soil; \$38,000 for rebuilding the roadway; \$15,000 for environmental testing and the largest part is the removal of impacted soils off site.
- 7 borings were in Phase 1; 2 were in the parking lot; before they undertake additional actions, they have to account for the probability of encountering something similar
- \$400,000 should take care of the immediate impacted soil problem in Phase 1
- The lease with Soundwaters was approved by the Board of Representatives in 2019
- The cost sharing provision was included in the temporary construction and access agreement, which provides Soundwaters with temporary access to build their building; this was approved in September, 2021
- The soil is being managed consistently with the soil management plan, which deals with stockpile management
- If there was no cost sharing agreement, the City would be 100% responsible for the cost overruns since it is City property
- The \$2.4 million is for the entire upgrade to the park and the utility service to the building, which will also power the lights on the access road and provide water service to the waterfront
- Mr. Casolo went back to the Board of Finance for the \$400,000 because problematic soil conditions incurred real costs and change orders that needed to be paid; if the \$400,000 is not paid, then the construction will probably stop and litigation will ensue
- Soundwaters is providing the funding for the construction of the building
- The Board of Finance and the Board of Representatives did approve \$2.6 million in the capital budget for this project, but the \$400,000 is a cost overrun; there is no other work being done that hasn't been budgeted
- Another \$2.4 million will be requested in the next budget
- This situation is different from Scofieldtown and Kosciusko parks, which were landfills; this is just urban fill; there is no solid waste or similar level of contamination

- The City needs to make determinations before a project starts; this seemed like a simple lease agreement; he is committed to doing environmental characterizations to better understand what is going to be encountered; there is a cost to this
- The total expenses are \$342,000 plus a \$50,000 contingency

A motion to hold item 14 was made and seconded.

Mr. Casolo stated that if this were not approved the materials would not be able to be removed and the contractors might demobilize and not return to the site. Committee members discussed whether this work could wait and whether the concerns regarding the agreement were sufficient to delay this appropriation. Said motion failed by a vote of 5-6-0 (Reps. Boeger, Coleman, Figueroa, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas in favor; Reps. Di Costanzo, Miller, Fedeli, Florio, Morson and Nabel opposed).

A motion to approve Item 14 was made, seconded, and approved by a vote of 6-5-0 (Reps. Di Costanzo, Miller, Fedeli, Florio, Morson and Nabel in favor; Reps. Boeger, Coleman, Figueroa, Pierre-Louis, and Tomas opposed).

Co-Chair Miller adjourned the meeting at 9:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lindsey Miller, Co-Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).