



## ***Fiscal Committee - Board of Representatives***

Sean Boeger, Co-Chair

Lindsey Miller, Co-Chair

# **Committee Report**

**Date:** Monday, November 27, 2023  
**Time:** 7:00 p.m.  
**Place:** *This meeting was held in the Democratic Caucus Room, 888 Washington Blvd, Stamford, CT, 4th Floor and remotely*

The Fiscal Committee met as indicated above. In attendance in person were Co-Chair Miller and Committee Member Reps. Fedeli, and Morson. In attendance remotely were Co-Chair Boeger and Committee Member Reps. Figueroa, Garst, Goldberg, Graham, Shaw, and Tomas. Absent or excused was Rep. Pierre-Louis. Also present remotely were Reps. Adams, Campbell, de la Cruz, Mays, Sherwood, Summerville, and Walston; Anita Carpenter, Grants Officer; Chief Tim Shaw, Stamford Police Department; Katherine LoBalbo, Director of School Construction; Paula Russell Nisbett, HR Director; Frank Petise and Luke Buttenwieser, Transportation, Traffic, and Parking Bureau; Elda Sinani and Anthony Romano, OPM; Bill Brink, WPCA Director; and Steve Mednick, Esq.

Co-Chair Boeger called the meeting to order at 9:08 p.m.

A motion to suspend the rules to take up Item 21 first was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Boeger, Miller, Fedeli, Figueroa, Garst, Goldberg, Morson, Shaw, and Tomas in favor)

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Invitee(s) or Designees</b>
21. <a href="#">F31.267</a>	REVIEW; Legal Fees Related to Charter Revision Commission. 08/14/23 - Submitted by Reps. Goldberg and Miller 09/27/23 – Recommitted to Steering by Committee 8-0-0 <b>10/23/23 – Held by Committee</b>	<b>Report Made</b>

Committee members discussed Item No. 21 with Mr. Mednick. Items discussed included the following:

- The scope of work set forth in the contract between Mr. Mednick and the City
- Assisting the Charter Commission was a time-consuming enterprise, including due diligence; fact finding; drafting, reviewing, and analyzing proposals; ensuring compliance with law, etc.
- The cost of the project was substantial; it was not surprising that it exceeded the original \$100,000 estimate because the charge to the Commission was extensive; they took on a great deal of work
- There were over 20 recommendations made by the Board after reviewing the draft report
- Charter review is a very constricted time period
- Normally he is retained by the legislative body

- They wrote off almost \$60,000 in fees
- He was informed by the Board office that he was approaching or had reached the \$100,000 limit in April or May and he contacted Corporation Counsel's office which informed him that approval of additional funds was required to be approved by the Board of Finance and the Board of Representatives; they continued to work through this process
- There were many things that occurred which were beyond their control
- The City was going through a change in the billing and payment system at the same time
- The final bill is about \$210,000.
- There was no specific methodology used for the write-off of time

1 [F31.291](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); **Approved 8-0-2**  
 \$127,009.00 Stamford Police Department; Expansion of  
 Community Response Initiative; The Police  
 Department is a Sub-Grantee of the Recovery  
 Network of Programs Prime Award From the  
 SAMHSA. Funds Will Be Utilized to Place a Police  
 Officer in the Behavioral Health Unit Salary and  
 Fringe for One Year. (Source of Funds: 100%  
 Grant Funded – Federal SAMHSA).  
 10/30/23 - Submitted by Mayor Simmons  
 11/09/23 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0

Chief Shaw said that this grant will help with the Behavioral Health Unit. Ms. Carpenter explained that this grant will support a salary for an officer in the Behavioral Health Unit. The goal of this unit is to keep people with mental health issues out of the criminal justice system.

A motion to approve Item No. 1 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote. (Reps. Miller, Fedeli, Garst, Goldberg, Graham, Morson, Shaw, and Tomas in favor; Reps. Boeger and Figueroa abstaining).

2. [F31.292](#) GRANTS RESOLUTION; Authorizing the Mayor **Approved 8-0-2**  
 to Enter into and Sign Agreements with the  
 Department of Health and Human Services  
 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services  
 Administration and/or the Recovery Network of  
 Programs, Inc. for an Enhanced Community  
 Response Initiative Grant Subaward.  
 10/30/23 - Submitted by Mayor Simmons

Ms. Carpenter explained that this is the resolution accompanying Item No. 1

A motion to approve Item No. 1 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote. (Reps. Miller, Fedeli, Garst, Goldberg, Graham, Morson, Shaw, and Tomas in favor; Reps. Boeger and Figueroa abstaining).

3. [F31.289](#) **Approved 8-0-2**  
\$88,330.00  
ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); Stamford Police Department; Community Violence Intervention & Prevention; This Project will Enhance and Expand Crime Prevention Efforts Geared Toward High Risk Youth and Young Adults; Grant Funds Will Be Utilized to Have Police Officers Participate in the Juvenile Review Board, Conduct Anti-Violence Training, and a Youth Mentoring Program; Funds will also be Utilized to Contract with Domus to Enhance Their Project New Hope Program and to Liberation Programs to Conduct Empathy Training. (Source of Funds: 100% Grant Funded – State DPH).  
10/30/23 - Submitted by Mayor Simmons  
11/09/23 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0

Chief Shaw said that this grant is a collaboration with Domus and Liberation House to defer costs on programs already in place.

A motion to approve Item No. 3 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote. (Reps. Miller, Fedeli, Garst, Goldberg, Graham, Morson, Shaw, and Tomas in favor; Reps. Boeger and Figueroa abstaining).

4. [F31.290](#) **Approved 8-0-2**  
GRANTS RESOLUTION; Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into and Sign an Agreement with the Connecticut Children’s Medical Center for the Community Violence Intervention & Prevention Services.  
10/30/23 - Submitted by Mayor Simmons

A motion to approve Item No. 4 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote. (Reps. Miller, Fedeli, Garst, Goldberg, Graham, Morson, Shaw, and Tomas in favor; Reps. Boeger and Figueroa abstaining).

5. [F31.293](#) **Approved 10-0-0**  
\$1,259,662.00  
ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); CP4000007; Davenport Ridge LTFP DM/AR; Request to Increase the Grant Appropriation to Support Davenport School Bathroom Renovation Project and School Construction (Source of Funds: State Grant).  
10/30/23 - Submitted by Mayor Simmons  
11/08/23 – Approved by Planning Board  
11/09/23 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0

Ms. LoBalbo explained that the City applied for a grant earlier this year for the first phase of the Davenport restroom project and they were advised by the State to apply for an alternate grant in order to capture a larger part of the 60% reimbursement. This led to a combination of the two projects. The bonding is already in place.

A motion to approve Item No. 5 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote. (Reps. Boeger, Miller, Fedeli, Figueroa, Garst, Goldberg, Graham, Morson, Shaw, and Tomas in favor).

6. [F31.294](#) RESOLUTION; Regarding the Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Appropriation and Bond Authorization for the Davenport School Bathroom Renovation Project and for School Construction Grant.  
10/30/23 - Submitted by Anita Carpenter **Approved 10-0-0**

A motion to approve Item No. 6 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote. (Reps. Boeger, Miller, Fedeli, Figueroa, Garst, Goldberg, Graham, Morson, Shaw, and Tomas in favor).

7. [F31.296](#) GRANTS RESOLUTION; Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into an Agreement with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for the Bartlett Arboretum Pavilion Construction Project (DEEP Award: \$175,000).  
10/20/23 - Submitted by Mayor Simmons **Approved 10-0-0**

Ms. Carpenter explained that this is long term project with an award from DEEP.

A motion to approve Item No. 7 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote. (Reps. Boeger, Miller, Fedeli, Figueroa, Garst, Goldberg, Graham, Morson, Shaw, and Tomas in favor).

8. [F31.297](#) GRANTS RESOLUTION; Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Contract with the State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management for Funding Assistance Regarding the Neglected Cemetery Grant Program for Municipalities  
10/31/23 - Submitted by Mayor Simmons **Approved 9-0-1**

Ms. Carpenter explained that a resolution must accompany this grant application; this resolution permits the City to apply for the grant. The funding goes through the Town Clerk's office, which determines which cemeteries are selected. There is a committee process to identify neglected cemeteries.

A motion to approve Item No. 8 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote. (Reps. Boeger, Miller, Fedeli, Figueroa, Garst, Goldberg, Graham, Morson, Shaw, and Tomas in favor; Rep. Graham abstaining).

9. [F31.298](#) RESOLUTION; Authorizing an Appropriation of \$7,147,847 for the Newfield Elementary School Fresh Air Project and Authorizing \$2,859,139 General Obligation Bonds of the City to Meet Said Appropriation; and Resolution For School Construction Grant  
11/04/23 - Submitted by Anita Carpenter **Approved 10-0-0**

Ms. LoBalbo stated that this is a competitive indoor air quality grant. This project did not receive funding and the City is seeking 60% reimbursement from the State. Typically, the State does

not award funding for indoor air quality, so this is an exciting program. The bonding will probably be in FY 2025 and would only be sought if the grant is awarded.

A motion to approve Item No. 9 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote. (Reps. Boeger, Miller, Fedeli, Figueroa, Garst, Goldberg, Graham, Morson, Shaw, and Tomas in favor).

10. [F31.299](#) RESOLUTION; Authorizing an Appropriation of \$4,174,260 for the Rippowam Middle School and Apples Pre-K HVAC Mechanical Improvement Project and Authorizing \$1,669,704 General Obligation Bonds of the City to Meet Said Appropriation; and Resolution For School Construction Grant  
11/02/23 - Submitted by Anita Carpenter **Approved 10-0-0**

Ms. LoBalbo stated that this is also a competitive indoor air quality grant. This project did not receive funding and they are seeking 60% reimbursement from the State.

A motion to approve Item No. 10 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote. (Reps. Boeger, Miller, Fedeli, Figueroa, Garst, Goldberg, Graham, Morson, Shaw, and Tomas in favor).

11. [F31.300](#) GRANTS RESOLUTION; Authorizing the Mayor to Enter Into and Sign Agreements with the State of Connecticut for the West Side Pedestrian Safety and Connectivity Project (DECD Award ~~\$1,092,200~~\$1,092,200).  
11/08/23 - Submitted by Mayor Simmons **Approved 10-0-0**

Mr. Petise and Mr. Bittenwieser explained that this is a grant from DECD for design to improve pedestrian safety in the West Side. The West Side has the highest rate of high injury pedestrian crashes in the City . This is to design safety improvements on local roads throughout the West Side to improve pedestrian safety. There is no City match.

A motion to approve Item No. 11 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote. (Reps. Boeger, Miller, Fedeli, Figueroa, Garst, Goldberg, Graham, Morson, Shaw, and Tomas in favor).

12. [F31.301](#) GRANTS RESOLUTION; Authorizing the Mayor to Enter Into and Sign Agreements with the State of Connecticut for the Latham Park Area Infrastructure Improvements Project (DECD Award \$2,700,000; City Match \$525,000).  
11/08/23 - Submitted by Mayor Simmons **Approved 10-0-0**

Mr. Petise explained that this is a grant from DECD for community challenges; this intersection has the highest pedestrian crash rage. This project goes from the plaza at Bedford Street through Walton Place. This includes pedestrian improvements and storm water improvements. The City match was included in the budget

A motion to approve Item No. 12 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote. (Reps. Boeger, Miller, Fedeli, Figueroa, Garst, Goldberg, Graham, Morson, Shaw, and Tomas in favor).

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| <p>13. <a href="#">F31.284</a><br/>\$7,371,066.00</p> | <p>ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Fire Wage Retro Payout; Request to Appropriate Funds to Fund Fire Retro Wage Increase Obligations for FY18/19 – FY22/23 per a Recent Contract Settlement (Source of Funds: Fund Balance).<br/>10/30/23 - Submitted by Mayor Simmons<br/>11/09/23 – Held by Board of Finance 6-0-0</p>   | <p><b>NO ACTION<br/>TAKEN</b></p> |
| <p>14. <a href="#">F31.288</a><br/>\$4,461,103.00</p> | <p>ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Fire Wage Increase FY23/24; Request to Appropriate Funds per the Increased Obligations for FY23/24 per a Recent Contract Settlement (Source of Funds: Contingency).<br/>10/30/23 - Submitted by Mayor Simmons<br/>11/09/23 – Held by Board of Finance 6-0-0</p>   | <p><b>NO ACTION<br/>TAKEN</b></p> |
| <p>15. <a href="#">F31.285</a><br/>\$540,606.00</p>   | <p>ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); MAA Wage Increase FY23/24; Request to Appropriate Funds per the Increased Obligations for FY23/24 per a Recent Contract Settlement (Source of Funds: Contingency).<br/>10/30/23 - Submitted by Mayor Simmons<br/>11/09/23 – Held by Board of Finance 6-0-0<br/>11/15/23 – FAILED by Board of Finance 6-0-0</p>                  | <p><b>NO ACTION<br/>TAKEN</b></p> |
| <p>16. <a href="#">F31.286</a><br/>\$1,047,321.00</p> | <p>ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Police Wage Retro Payout; Request to Appropriate Funds to Fund Police Retro Wage Increase Obligations for FY22/23 per a Recent Contract Settlement (Source of Funds: Fund Balance).<br/>10/30/23 - Submitted by Mayor Simmons<br/>11/09/23 – Held by Board of Finance 6-0-0<br/>11/15/23 – FAILED by Board of Finance 6-0-0</p> | <p><b>NO ACTION<br/>TAKEN</b></p> |
| <p>17. <a href="#">F31.287</a><br/>\$2,203,914.00</p> | <p>ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Police Wage Increase FY23/24; Request to Appropriate Funds per the Increased Obligations for FY23/24 per a Recent Contract Settlement (Source of Funds: Contingency).<br/>10/30/23 - Submitted by Mayor Simmons<br/>11/09/23 – Held by Board of Finance 6-0-0<br/>11/15/23 – FAILED by Board of Finance 6-0-0</p>               | <p><b>NO ACTION<br/>TAKEN</b></p> |

18. [F31.281](#)                      ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); **Approved 10-0-0**  
\$3,642,938.00                      CP5241; Storm Water Pump Stations; Emergency  
Power Generators to Power Pumps at Cummings  
and Wampanaw Pump Stations Should the Utility  
Electrical Supply Fail During a Storm;  
Replacement and Upgrade of Pumps and  
Electrical Equipment at Cummings, Wampanaw  
and Dyke Lane Pump Stations. (Source of Funds:  
Federal Grant: \$2,732,203.50; City Bonds:  
\$910,734.50).  
10/03/23 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons  
10/10/23 – Held by [Planning Board](#)  
10/11/23 – Held by Board of Finance 5-0-0  
10/17/23 – Approved by Planning Board  
10/23/23 – Held by Committee  
11/09/23 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0

Mr. Romano explained that this appropriation is under City general obligation bonds, not WPCA revenue bonds.

A motion to approve Item No. 18 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote. (Reps. Boeger, Miller, Fedeli, Figueroa, Garst, Goldberg, Graham, Morson, Shaw, and Tomas in favor).

19. [F31.277](#)                      RESOLUTION; Amending the Capital Budget for **Approved 10-0-0**  
Fiscal Year 2023-2024 by Adding an  
Appropriation of \$3,642,938 for the Storm Water  
Pump Stations and Authorizing \$910,734.50  
General Obligation Bonds of the City to Meet Said  
Appropriation.  
10/03/23 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons  
10/11/23 – Held by Board of Finance 5-0-0  
10/23/23 – Held by Committee  
11/09/23 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0

A motion to approve Item No. 19 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote. (Reps. Boeger, Miller, Fedeli, Figueroa, Garst, Goldberg, Graham, Morson, Shaw, and Tomas in favor).

20. [F31.295](#)                      REVIEW; FY 2023-24 First Quarter Fiscal **E. Sinani**  
Projection.  
11/07/23 – Submitted by Elda Sinani

Ms. Sinani reviewed the [attached summary](#). The projection shows a surplus for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, she believes it will be higher due to interest payments not yet being booked by the Controller's office and permit fee revenues not being fully reflected.

Co-Chair Boeger informed the committee that the financial report and audit for the last fiscal year was withdrawn from this month's Board of Finance agenda and will hopefully be ready next month. The next fiscal year audit will be due at the beginning of the year.

Co-Chair Boeger adjourned the meeting at 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sean Boeger, Co-Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).