

**MAYOR
CAROLINE SIMMONS**



**RICHARD FREEDMAN
CHAIR
MARY LOU T. RINALDI
VICE CHAIR
GEOFF ALSWANGER
DENNIS MAHONEY
DAVID MANNIS
J.R. MCMULLEN**

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BOARD OF FINANCE

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BOARD OF FINANCE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Thursday, December 9, 2021

Time: 7:15 p.m.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Richard Freedman called the meeting to order at 7:25p.m. *(Video 00:15:27)*

MEMBERS PRESENT: Richard Freedman, Mary Lou Rinaldi, Geoff Alswanger, Dennis Mahoney, David Mannis and J.R. McMullen.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Caroline Simmons, Sandy Dennies, Louis Casolo, Lee Berta, Anthony Romano, Anita Carpenter, Jody Bishop-Pullan, William Brink, Alfred Cava, Dr. Tamu Lucero, and Ryan Fealey.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: There was none. *(Video 00:15:53)*

REPORTS TO THE BOARD:

1. **MINUTES** *(Video 00:16:05)*

Request for approval of minutes of the following meeting:

Regular Monthly Meeting – November 10, 2021

Submitted by: Clerk, Board of Finance

Motion to approve by Mary Lou Rinaldi, seconded by David Mannis. Vote passed 4-0-2. Dennis Mahoney J.R. McMullen abstained.

2. **POSSIBLE DISCUSSION – MAYOR CAROLINE SIMMONS** *(Video 00:16:42)*

Mayor Caroline Simmons provided updates to the Board on the Capital and Operating Budgets, Safe Debt Limit, State Bond requests and Infrastructure Funding.

SUSPENSION OF THE RULES *(Video 00:19:12)*

Motion to suspend the rules to take up an item not on the agenda by Mary Lou Rinaldi, seconded by Geoff Alswanger. Vote passed 4-2-0. Dennis Mahoney and J.R. McMullen voted against.

A. REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATION – CAPITAL PROJECT CP8701 – JOHN BOCUZZI PARK @ SOUTHFIELD

To complete Phase 1, which includes a realignment of the park entry across from Congress Street, relocated parking lot out of the flood hazard area replaced with dune habitat, traffic turnaround/drop-off, waterfront improvements, landscaping, and a replacement basketball court. The City will repurpose Bond funds from the Police Station and Dyke Lane Pump Station.

Action Requested:	Approval of appropriation
Amount:	Amended Amount - \$400,000
Fund/Budget:	Amended - CNR
Submitted by:	David Martin, Mayor
Amended by:	Mayor Simmons
Attending:	Louis Casolo, City Engineer Anthony Romano, OPM

Lou Casolo presented this item. The appropriation allows for the continuation of work and completion of Phase 1 of this Capital Project. There was a lengthy discussion of this item (see video).

Motion to approve by Geoff Alswanger, seconded by Mary Lou Rinaldi. Vote passed 5-1-0. J.R. McMullen voted against.

3. BUDGET UPDATE – BOARD OF EDUCATION *(Video 01:03:50)*

Ryan Fealey, Director of Finance, Board of Education, provided a brief update on the BOE budget.

4. RESOLUTION – SAFE DEBT LIMIT – FY 22/23 *(Video 01:07:23)*

Request for approval of a resolution concerning a certificate of Safe Debt Limit for Fiscal Year 2022-23. Sandy Dennies, Director of Administration provided a report.

Action Requested:	Approval of resolution
Submitted by:	Sandy Dennies, Director of Administration
Attending:	Sandy Dennies

Ms. Dennies provided her annual report on the amount of bonding the City may safely incur for capital projects during the next fiscal year. She recommended a capital spending plan, net of direct grants and non-general obligation (G.O.) bonds, of \$40 million for Fiscal Year 2022-23 (to be re-examined the following year) and \$40 million for the following five (5) succeeding years.

She said that in FY 2020-21, the City's annual debt service was \$52,000,285, or 8.8% of the annual operating budget; below the 10% threshold. In FY 2021-22, budgeted debt service is \$52,000,285, or 8.45% of our annual operating budget. The proposed debt holds the debt service funding to \$52 million.

The City has the opportunity to amend its recommendation each year. As developments occur, with regard to the Long Term Facilities Committee, the discussion with the State legislature and the recommendations of the Board of Finance and Board of Representatives, the safe debt can be reexamined.

Motion to approve by Dennis Mahoney, seconded by Mary Lou Rinaldi. Vote passed unanimously, 6-0-0.

5. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT/AGREEMENT – BETWEEN THE CITY OF STAMFORD AND MIRIAM SEELIG, M.D. FOR THE CITY'S RFP 842 MEDICAL CONSULTING SERVICES. (Video 01:26:20)

The City of Stamford and Miriam Seelig, M.D., (City's current Medical Consultant) have reached an agreement for one year which may be extended for two additional years by mutual agreement of the parties.

Action Requested:	Approval of Contract/Agreement
Amount:	\$150,000 per year
Fund/Budget:	Operating
Submitted by:	Mayor David Martin
Attending:	Sandy Dennies, Director of Administration

Motion to approve by David Mannis, seconded by Geoff Alswanger. Vote passed unanimously, 6-0-0.

6. APPROVAL OF A CHANGE ORDER (CO#2) – INCREASE IN CONTRACT AMOUNT – CAPITAL PROJECT (CP8701) – JOHN BOCCUZZI PARK @ SOUTHFIELD -STANTEC CONSULTING SERVICES, INC. (Video 01:30:07)

This is a request for a monetary change order for tasks that were unknown at the time of bidding and are considered unforeseen conditions. There are sufficient funds.

Action Requested:	Approval of Change Order
Amount:	\$36,000
Fund/Budget:	GO Bonds/Private Contribution
Submitted by:	Mayor David Martin
Attending:	Louis Casolo, City Engineer

Motion to approve by Geoff Alswanger, seconded by Mary Lou Rinaldi. Vote passed, 5-1-0. J.R. McMullen voted against.

7. APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT – BETWEEN THE CITY OF STAMFORD AND THE MUNICIPAL NURSES ASSOCIATION (Video 01:37:31)

The City of Stamford and the City of Stamford Municipal Nurses Association have reached an agreement on the reopener provision of the collective bargaining agreement effective July 1, 2019. Duration extended to June 30, 2023.

Action Requested: Approval of Agreement
Submitted by: Alfred Cava, Director of Human Resources
Attending: Alfred Cava

Motion to send Positive Advisory Opinion to the Board of Representatives by David Mannis, seconded by Geoff Alswanger. Vote passed 5-0-1. J.R. McMullen abstained as he had reviewed this item while a member of the Board of Representatives.

8. APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT – BETWEEN THE CITY OF STAMFORD AND THE MUNICIPAL SUPERVISORY EMPLOYEES UNION (Video 01:41:12)

The City of Stamford and the City of Stamford Municipal Supervisory Employees Union have reached an agreement on the reopener provision of the collective bargaining agreement effective July 1, 2018. Duration extended through June 30, 2023.

Action Requested: Approval of Agreement
Submitted by: Alfred Cava, Director of Human Resources
Attending: Alfred Cava

Motion to send Positive Advisory Opinion to the Board of Representatives by Mary Lou Rinaldi, seconded by David Mannis. Vote passed 5-0-1. J.R. McMullen abstained as he had reviewed this item while a member of the Board of Representatives.

9. REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION – NURSES WAGE RETRO PAYOUT (Video 01:48:14)

This is a request to appropriate to fund the Nurses retro wage increase obligations for FY 20/21 per a recent contract settlement.

Action Requested: Approval of appropriation
Amount: \$49,864
Fund: Fund Balance
Submitted by: Mayor David Martin
Attending: Alfred Cava, Director of Human Resources
Sandy Dennies, Director of Administration

Motion to approve by Geoff Alswanger, seconded by David Mannis. Vote passed 5-0-1. J.R. McMullen abstained as he had reviewed this item while a member of the Board of Representatives.

10. REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION – NURSES WAGE INCREASE FY20/21 AND FY21/22
(Video 01:52:06)

This is a request to appropriate funds per the increased obligations for FY20/21 and FY21/22 per a recent contract settlement.

Action Requested: Approval of appropriation
Amount: \$117,741
Fund: Contingency
Submitted by: Mayor David Martin
Attending: Alfred Cava, Director of Human Resources
Sandy Dennies, Director of Administration

Motion to approve by Richard Freedman, seconded by David Mannis. Vote passed 5-0-1.
J.R. McMullen abstained as he had reviewed this item while a member of the Board of Representatives.

11. REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION – MAA WAGE RETRO PAYOUT (Video 01:52:57)

This is a request to appropriate to fund the MAA retro wage increase obligations for FY20/21 per a recent contract settlement.

Action Requested: Approval of appropriation
Amount: \$263,388
Fund/Budget: Fund Balance
Submitted by: Mayor David Martin
Attending: Alfred Cava, Director of Human Resources
Sandy Dennies, Director of Administration

Motion to approve by Geoff Alswanger, seconded by Mary Lou Rinaldi. Vote passed 5-0-1.
J.R. McMullen abstained as he had reviewed this item while a member of the Board of Representatives.

12. REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION – MAA WAGE INCREASE (Video 01:53:50)

This is a request to appropriate funds per the increased obligations for FY20/21 and FY21/22 per a recent contract settlement.

Action Requested: Approval of appropriation
Amount: \$621,927
Fund/Budget: Contingency
Submitted by: Mayor David Martin
Attending: Alfred Cava, Director of Human Resources
Sandy Dennies, Director of Administration

Motion to approve by David Mannis, seconded by Richard Freedman. Vote passed 5-0-1.
J.R. McMullen abstained as he had reviewed this item while a member of the Board of Representatives.

13. REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION – HOMELAND SECURITY/NON CAPITAL EQUIPMENT (Video 01:54:30)

The State Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security increased the FY19/20 grant by \$60,000. The additional funds will be used to purchase four variable message signs for use throughout the region.

Action Requested:	Approval of appropriation
Amount:	\$60,000
Fund/Budget:	100% Grant Funded
Submitted by:	Anita Carpenter, Grants Officer
Attending:	Anita Carpenter

Anita Carpenter presented this item. The four message signs will be used throughout the region to provide messages of caution to drivers.

Motion to approve by J.R. McMullen, seconded by Richard Freedman. Vote passed unanimously, 6-0-0.

14. REQUEST FOR CAPITAL PROJECT (CP2730) APPROPRIATION – WPCF FORCE MAIN REPAIR (Video 01:57:41)

Repair of 42" Force Main at Stamford Water Pollution Control Facility. Funds will be utilized for CIPP lining and associated pipe replacement of a failed 42" force main.

Action Requested:	Approval of appropriation
Amount:	\$640,000
Fund/Budget:	WPCA Reserve Fund
Submitted by:	Mayor David Martin
Attending:	Sandy Dennies, Director of Administration William Brink, Executive Director, WPCA Administration

Bill Brink presented this item. This appropriation will compensate the contractor as the work is completed.

Motion to approve by Mary Lou Rinaldi, seconded by J.R. McMullen. Vote passed unanimously, 6-0-0.

15. ADJOURNMENT (Video 02:02:15)

Motion to adjourn by J.R. McMullen, seconded by Mary Lou Rinaldi. The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

This meeting is on video.

Tracy Donoghue

**Tracy Donoghue
Clerk of the Board**

