

**MAYOR
CAROLINE SIMMONS**



**RICHARD FREEDMAN
CHAIR
MARY LOU T. RINALDI
VICE CHAIR
GEOFF ALSWANGER
DENNIS MAHONEY
DAVID MANNIS
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BOARD OF FINANCE

STAMFORD GOVERNMENT CENTER
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BOARD OF FINANCE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

**Thursday, May 12, 2022
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Via Webinar**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Freedman called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. (Video 00:00:35)

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Caroline Simmons, Bridget Fox, Sandy Dennies, Lou Casolo, Dr. Tamu Lucero, Mike Fernandes, Ryan Fealey, Anita Carpenter, Kevin Murray, Cindy Grafstein, Matt Quinones, Jody Bishop-Pullan, Emily Gordon, Loren Nadres, Frank Petise and Leah Kagan.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: There was none.

1. MINUTES (Video 00:01:27)

Request for approval of minutes of the following meeting:

04122022 Special Meeting
04132022 Regular Monthly Meeting
04192022 Special Meeting

Submitted by: Clerk, Board of Finance

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

2. POSSIBLE DISCUSSION – MAYOR CAROLINE SIMMONS

Mayor Caroline Simmons did not address the Board of Finance on pending issues.

3. BUDGET UPDATE – BOARD OF EDUCATION (Video 00:02:34)

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

*****Items 15 and 16 were taken up out of order and reviewed at this time.***** (Video 00:03:44)

4. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF ANNUAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BUDGET (Video 01:34:30)

Action Requested:	Approval of Community Development Budget
Amount:	\$980,710 (Community Development Block Grant-CDBG) \$430,000 (Investment Partnership Program – HOME)
Fund/Budget:	CDBG/HOME
Submitted by:	Emily Gordon, Director of Housing and Community Development
Attending:	Emily Gordon

Motion to approve by Dennis Mahoney, seconded by Geoff Alswanger. Vote passed unanimously, 6-0-0.

5. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH AFFINECO, LLC d/b/a UNITED SERVICES OF AMERICA FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES AT GOVERNMENT CENTER, POLICE HEADQUARTERS AND OLD TOWN HALL (RFP 850). (Video 01:42:14)

This is a three-year contract, commencing on July 1, 2022. There are two possible extension years that may bring the total Term of this contract to five years. Affineco will be compensated on an hourly basis for these services. Kevin Murray estimates total fees per year to be: Y1 - \$766,429.02; Y2 - \$793,402.64; Y3 - \$821,121.75; Y4 - \$849,901.03 and Y5 - \$879,438.43.

Action Requested:	Approval of Contract
Submitted by:	Mayor Caroline Simmons
Attending:	Kevin Murray, Operations Manager

Motion to hold item until June meeting by Dennis Mahoney, seconded by J.R. McMullen. Vote passed unanimously, 6-0-0.

6. REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION—PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY (COVID-19)

Funding is needed to cover COVID related expenses that were not eligible under the FEMA reimbursement and exceeded expenses allocated to the CARES Act Funding (Grant F30726).

(Video 01:59:06)

Action Requested:	Approval of Additional Appropriation
Amount:	\$1,100,000
Fund/Budget:	Contingency
Submitted by:	Mayor Caroline Simmons
Attending:	Anita Carpenter, Grants Officer

Motion to approve by Richard Freedman, seconded by Geoff Alswanger. Vote passed 4-1-1.
J.R. McMullen voted against. Dennis Mahoney abstained.

7. REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION—PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY (COVID-19)

The City of Stamford is continuing to incur expenses related to COVID-19 and is continuing to submit requests for reimbursement of expenses to FEMA. This request is for costs incurred related to COVID-19 that are not covered by the CARES Act or reimbursed by FEMA. The funds requested are to cover the costs expended and costs obligated by the City of Stamford. (Video 02:19:38)

Action Requested:	Approval of Additional Appropriation
Amount:	\$1,100,000
Fund/Budget:	City Funds/Grants
Submitted by:	Mayor Caroline Simmons
Attending:	Anita Carpenter, Grants Officer

Motion to approve by Richard Freedman, seconded by Geoff Alswanger. Vote passed 4-1-1.
J.R. McMullen voted against. Dennis Mahoney abstained.

8. REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION - MRC - COVID. (Video 02:20:12)

This project will improve volunteer capacity to respond to public health emergencies for the Medical Reserve Corps. This funding is supplemental funding to support the MRC as a result of the pandemic.

Action Requested:	Approval of Additional Appropriation
Amount:	\$50,000
Fund/Budget:	Grant Funded
Submitted by:	Anita Carpenter, Grants Officer
Attending:	Anita Carpenter

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

9. REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION—STAMFORD PAL FOUNDATION

The City of Stamford has received a grant from the COPS agency for \$124,994 to start the pilot PAL program on the west side. The goal of this program is to reduce violent behavior among youth through building a mentoring type positive relationship with police officers. The Stamford PAL Foundation is a non-profit organization that is wanting to take over the PAL program for the long-term. They will use these funds to hire administrative staff to manage the program, conduct outreach and awareness to recruit youth and officers, purchase supplies and maintain insurance coverage. The COPS agency has approved the modification for the Stamford PAL Foundation to administer this program. The foundation will develop strategies in year one to recruit and retrain officers and youth, and develop a sustainability plan. (Video 02:21:56)

Action Requested:	Approval of Additional Appropriation
Amount:	\$124,994
Fund/Budget:	Grant Funded (COPS Microgrant/Sub-recipient)
Submitted by:	Anita Carpenter, Grants Officer
Attending:	Anita Carpenter

See item #10. Items 9 and 10 were voted on together

10. REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION – JAG LOCAL VCP GRANT

The City of Stamford has received a JAG grant in the amount of \$15,000. This funding will be used to support the implementation of the PAL program for youth on the west side of the City. The Stamford PAL Foundation is interested in taking on the PAL program for long-term sustainability. This funding will be sub-awarded to the Stamford PAL Foundation to be used for administrative, outreach and operating purposes. They will administer the PAL program out of the Chester Addison Community Center.

Action Requested:	Approval of Additional Appropriation
Amount:	\$15,000
Fund/Budget:	Grant Funded
Submitted by:	Anita Carpenter, Grants Officer
Attending:	Anita Carpenter

Motion to approve by items #9 and #10 by Mary Lou Rinaldi with certain conditions:

No future funding will ever become part of the City's operating budget, in other words, if the grant funding goes away, the program is "on its own" for future funding.

Second, none of the grant will be used to compensate police employees in any way, whether it be a stipend or overtime. The motion was seconded by J.R. McMullen. Vote passed unanimously, 6-0-0.

11. REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (Video 02:32:10)

The Mayor of Stamford's Office of Economic Development is requesting \$1,500,000 in ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds to support Stamford's small businesses that suffered a negative economic impact of COVID 19. Support will be provided to stimulate economic recovery and growth through the form of grant assistance. ARPA guidelines specifically target economic recovery for small businesses. Small businesses will qualify for grant assistance by demonstrating a negative impact on their business due to COVID 19. Eligible businesses may receive grant support up to \$7,500, which will assist approximately 200 businesses.

Action Requested:	Approval of Additional Appropriation
Amount:	\$1,500,000
Fund/Budget:	ARP Funds
Submitted by:	Loren Nadres, Director of Economic Development
Attending:	Mayor Simmons, Loren Nadres, Anita Carpenter

Motion to approve by Dennis Mahoney seconded by David Mannis. Vote passed unanimously, 6-0-0.

12. CAPITAL PROJECT APPROPRIATION REQUEST – FY21-22 – GREENWICH AVENUE AT PULASKI STREET ROUNDABOUT (Video 03:08:01)

This project provides the construction of a modern roundabout at the intersection of Greenwich Avenue, Pulaski Street, Davenport Street and Waterside Place. The construction includes realignment, reconstruction, milling and overlay of pavement, stamped asphalt truck aprons and splitter islands, concrete and granite curbing, drainage improvements, concrete sidewalks, landscaping, pavement markings and signage. The construction cost is 100% funded by the State through the LOTCIP grant program and the total cost is \$2,816,530.22.

Action Requested:	Approval of Capital Appropriation
Amount:	\$2,816,530.22
Fund/Budget:	State Grant
Submitted by:	Frank Petise, Traffic Engineering
Attending:	Frank Petise, Anthony Romano

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

13. CAPITAL PROJECT APPROPRIATION REQUEST – FY21-22 – (PROJECT 001267) - STAMFORD HIGH PLASTER CEILING & FLOOR REMOVAL *(Video 03:10:41)*

Scope:

Remove ACM containing plaster ceilings on the 2nd floor of the 1927 building. Install new lay-in-tile ceilings. Reinstall existing lighting, IT equipment and any fire alarm devices. Extend classroom and corridor walls to the roof deck above.

Remove ACM containing floor tiles (classrooms only) and wooden sleepers below. Seal perimeter of the classrooms to prevent additional leaks. Install new wooden sleepers, insulation, subfloor and LVT tile.

Schedule:

Submit to OSCGR June 2022 for a Summer 2024 start. If approved, Stamford will be eligible for approximately **60%** reimbursement. Work will continue through the school year and expected completion is end of August 2025.

Action Requested: Approval of Capital Project Appropriation
Amount: \$4,122,491
Fund/Budget: Bond (City)
Submitted by: Louis Casolo, City Engineer
Attending: Lou Casolo, Kevin McCarthy

Motion to approve by Geoff Alswanger, seconded by Dennis Mahoney. Vote passed unanimously, 6-0-0.

14. RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE CAPITAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YR 21-22 BY ADDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$4,121,491 FOR THE STAMFORD HIGH PLASTER CEILING & FLOOR PROJECT (#001267) AND AUTHORIZING \$4,121,491 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE CITY TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION *(Video 03:21:51)*

Action Requested: Approval of Resolution
Amount: \$4,122,491
Fund/Budget: Bond (City)
Submitted by: Louis Casolo, City Engineer
Attending: Lou Casolo, Kevin McCarthy, Cindy Grafstein

Motion to approve by Mary Lou Rinaldi, seconded by Dennis Mahoney. Vote passed 5-0-1. J.R. McMullen abstained.

15. CAPITAL PROJECT APPROPRIATION REQUEST – (PROJECT 001268) – ROXBURY SCHOOL REPLACEMENT PROJECT *(Video 00:03:44)*

Construction of a new K-8 school at 751 West Hill Road. This project aligns with the goals of Stamford's Long-term master plan to create sustainable facilities that best address the City's educational goals and Community needs.

A school construction application will be submitted to the state OSCGR in June 2022. If approved, Stamford will be eligible for approximately **60%** reimbursement.

Action Requested: Approval of Capital Project Appropriation
Amount: \$86,000,000
Fund/Budget: Bond (City)
Submitted by: Lou Casolo, City Engineer
Attending: Lou Casolo, Kevin McCarthy, Cindy Grafstein

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

16. RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE CAPITAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YR 21-22 BY ADDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$86,000,000 FOR THE ROXBURY SCHOOL REPLACEMENT PROJECT (#001268) AND AUTHORIZING \$86,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE CITY TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION (Video 01:25:33)

Action Requested: Approval of Capital Project Appropriation
Amount: \$86,000,000
Fund/Budget: Bond (City)
Submitted by: Lou Casolo, City Engineer
Attending: Lou Casolo

Motion to approve by J.R. McMullen, seconded by Geoff Alswanger. Vote passed 5-0-1.
J.R. McMullen abstained.

17. FY 2021-2022 BUDGET QUARTERLY REPORT- REVIEW (Video 03:22:38)

Submitted by: Lee Berta, Assistant Director OPM
Attending: Lee Berta, OPM

Lee Berta presented an overview of the 3rd quarter and the fiscal year to date.

18. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn by J.R. McMullen, seconded by Mary Lou Rinaldi. The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 p.m.

This meeting is on video.

Tracy Donoghue

**Tracy Donoghue
Clerk of the Board**