

(The following is not a verbatim transcript of comments or discussion that occurred during the meeting, but rather a summarization intended for general informational purposes. All motions and votes are the official records).

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Regular meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Monday, April 4, 2022 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:25 P.M. by the Vice-Chair.

Present Councilwoman Jessica M. Marino
 Councilman John P. Donegan
 Councilman Richard D. Campopiano
 Councilman Matthew R. Reilly
 Councilwoman Nicole Renzulli, Vice-Chair
 Council President Christopher G. Paplauskas

Absent: Council Vice-President Robert J. Ferri, Chair

Also Present: Councilwoman Lammis J. Vargas
 Councilwoman Aniece Germain
 Paul McAuley, Deputy Chief of Staff
 John Verdecchia, Assistant City Solicitor
 Rosalba Zanni, Acting City Clerk
 Heather Finger, Stenographer

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

On motion by Councilman Reilly, seconded by Council President Paplauskas, it was voted to dispense with the minutes of the last meeting and they stand approved as recorded. Motion passed unanimously.

I. COMMITTEE BUSINESS MATTERS CARRIED OVER

None.

II. CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS

None.

III. PUBLIC HEARINGS* and/or NEW MATTERS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

None.

A. PUBLIC HEARINGS

B. NEW MATTERS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

3-22-01 *Ordinance ratifying School Committee's Collective Bargaining Agreement with Rhode Island Laborers District Council 1322, Bus Drivers Unit. Introduced pursuant to: Charter Sec. 11.02.1.*

On motion by Councilman Donegan, seconded by Councilwoman Marino, it was voted to recommend approval of this Ordinance.

Under Discussion:

Joseph Balducci, School Chief Financial Officer, appeared to speak and stated that this is a three-year contract with the School Bus Drivers. Unlike other contracts that have been negotiated, there is a one-time contract ratification bonus that is factored into the first year of the contract only. It is a \$2,000 per person payout in the first year of the contract.

Council President Paplauskas asked Mr. Dimaio if he had any concerns regarding this Fiscal Note. Mr. Dimaio asked if this is in the current budget that was submitted. Mr. Balducci stated that it is. In the 2022-23 Budget year two because basically in the first year 2021-22 is the year we are in so those funds have been set aside and also in the second year of the contract as well. The third year we will incorporate into the 2023-24 Budget.

No one appeared to oppose.

Roll call was taken on motion to recommend approval of this Ordinance and motion passed unanimously.

Resolution "FY 2023 State Budget allocation for funding Cranston's Public Libraries". Sponsored by Council President Paplauskas and Council Minority Leader Donegan.

On motion by Councilman Donegan, seconded by Councilwoman Marino, it was voted to recommend approval of this Resolution.

Under Discussion:

Councilman Donegan stated that this Resolution comes at the request of Library Director Garcia and asked that the Committee approve this Resolution and urged the General Assembly and anyone at the State level to fully fund our public libraries throughout the State.

Chair asked to be added as co-sponsor. Councilwomen Vargas, Germain, Marino, Councilmen Reilly and Campopiano also asked to be added as co-sponsors.

No one appeared to oppose.

Roll call was taken on motion to recommend approval of this Resolution and motion passed unanimously.

- ***Real Estate Tax Abatements***

On motion by Councilman Reilly, seconded by Councilman Donegan, it was voted to recommend of this list of Tax Abatements as recommended by the City Assessor. Motion passed unanimously.

- ***Motor Vehicle Tax Abatements***

On motion by Councilman Reilly, seconded by Councilwoman Vargas, it was voted to recommend of this list of Tax Abatements as recommended by the City Assessor. Motion passed unanimously.

- ***Tax Assessment Board of Review assessed December 31, 2020***

Informational Only. No action needed.

Councilman Donegan stated that he is aware that the City Council does not vote on these, but he indicated that every year Chapel View has come up on the docket for some substantial reassessments and we are talking hundreds of thousands of dollars. That is hundreds of thousands of dollars that now has to be shifted on to potentially residential properties in the City.

- ***Tax Interest Waiver Approvals***

On motion by Councilwoman Vargas, seconded by Councilman Reilly, it was voted to recommend approval of this list of Tax Interest Waiver Approvals as recommended by the City Treasurer.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Council President Paplauskas indicated that as an update, Mr. Lima will be uploading approximately ten years of Council meetings on U-tube and over the next few weeks, they will be on U-tube.

- **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

/s/ Rosalba Zanni
Acting City Clerk