

(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

Special meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Thursday, April 17, 2025 in the Cranston High School East Auditorium, 899 Park Ave., Cranston, Rhode Island.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by the Chair.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Councilman Andy Andujar
Councilwoman Kristen E. Haroian, Vice-Chair
Council Vice-President Daniel Wall, Chair
Council President Jessica M. Marino, Ex-Officio

Absent: Councilwoman Briget R. Graziano
Councilman Frank J. Ritz, Jr.
Councilman Michael A. Traficante

Also Present: Anthony Moretti, Chief of Staff
John Verdecchia, Assistant City Solicitor
Stephen Angell, City Council Legal Counsel
Rosalba Zanni, Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees
Heather Finger, Stenographer

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IV. NEW MATTERS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

4-25-01S ***ORDINANCE Amending the City of Cranston 2024-2025 Municipal Budget (Director of Public Works Salary);*** sponsored by Mayor Hopkins.

Director Moretti stated that this Ordinance is a companion Ordinance to parallel that of one of the line items in next year's budget, but in recognizing the need for a DPW Director in this current year to come on board before hopefully Mr. Corrao will be confirmed. As Council President Marino had pointed out, if we want to get going on this position in this Fiscal Year, it might be wise to present an Ordinance on this nature and that is what we have done. This is to change the salary schedule within this year's budget to modify the salary for the Public Works director from the amounts going from \$135,668.07 to \$172,000. This matter was addressed, he believes, fairly and thoroughly at the last

Finance Committee meeting in terms of the merits of changing this salary. The highly competitive market for PE with the amount of experience that we are able to get with Mr. Corrao and just the market in general, this is really needed.

Chair stated that Attorney Angell pointed out to him that Director Zidelis's Fiscal Notes states "I hereby certify that the anticipated sufficient funds are available to fund the proposed Ordinance with the period ending on June 30, 2025". Director Moretti stated that the Mayor's budget puts forth to the Council Fiscal Year 25-26. This is to accelerate his hiring in this current Fiscal Year, which is 24-25. We do not anticipate being over budget as a result of this change. We have had the Chief Engineer's position vacant for basically the whole time. We have been using some temporary help relative to the DPW Directors position, but there is sufficient funds to cover this incremental cost for this Fiscal Year and then new budget would date effect with whatever the Council approves.

On motion b Councilwoman Haroian, seconded by Councilman Andujar, it was voted to recommend approval of this Ordinance and motion passed unanimously.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Rosalba Zanni
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees