Committee on Finance and the Northampton City Council

Councilor David A. Murphy, Chair
Councilor Jesse M. Adams
Councilor Maureen T. Carney
Councilor Marianne L. LaBarge

City Council Chambers, 212 Main Street
Wallace J. Puchalski Municipal Building
Northampton, MA

Meeting Date: February 4, 2016

Note: The Finance Committee Meeting will take place during the City Council Meeting as announced. The City Council Meeting is scheduled to begin at 7:05 pm.

1. **Meeting Called To Order**

2. **Roll Call**

3. **Approval Of Minutes From The Previous Meeting**

   A. **Minutes Of The January 21, 2016 Committee On Finance Meeting**

   Documents: financeminutesjanuary21_2016.pdf

4. **Financial Orders**

5. **16.003 - Ordinance To Delete Fees From Chapter 174 Of City Code Book**

   Documents: 16.003_ordinance-pertaining_to_fees-delete_chapter_174_from_code_book_aos-refer.pdf

6. **New Business**
   -Reserved for topics that the Chair did not reasonably anticipate would be discussed.

7. **Adjourn**

Prepared by:
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MEETING MINUTES

1/21/2016 - Minutes

1. **Meeting Called To Order**
   At 9:30 pm Councilor Murphy called the meeting to order.

2. **Roll Call**
   Present at the meeting were Councilors Murphy, LaBarge, and Carney. Councilor Adams was absent.

3. **Elect A Committee Chair**
   Councilor LaBarge nominated Councilor Murphy as the committee's chair; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Councilor Adams).

4. **Financial Orders**

   A. **16.003 - Ordinance To Delete Fees From Chapter 174 Of City Code Book**
   Continued to the next meeting.

   B. **16.004 A Financial Order To Provide Funding For Extraordinary Maintenance At The NPS Grounds Maintenance Shop**

   Mayor Narkewicz indicated that the building discussed in this ordinance is located in the back of the Northampton Survival Center at 265 Prospect Street. Due to problems with the furnace, there are serious carbon monoxide issues that must be addressed immediately. While the Survival Center is housed in a portion of the building that is leased, there is still a city presence in the building. The new furnace installation will require asbestos abatement. The fund that the money will be drawn from was originally set up to support maintenance projects for this building. The account is referred to as a "gift" fund" because the money was given to the city as part of the 30-year lease. The asbestos abatement project will be contracted out to a professional company. A new type of heating element ("mini-split") will replace the current furnace.

   Councilor Carney moved to send the order back to the full city council with a positive recommendation; Councilor LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Councilor Adams).

   C. **16.006 Financial Order To Purchase Or Otherwise Acquire Any Fee, Easement, And/Or Any Other Interest In Land Off Old Ferry Road For $30,000**

Planning and Sustainability Director Wayne Feiden was on hand to discuss many orders, including this one. This property has recently become available, and while the city is not looking to purchase land, when land becomes available, the city will consider it for purchase. The property is located at Sheldon Field. The city would like to purchase the property now and it will remain farmland for up to 18 years. Sheldon field will then be able to be expanded once the lease runs out. A scrivener's error was corrected on the floor.

Councilor LaBarge moved to send the order back to the full city council with a positive recommendation; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Councilor Adams).

D. 16.007 Financial Order Authorizing The Conservation Commission To Purchase Or Acquire An Agricultural Preservation Restriction On 0.85 Acres Of Farmland On Island Road For $1,000

Director Feiden explained that the amount of land represented in this financial order is below the threshold that requires state authorization; only local authorization is required. A scrivener's error was corrected on the floor.

Councilor LaBarge moved to send the order back to the full city council with a positive recommendation; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Councilor Adams).

E. 16.008 Financial Order Allowing The Mayor To Accept Grants From The Exec. Office Of Energy And Environmental Affairs

Mayor Narkewicz indicated that the full amount requested in the order may be less.

Councilor Carney moved to send the order back to the full city council with a positive recommendation; Councilor LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Councilor Adams).

F. 16.009 Financial Order Authorizing The Conservation Commission To Purchase Or Otherwise Acquire Any Fee, Easement, And/Or Any Other Interest In 3.1 +/- Acres Of Land Located On Venturers Field Road

Director Feiden explained that a small shed is located on the property. If the city obtained title to the property, the owners of the shed would be asked to remove it.

Councilor LaBarge moved to send the order back to the full city council with a positive recommendation; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Councilor Adams).

G. 16.011 - 16.017 Financial Orders Allowing The Use Of CPA Funds For Various Projects

Sarah LaValley, Conservation, Preservation and Land Use Planner for the city was on hand to discuss the projects.

16.011 - $30,000 be appropriated from CPA funding to the Broad Brook Coalition for the Fitzgerald Lake Bridge, Boardwalk and Dock Project

The Boardwalk at Fitzgerald Lake is now 25 years old; it has been flooding and appears to be sinking. The boardwalk is inaccessible during periods of high water at this location. This grant will allow for full boardwalk replacement that will be handicap accessible. The Broad Brook Coalition will be managing the project.

Councilor Carney moved to send the order back to the full city council with a positive

recommendation; Councilor LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Councilor Adams).

16.012 - $30,000 from CPA funding to move, store and purchase historic ornamentation for the Seth Thomas Clock

This is the third time this project has come before city council; once to purchase the clock, once to move store and preserve the clock, and now to purchase historic ornamentation for the clock. The clock will be moved to its final location if the funds are approved.

Councilor LaBarge moved to send the order back to the full city council with a positive recommendation; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Councilor Adams).

16.013 - $200,000 from CPA funding to DPW for additional funding for the Pulaski Park Renovation Project

This order, If approved will allow the DPW to bury utility wires, as required by the Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities grant. This is not for Phase II of the Pulaski Park Renovation Project.

Councilor LaBarge moved to send the order back to the full city council with a positive recommendation; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Councilor Adams).

16.014 - $3,000 be appropriated from CPA funds for Northampton Conservation Commission and Northampton OPS for the Mineral Hills Habitat Project

The land noted in this order is a fairly recent acquisition. A picture from the 1950's showed a lot of pasture and grazing land in the Mineral Hills area. A more recent photo shows the land use pattern is completely changed and much of the open space is gone.

Councilor Klein asked about the removal of the invasive species. Sarah LaValley explained that more investigation is required; the exact eradication method is not yet known.

The endangered species referred to in this order are wood turtles.

Councilor LaBarge moved to send the order back to the full city council with a positive recommendation; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Councilor Adams).

16.015 - $131,310 be appropriated from CPA funds to Historic Northampton, Inc. for electrical work, roof and window replacement for Damon & Shepherd Houses

This is a second application submitted by Historic Northampton, Inc. for restoration projects at the Damon and Shepherd Houses. Wiring needs to be done; there is extensive water damage that needs to be addressed; and windows need to be replaced. Monies, if approved, will be used to support these needed activities. The amount requested is based on an estimate. Historic Northampton, Inc. is actively looking to add to its membership base and they have an on-going capital campaign effort to raise funds for projects like these.

Councilor LaBarge moved to send the order back to the full city council with a positive recommendation; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Councilor Adams).

16.016 - $5,000 from CPA funds to Northampton Youth and Community Rowing for the Conn.

River Greenway Gate Project

The project will remove the remnants of the former construction site and create a more appealing entrance to the park area.

Councilor LaBarge moved to send the order back to the full city council with a positive recommendation; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Councilor Adams).

16.017 - $55,000 from CPA funds to Northampton Conservation Commission & Northampton OPS for the Rocky Hill Open Space Acquisition Project

Councilor LaBarge moved to send the order back to the full city council with a positive recommendation; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Councilor Adams).

H. 16.019 An Order Authorizing The Expansion Of Pulaski Park In Accordance With M.G.L. C. 45 § 3 And The Submission Of Certain Land To The Provisions Of Amendment Article 97 Of The Massachusetts Constitutions And The Provisions

The overlook project looks to t expand Pulaski Park onto land already owned by the City . As a condition of the PARC grant, this can only be done to land that is subject to the provisions of Article 97. This order would authorize the Mayor to execute a deed to expand Pulaski Park in accordance with MGL c. 45 s. 3 and to include the parcel in the provisions of Article 97. This is similar to what was done at Lampron Park. This is in anticipation of Phase II of the Pulaski Park Renovation Project.

Councilor Carney moved to send the order back to the full city council with a positive recommendation; Councilor LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Councilor Adams).

I. 16.020 Financial Order For Leeds School Roof Repair

Mayor Narkewicz indicated that MSBA has an accelerated program for certain repair projects, and the repair of school roofs would qualify. The NPS and City Council must both approve the order to authorize the Superintendent to submit to MSBA the Statement of Interest Form. Submission of the interest form does not guarantee the acceptance or the approval of an application or the awarding of grant funding.

The state will determine who the architect will be and who the the project manager will be for the project. If the grant is awarded, the city will have access to state funds to repair the roof. The Mayor is asking for two readings tonight so that the application can be submitted in time.

In FY16 a portion of the Leeds School Roof was repaired and appears on the FY16 Capital Improvement Plan.

Councilor Carney moved to send the order back to the full city council with a positive recommendation; Councilor LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Councilor Adams).

J. 16.021 Financial Order For Bridge Street School Roof Repair

Please see Mayor Narkewicz's comments above.

Councilor LaBarge moved to send the order back to the full city council with a positive recommendation; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a

voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Councilor Adams).

5. **New Business**
   None

6. **Adjourn**
   At 10:45 pm Councilor LaBarge motioned to adjourn the meeting; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Councilor Adams).

Prepared by:
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City of Northampton
Massachusetts

In the Year **Two thousand sixteen**
Upon the Recommendation of **Mayor David J. Narkewicz**

16.003
AN ORDINANCE
To delete fees from Chapter 174 of Code Book

An Ordinance of the City of Northampton, Massachusetts, providing that the Code of Ordinances, City of Northampton, Massachusetts, be amended by revising § **Chapter 174** of said Code; providing that **Fees**.

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Northampton, in city Council assembled, as follows:

Section 1: that § **Chapter 174** of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Northampton Massachusetts, be amended so that such section shall read as follows:

Section §**Chapter 174**

Delete

Chapter 174 shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following wording:

Reserved: see fee schedule on www.northamptonma.gov