

Committee on Finance and the Northampton City Council

*Councilor David A. Murphy, Chair
Councilor Maureen T. Carney
Councilor Marianne L. LaBarge
Councilor Gina-Louise Sciarra*

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

Meeting Date: September 5, 2019

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 August 15, 2019

Documents:

[08-15-2019_finance committee minutes.pdf](#)

4. Financial Orders

**A. 19.126 An Order To Appropriate Transportation Infrastructure
Enhancement Funds \$6,157 For Burts Pit Road Reconstruction**

Documents:

[19.126 an order to appropriate transportation infrastructure
enhancement funds 6,157 for burts pit road reconstruction.pdf](#)

**B. 19.127 An Order To Authorize Intermunicipal Agreement For Young Adult
Empowerment Collaborative Of Western Mass**

Documents:

[19.127 an order to authorize intermunicipal agreement for young adult
empowerment collaborative of western mass.pdf](#)

**C. 19.129 An Order Authorizing The Lease Of The Senior Center Roof For
Solar Panels**

Documents:

19.129 an order authorizing the lease of the senior center roof for solar panels.pdf
19.129 senior center roof schematic.pdf
19.129 an order authorizing the lease of the senior center roof for solar panels - as amended.pdf

5. New Business

-Reserved for topics that the Chair did not reasonably anticipate would be discussed.

6. Adjourn

*Contact: D. Murphy @ david.murphy8@comcast.net
or 413-586-5461*



Committee on Finance and the Northampton City Council

*Councilor David A. Murphy, Chair
Councilor Maureen T. Carney
Councilor Marianne L. LaBarge
Councilor Gina-Louise Sciarra*

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

Meeting Date: August 15, 2019

Note: The Finance Committee Meeting took place during the City Council Meeting as announced. The City Council Meeting began at 7 p.m.

1. **Meeting Called To Order:** At 8:15 p.m. Councilor Murphy called the meeting to order.
2. **Roll Call:** Present were committee members David Murphy (Chair), Maureen Carney, Marianne LaBarge and Gina-Louise Sciarra. Also present from the City Council were Dennis Bidwell, Alisa Klein and Jim Nash. At-Large Councilor William H. Dwight and Council President Ryan O'Donnell were absent.
3. **Approval Of Minutes From The Previous Meeting**
 - A. **Minutes of July 11, 2019**

Councilor LaBarge moved to approve the minutes of July 11, 2019. Councilor Carney seconded. The motion passed 4:0 by voice vote.
4. **4th Quarter Financial Report**

Finance Director Susan Wright presented the financial report for the quarter ending June 30, 2019. Financial officers are still in the process of closing out the fiscal year, so things could still shift a little, she cautioned. Books will be closed by the end of September.

Things turned out pretty much as predicted, Ms. Wright reported. Revenues exceeded estimates primarily because the city had revenue from recreational marijuana excise tax and community host agreements. For the future, the city has established a stabilization account to track revenue and expenses from this source. Once Free Cash is certified in the fall, the Mayor will come before the council with an order to move money from the community host agreements to this account. The community host agreement money is only expected to come for five years, which is why it has not been built into the operating budget.

Excise for marijuana was rightfully not budgeted in the FY2019 budget because it was a revenue that had not occurred yet. However, in the FY2020 budget administrators have fully budgeted an estimated amount.

City Council Committee on Finance Meeting Minutes for August 15, 2019

It is the primary reason for the increase in revenue over last year, although she would point out that meals tax was also up quite a bit in the last two quarters. Meals taxes were up almost 9% in the third quarter and almost 5% in the fourth quarter.

In summary, General Fund revenue ended up with a surplus and the FY2019 General Fund budget ended up being 96% expended. As far as expenditures, the largest reason for returns to Free Cash is vacancies.

All four enterprise funds met their revenue estimates and slightly exceeded them, she added. Sewer Enterprise revenue came in at 101%, Water Enterprise came in at 100%, Stormwater Enterprise came in at 107% and the Solid Waste Enterprise came in at 115%.

In terms of expenditures, the enterprise funds often have a lot of money carried over because of ongoing capital projects, she reminded.

The General Fund and enterprise funds ended pretty much as expected, she concluded.

Councilor Klein asked about the increase in revenue from firearms licenses, which showed a 170% increase. She is interested in looking at trends in this day and age. She asked for more information on this revenue source.

It may not represent an actual increase because the Police Department may have brought in \$5,000 last year, Ms. Wright clarified. She is conservative in estimating potential revenue so it is possible that actual collections simply exceeded projected amounts rather than actually exceeding the previous year's receipts. She agreed to provide additional information.

Councilor LaBarge moved to accept the 4th quarter financial report. Councilor Carney seconded. The motion carried 4:0 by voice vote.

5. Financial Orders

A. 19.117 An Order To Award Contract For FY2020 Audit To Scanlon And Associates

Councilor Murphy read the text of the order.

Councilor LaBarge moved to forward the order with a positive recommendation. Councilor Carney seconded.

Members held a special meeting to talk about this in Finance and made the recommendation to extend the contract with Scanlon & Associates, LLC for another year and to begin a full procurement process for a new contract in March or April, Councilor Murphy reported.

The motion passed unanimously 4:0 by voice vote.

B. 19.118 An Order To Authorize Payment Of Prior Year Bills

Councilor Murphy reviewed the prior year bills to be paid out of the budget for the current fiscal year.

Councilor LaBarge moved to forward the order with a positive recommendation. Councilor Sciarra seconded. The motion passed unanimously 4:0 by voice vote.

C. 19.119 An Order To Authorize Intermunicipal Agreement With Worthington For Part-Time PE Teacher

Councilor Murphy read the text of the order.

Councilor LaBarge moved to forward the order with a positive recommendation. Councilor Carney seconded.

Northampton Public Schools (NPS) is looking for a part, part-time physical education teacher for one of its sports, Mayor Narkewicz explained. In conversation with Worthington administrators, school officials realized Worthington is also looking for one. The two districts decided to combine the position to make it more attractive to a candidate. They expect to advertise in September.

Councilor Klein asked if the schools had made such an arrangement for teachers before.

Mayor Narkewicz agreed it was a little unusual. Both schools are looking for a .2 PE teacher so they thought it might be more attractive as a .4 position. Both superintendents were willing to try because they hadn't had much success working alone. He asked for two readings to meet the deadline of hiring by September 1st.

Councilor Murphy called the motion to a vote, and it passed unanimously 4:0.

D. 19.121 An Order For FY2020 Budget Transfers

Councilor Murphy reviewed the financial transfers.

Councilor LaBarge moved to forward the order with a positive recommendation. Councilor Sciarra seconded.

These were the transfers discussed in executive session, Mayor Narkewicz reminded. They were budgeted as part of the salary reserve account, and he is asking that the amounts listed be moved to individual departmental budgets.

Councilor Bidwell asked how much money would remain in the salary reserve account after the transfer, and Mayor Narkewicz said the account would be fully expended.

The motion passed unanimously 4:0.

6. New Business

-Reserved for topics that the Chair did not reasonably anticipate would be discussed.
None.

7. Adjourn: There being no further business, Councilor LaBarge moved to adjourn. Councilor Carney seconded. The motion carried on a voice vote of 4 Yes, 0 No. The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Contact: D. Murphy @ david.murphy8@comcast.net
or 413-586-5461

City of Northampton
MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

September 5, 2019

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

**19.126 An Order to Appropriate Transportation Infrastructure Enhancement Funds \$6,157 for Burts
Pit Road Reconstruction**

Whereas, the city has received \$6,157 from the Commonwealth Transportation Infrastructure Enhancement Trust Fund for trips conducted by Transportation Network Companies in Massachusetts for calendar year 2017; and

Whereas, the funds must be appropriated by City Council upon the recommendation and approval of the Mayor; and

Whereas, the funds must be used to address the impact of transportation network services on municipal roads, bridges and other transportation infrastructure or any other public purpose substantially related to the operation of transportation network services in the city or town;

Ordered, that

The amount of \$6,157 be appropriated from the Commonwealth Transportation Infrastructure Enhancement Fund (Fund 2316) to be used for the costs related to the reconstruction of Burts Pitt Road.

City of Northampton
MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

September 5, 2019

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

19.127 An Order to Authorize Intermunicipal Agreement for Young Adult Empowerment Collaborative of Western Mass

Ordered, that

Whereas MGL C.40 s. 4A allows for joint operation of public activities among governmental units, and

Whereas, MGL c. 40, s. 4A requires that such inter-governmental agreements be approved, in a city, by the City Council and the Mayor, and;

Whereas the City of Northampton provides services to and shares services with other municipalities;

Therefore pursuant to MGL C. 40 s. 4A the City Council hereby authorizes the City of Northampton to enter into the following inter-municipal agreement for FY2020 and FY2021:

Young Adult Empowerment collaborative of Western Massachusetts - Contract to partner with the Franklin County Sheriff's Office, the Opioid Task Force of Franklin County and the North Quabbin Region – agreement to work cooperatively to develop and strengthen regional data systems serving young adults, preventing and addressing young adult misuse by creating and promoting evidence-based programming to support young people as they transition into the five stages of adulthood; and engaging families and communities in their roles to support young adults.

City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

September 5, 2019

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

19.129 An Order Authorizing the Lease of the Senior Center Roof for Solar Panels

Ordered, that

Whereas, the Northampton Senior Center was constructed to be highly energy-efficient in accordance with LEED standards with a potential for the future addition of a solar photovoltaic array to complement its geothermal heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system; and

Whereas, city residents Morey Phippen and Brian Adams, acting through their non-profit charitable organization Phippenadams, LLC, has generously offered to fund the installation of a solar photovoltaic array on the roof of the Northampton Senior Center and a six-year lease is a condition precedent to the grant of the array as a gift to the city; and

Whereas, M.G.L. c. 30B, § 16 requires a vote of the City Council to surplus any interest in public property prior to its disposal,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

The City Council declares surplus a leasehold interest in the roof of the Northampton Senior Center located at 67 Conz Street, Northampton, and authorizes the Mayor to execute a six-year lease for said roof on such terms and conditions as the Mayor deems reasonable, subject, however, to the following restrictions:

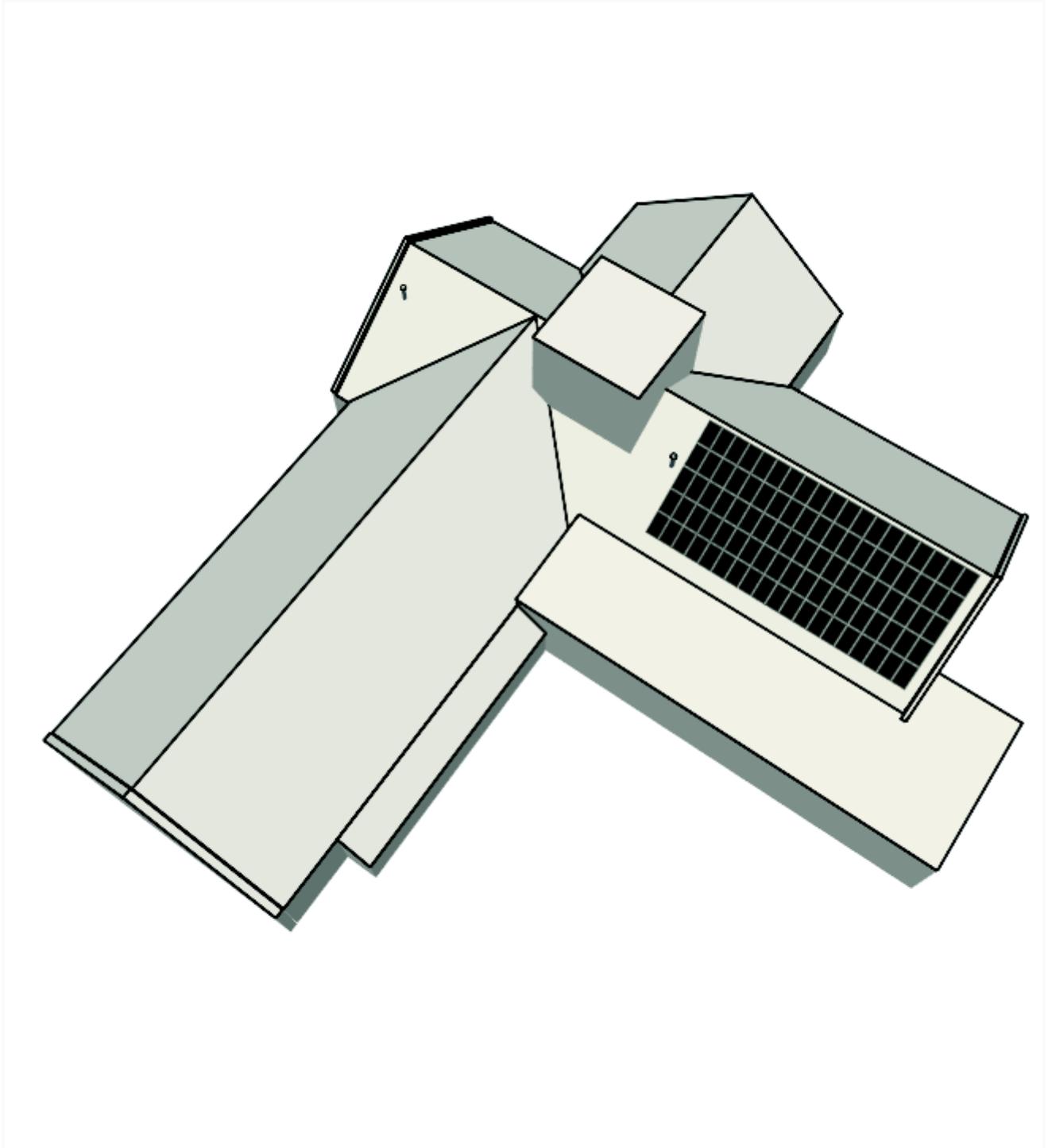
- (1) The lessee will be responsible for the care, repair, and maintenance of the solar photovoltaic array for the duration of the lease.
- (2) At the conclusion of the lease, the lessee shall gift the solar photovoltaic array to the City of Northampton.



Customer: Northampton Senior Center
Address: 67 Conz St
Northampton, MA 01060

System size:
Yr 1 Production: 29.93 kW
Designer: 33,171 kWh
Date: Northeast Solar
July 17th, 2019

Site Assessment



City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

September 5, 2019

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

19.129 An Order Authorizing the Lease of the Senior Center Roof for Solar Panels

Ordered, that

Ordered that,

Whereas, the Northampton Senior Center was constructed to be highly energy-efficient in accordance with LEED standards with a potential for the future addition of a solar photovoltaic array to complement its geothermal heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system; and

Whereas, city residents Morey Phippen and Brian Adams, acting through Phippenadams, LLC, has generously offered to fund the installation of a solar photovoltaic array on the roof of the Northampton Senior Center and a six-year lease is a condition precedent to the grant of the array as a gift to the city; and

Whereas, M.G.L. c. 30B, § 16 requires a vote of the City Council to surplus any interest in public property prior to its disposal,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

The City Council declares surplus a leasehold interest in the roof of the Northampton Senior Center located at 67 Conz Street, Northampton, and authorizes the Mayor to execute a six-year lease for said roof on such terms and conditions as the Mayor deems reasonable, subject, however, to the following restrictions:

- (1) The lessee will be responsible for the care, repair, and maintenance of the solar photovoltaic array for the duration of the lease.
- (2) At the conclusion of the lease, the lessee shall gift the solar photovoltaic array to the City of Northampton.