



Committee on Finance and the Northampton City Council

*Councilor Gina-Louise Sciarra, Chair
Councilor Marianne LaBarge, Vice Chair
Councilor Michael J. Quinlan, Jr.
Councilor John Thorpe*

On-line Zoom Meeting

Meeting Date: August 19, 2021

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

1. **Meeting Called To Order:** At 8:02 p.m., Councilor Sciarra called the meeting to order.
2. **Roll Call:** Present were committee members Gina-Louise Sciarra (Chair), Marianne LaBarge (Vice-Chair), Michael J. Quinlan, Jr. and John Thorpe. Also present from the City Council were William H. Dwight, Alex Jarrett, Karen Foster, Rachel Maiore and Jim Nash. Also present were Mayor David Narkewicz, Finance Director Charlene Nardi and Administrative Assistant Laura Krutzler.
3. **Approval of Minutes of June 4, 2020 and November 12, 2020 (never accepted), June 17, 2021 and July 15, 2021**
Councilor LaBarge moved to approve the minutes of June 4, 2020, November 12, 2020, June 17, 2021 and July 15, 2021. Councilor Thorpe seconded.

Councilor Jarrett pointed out that, instead of June 17th, the minutes attached to the agenda were actually those of June 7, 2021.

Councilor LaBarge amended her motion to approve the minutes of June 7, 2021 instead of June 17, 2021. The motion passed unanimously 4:0 by roll call vote.

4. **FINANCIAL ORDERS**
 - A. **21.305 An Order to Reprogram CS Surplus Funds To CS 2005 Vehicle Replacement**
Councilor Sciarra read the order.

Councilor Quinlan moved to forward the order to the full City Council with a positive recommendation. Councilor LaBarge seconded.

Central Services Director David Pomerantz has noted that there wasn't enough funding in the original appropriation for this vehicle so he is asking for additional funds to cover the extra cost, Director Nardi explained. The cost of vehicles has gone up due to COVID.

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Mayor Narkewicz said he believed it is one of the larger Ford Transit vans.

The motion passed unanimously 4:0 by roll call vote.

B. 21.306 An Order to Appropriate Transportation Infrastructure Enhancement Funds To Hotel Bridge Improvements

Councilor Sciarra read the order.

Councilor LaBarge moved to forward the order to the full City Council with a positive recommendation. Councilor Thorpe seconded.

Her husband and his whole family was born and raised in Leeds and love that bridge, Councilor LaBarge shared. To see it not being used is very heart-breaking to many older residents. She is very honored to support this.

Mayor Narkewicz said this is rideshare money which they have appropriated in the past to transportation projects. The first bid on the Hotel Bridge was not successful so the city will be going back out to bid.

The motion passed unanimously 4:0 by roll call vote.

C. 21.307 An Order To Reprogram \$15,000 From Safety Village Surplus To Sheldon Field Dugout Replacement

Councilor Sciarra read the order.

Councilor Quinlan moved to forward the order to the full City Council with a positive recommendation. Councilor LaBarge seconded.

Mayor Narkewicz confirmed that this is to replace the existing wooden structures.

This council received an email from Jeff Payne from Northampton Baseball and Softball regarding the condition of the fields, Councilor Quinlan reminded. He knows some of the softball players there now are even concerned about the fields' condition. He is hoping they may see some money allocated toward that.

The motion passed unanimously 4:0 by roll call vote.

D. 21.308 An Order To Reprogram Funds For Safety Netting For Florence Recreation Fields

Councilor Sciarra read the order.

Councilor Quinlan moved to forward the order to the full City Council with a positive recommendation. Councilor Thorpe seconded.

The motion passed unanimously 4:0 by roll call vote.

E. 21.309 An Order To Authorize Spending \$2,577.62 From Equipment Firefighting Donation Account On UTV And Trailer

Councilor Sciarra read the order.

Councilor Quinlan moved to forward the order to the full City Council with a positive recommendation. Councilor Thorpe seconded.

The Utility Vehicle (UTV) is replacing a 1998 All -Terrain Vehicle (ATV) which was approved as part of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Mayor Narkewicz explained. What councilors are seeing is projects approved as part of the capital plan coming in a little more expensive than estimated, he added. The chief is using money from a donation account to cover the additional cost.

Councilor LaBarge recalled there was a fire on Turkey Hill Road in 1998. The Northampton Fire Department did not have an ATV at the time, and ATV's were coming in from out of town to help access the fire. The ice cream bikers came to her and said they were willing to hold a fundraising event to purchase an ATV. The fire department was so happy to receive that ATV. Also, residents on Turkey Hill Road donated money for a safety bed to be used to transport injured people, so there is a history there.

The motion passed unanimously 4:0 by roll call vote.

F. 21.314 An Order To Reprogram Funds For Florence Fire Station Repaving
Councilor Sciarra read the order.

Councilor Quinlan moved to forward the order to the full City Council with a positive recommendation. Councilor LaBarge seconded.

The motion passed unanimously 4:0 by roll call vote.

5. **New Business**

None.

6. **Adjourn:** There being no further business, Councilor Quinlan moved to adjourn. Councilor Thorpe seconded. The motion carried on a roll call vote of 4 Yes, 0 No. The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

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