

FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 17, 2023

Present: Rosemary Sandlin, Chair
Cecilia Calabrese – Vice Chair
Paul Cavallo
Anthony Suffriti
Dino Mercadante

Also Present: Councilors Bitzas, Hendrickson, Rossi, Smith, and Russo, Solicitor, Auditor, Park & Recreation Director

Called to Order: Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Chair Sandlin in the Agawam Senior Center

AGENDA

1. **Approval of minutes dated January 17, 2023**

Motion to approve was made by Councilor Mercadante and seconded by Councilor Cavallo.

The vote was 5 Yes, 0 No approving the minutes.

2. **TR-2023-4 - A Resolution accepting a grant in the amount of Eighteen Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety Nine Dollars and Sixty Cents (\$18,999.60) from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security and the Department of Fire Services to the Town of Agawam Fire Department (Sponsored Mayor Sapelli)**

The Solicitor explained that this grant was for clothing necessary to fight brush fires. There was no further discussion.

The Committee voted to send a positive recommendation to the Full Council which was made by Councilor Suffriti and seconded by Councilor Calabrese. The vote was 5 Yes, 0 No.

3. **TR-2023-5 - A Resolution to appropriate Two Hundred and Sixty Five Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$265,000.00) from the General, Unreserved, Undesignated Fund Balance (Free Cash) to account #16610-52460) for pedestrian upgrades at the intersection of Suffield and Silver Streets (Sponsored by Mayor Sapelli, and Councilors Paul C. Cavallo and Rosemary Sandlin)**

There was a typo made by Administration so this needs to be corrected from \$13,618,161 to \$13,619,161 in the first whereas clause. The Auditor spoke in favor of this Resolution. Mass Gaming Commission grant would delay funding until next year.

The Committee voted to send a positive recommendation to the Full Council which was made by Councilor Suffriti and seconded by Councilor Cavallo. The vote was 5 Yes, 0 No.

4. **TR-2023-8 - A Resolution accepting a grant (\$50,000.00) from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation to the Town of Agawam for trail development pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, §53A (Sponsored by Mayor Sapelli)**

This grant is for the Tuckahoe project.

The Committee voted to send a positive recommendation to the Full Council which was made by Councilor Mercadante and seconded by Councilor Calabrese. The vote was 5 Yes, 0 No.

5. **TOR-2023-1 - An Ordinance to amend Exhibit A of Chapter 49 of the Code of the Town of Agawam by increasing the salary rate of substitute nurses (Sponsored by Mayor Sapelli) (1 of 2 Readings)**

Councilor Mercadante pointed out that this is for substitute nurses. Regular nurses are paid \$37.00/hour. Tying this to a Tier level keeps the Administration from coming back to the City Council in subsequent years. It is a struggle to get nurses especially since Covid.

The Committee voted to send a positive recommendation to the Full Council which was made by Councilor Suffriti Calabrese and seconded by Councilors Mercadante and Suffriti. The vote was 5 Yes, 0 No.

6. TOR-2023-2 - An Ordinance to amend Section 103-11 of Chapter 103 of the Code of the Town of Agawam for the Perry Lane Summer Camp Programs (Sponsored by Mayor Sapelli) (1 of 2 Readings)

The Pre-school Program only runs half day and max enrollment is 20 but only get 8-9 campers. May discontinue pre-school camp in the interest doesn't pick up. Chris Sparks spoke on this item to explain the fees. These are direct program fees only. The summer brochure gets done in March.

The Committee voted to send a positive recommendation to the Full Council which was made by Councilor Cavallo and seconded by Councilor Suffriti. The vote was 5 Yes, 0 No.

7. TO-2023-1 - Budgetary Transfer of \$12,105.62 from Line Items – Unemployment C/O (#16609-57020) to Line Items – Unemployment (#16603-57020) (Sponsored by Mayor Sapelli)

This transfer is for unanticipated vacancies rendered the town short in the unemployment account. The Division of Unemployment bill is due at the end of this week.

The Committee voted to send a positive recommendation to the Full Council which was made by Councilor Cavallo and seconded by Councilor Suffriti. The vote was 5 Yes, 0 No.

8. Any other business that may legally come before the Committee.

None.

9. Adjournment.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Suffriti and seconded by Councilor Cavallo. The meeting was adjourned at 6:16pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Councilor Rosemary Sandlin, Chair Finance Committee